

COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND....EXPLANATION OF PROCEDURES



At St Joseph's in Green Island we have begun the procedure of publicly sending Eucharistic Ministers to the homebound from weekend Masses. We will soon begin this at St Patrick's and St Brigid's churches. This is a procedure that is widely done throughout the country (Many report that they have seen this done while visiting a parish somewhere else.) We do this for several reasons: (1) It heightens the awareness of the community that there are a number of members of the community who are not able to worship with us

but who are still part of our community; (2) With this heightened awareness, perhaps more of our homebound will be identified so that we can minister to them; (3) It may "strike a cord" in some of our parishioners that they would like to become involved with this ministry; and (4) It goes back to the earliest traditions of the church in which communion to the homebound was related to the Sunday worship.

GOING TO THE HOSPITAL? So often someone comes up either before or after Mass to ask to be remembered in prayer because he/she is going to the hospital. My usual response is to suggest that I minister the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. (Many years ago this was known as Extreme Unction.) This is most appropriate for anyone going into the hospital. It is an anointing for healing, as the name itself implies. Please, if you are going into the hospital, don't hesitate to ask for this Sacrament.

WHAT IS THE RCIA? (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)
(Continuation)

Paragraph 6 of the General Introduction for the *RCIA* Manual states the following: "The preparation for baptism and Christian instruction are both of vital concern to God's people, the Church, which hands on and nourishes the faith received from the apostles. Through the ministry of the Church, adults are called to the Gospels by the Holy Spirit and infants are baptized in the faith of the Church and brought up in the faith. Therefore, it is most important that catechists and other lay persons should work with priests and deacons in the preparation for baptism. In the actual celebration, the people of God should take an active part." What does this mean? Simply, that we are all, laity and clergy, responsible for the initiation of people into our faith, and we are all responsible for handing on our faith. The *RCIA* changes the perspective of the Church's laity from being spectators to being "agents" of welcoming persons into the Church. **The Baptism and reception of adults into the Church is a community project.** The actual pouring of waters will still be done by the priest, but **the process of initiation** involves the whole community. The *RCIA* is a process **by** the community which leads to reception **into** the community. It is a community project in its agents and in its goals. This implies that the preparation and reception of new members is "our" job rather than "his" or "their" job. It also suggests that acceptance into a community of believers is something different from an individual joining an organization of individuals. (to be continued) (Much of this material is taken from a short pamphlet entitled What Difference Does the RCIA Make? By Archbishop Daniel Pilarczyk of Cincinnati.)

ICE CREAM EXTRAVAGANZA....What a wonderful event! The weather was ideal and the gathering was grand We went through around 8 gallons of ice cream and lots of donuts, brownies, etc....we didn't take attendance so don't know how many enjoyed it. The music was great and the atmosphere couldn't have been better. So many people to thanks...first, those who organized it and set it up; those who cleaned up; those who dished out the goodies; the musicians; and, of course, everyone who came and enjoyed the event. **WE ARE GRATEFUL TO THE STEWART'S SHOP WHO FURNISHED MOST OF THE ICE CREAM!** Yes, we will most likely do it again next year, although probably not for two hours. By 1:15 most folks were ready to depart or had already done so. Again, thanks to all.

PARISH PASTORAL PLANNING We are in the final stage of identifying the Building Committee members and so should be able to publish their names next week. Hopefully we will also be able to give a preliminary timetable for meeting with the ABC (Architecture and Building Commission) of the Diocese. We are awaiting word about their availability.

MISSIONARY COOPERATION PLAN On September 6/7 (**Next weekend**) we will welcome Sr. Jane Morrissey from the Diocese of Gonaives, Haiti, for all Masses. This is our annual Missionary Cooperation Plan in conjunction with the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. (You may recall that this was scheduled for July 26/27 but due to health problems the speakers were not able to come.) **Haiti, the poorest country in our hemisphere, has a 65% illiteracy rate and 60 % unemployment. Because approximately 75% of the population lives in abject poverty, the infant mortality rate is appallingly high—50 % of children die before their fifth birthday. The Diocese of Gonaives is located in one of the most barren areas of Haiti. Water is sparse, and with a yearly income of only \$380.00 food is impossible to afford. The Diocese of Gonaives serves more than one million Catholics. There are more than 200 small, native parishes, but only 48 priests. The Church is also the only place for children to receive education and the Diocese also operates 18 feeding posts and 12 nutritional center. Needless to say, your generosity will be greatly appreciated.**

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FAITH FORMATION

FOR ALL AGES

skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org

Gatherings:

Youth Ministry Meeting: September 11th

The Kickoff is almost here!!! We have all kinds of games and activities planned, but we need **your help** to make it happen. **Are you a great game player, love to do crafts, face paint, have lots of fun????** Come to our next meeting on **Tuesday, September 11th** at 6PM in the Faith Formation Center and we will help you find **your role** in making all this good stuff happen. Questions?? Call Sharon at 273-6020 or email skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org .

Faith Formation News

Registration for 2008 – 2009 Faith Formation

The **last Parent Registration meeting** will be on **Tuesday, September 9th at 7PM** in the lower level of St. Patrick's.

If you are unable to make this meeting and **have not yet registered** your child, please call the Faith Formation office at 273-6020 or email skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org for an **individual** appointment. Families must register their children **every year**. Children **must be registered before** they begin attending sessions.

If you have **questions** or **need more information**, please call the Faith Formation office at 273-6020 or email skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org.

Special note to families of candidates planning to receive First Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation in 2008-9: Deadline for registration for those planning to receive those sacraments this year is **October 5th.**

People of Faith

Faith Formation Families please note: If your hectic lives make it difficult to fit in **27 weekly Faith Formation sessions between September 21, 2008 and April 26, 2009**, why not consider People of Faith? It requires a **commitment of 12 sessions** throughout the year. Why not **give it a try** during the summer months? **Next session: September 7.**

Questions?? Call the Faith Formation office at 273-6020 or email skowalski@ihm.rcpw.org

Ice Cream Extravaganza: Was it wonderful????

It was fabulous!!!! God blessed us with an extraordinary summer day to come together as community and enjoy the gifts of fellowship and ice cream. Many, many thanks to all those in the parish who came and gathered with us to share this wonderful day, and especially to the following who made it possible:

- The members of the Faith Formation committee, who planned the event and who were there - beginning at 8AM - with their families, to make sure it happened
- Barb Nash's brother-in-law, Sean, who provided the canopies
- Tom Hanley's sons and their band – the Lost Faculty – who really made it an *extravaganza*
- The Stewart's Corporation, who donated the ice cream and toppings
- All the wonderful volunteers who pitched in at the end of the event to help us "pick up and put away"

Congratulations to the Adams family (Paul/Patrice) whose sons won the "Make Your Own Sundae" basket. Look for more Basket raffles at the Kickoff on September 14th.

Isn't it great to be part of such a vibrant and alive community?? Get ready – we're set to come together in another **Community Event – VERY SOON.....**

Fall Kickoff: September 14th

It's almost here!!! 2 more weeks and we'll gather again for the 3rd Annual Fall Kickoff at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish!!!



Sign up sheets requesting **donations for hotdogs/rolls, salads, desserts and beverages** are up in the 3 worship sites this weekend. Let us know what **you will bring** to make this the **best Kickoff event yet!!!**

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD (CLOW)

Children's Liturgy of the Word will resume in the Fall.

For the young people who participated in the Children's Liturgy of the Word at the 11AM Mass: There will be Children's Worship Bulletins in the back of the church. Pick one of these up and bring it home to share with Mom and Dad. There will be two age groups available: ages 3 to 6 and 7 to 12.

IHM/WATERVLIET FOOD PANTRY

What do Macy's & the Regional Food Bank of Northeastern NY (RFB) have in common? Macy's Shop For A Cause! If you donate \$5.00 to RFB you will receive a Macy's Shopping Day Pass for 20% off all day on Saturday, September 20TH. To purchase passes, please contact Bethany Stiles, Special Events Coordinator, RFB, Latham, at 786-3691 x 231 or email: bethanys@regionalfoodbank.net.

Our food pantry currently needs the following: bath soap, paper products, school supplies, peanut butter, instant & decaf tea & coffee, canned food (meat, fruit, pasta, potatoes, sauerkraut, & fish), cake mix, cereal (hot & cold), low calorie jam & jelly, low salt or vegetarian canned beans (baked, kidney, pork & beans), pancake mix, low salt soup, Jello, low calorie pudding, & laundry detergent. Please include low/no sugar items so that we can help out those who are diabetic. Also, please note that food stamps do not include soap or paper products. Thank you! May God & all the saints pray for you always!

CRAFT GUILD NEWS

The next meeting for the Craft Guild will be held on Tuesday, September 2nd from 7:00pm – 9:00pm at St. Patrick's, 19th St lower level. All are welcome to share your time and talent.

The 2009 Entertainment Books are now available.

For more information about the Guild and the Entertainment Books please contact Toni Delduce at 273-6024.

KIDS COUNT! Is honoring Frank McGrouty, Patricia Crinigan and Winnie Fruscio on Saturday, September 13th at the Watervliet Elks. Former Siena Basketball Men's Coach, Mickle Deane will be the speaker.

The honoree's have provided decades of service and commitment to helping kids in the Watervliet community.

The dinner is at 6:00pm and tickets are \$30.00. Call Charlie Diamond at 271-8961 for further information.

A free basketball clinic will be held on September 12th by coach Deane at the Dome at 6:00pm. No charge and it is open to all grade school students.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

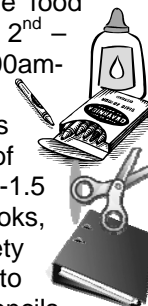
FOR CHILDREN OF FOOD PANTRY FAMILIES

Supplies will be ready for pick-up by the food pantry clients during the week of September 2nd – 5th (Tuesday through Friday) between 9:00am-11:00am. But, we still need more supplies!

Supplies that are needed include: folders with bottom pockets, large erasers, packs of 6/18/24 crayons, 3-hole loose leaf paper & 1-1.5 inch binders, marble composition notebooks, bottles of crayola glue or glue sticks, safety scissors, small pencil sharpeners with lids to catch shavings, boxes of colored pencils, green/blue/black pens, 1- and 3-subject notebooks, 12-inch rulers with inches & centimeters, colored pencils, highlighter markers, art boxes, 3x5 index cards & boxes, small paintbrushes, & sturdy zippered pencil cases.

Supplies can be brought to the Parish Life Center, 2416 Seventh Ave, Watervliet between the hours of 9:00am-3:00pm Monday-Friday.

Items can also be placed in the food pantry boxes at each of the churches. For more information, please contact Linda Dunbar at 209-6446, who has volunteered to coordinate this effort. Thank you in advance for your generosity!



TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? Or what can one give in exchange for his life?"

- Mt 16:24-26



Readings for the Week of August 31, 2008

Sunday: Jer 20:7-9/Rom 12:1-2/Mt 16:21-27
Monday: 1 Cor 2:1-5/Lk 4:16-30
Tuesday: 1 Cor 2:10b-16/Lk 4:31-37
Wednesday: 1 Cor 3:1-9/Lk 4:38-44
Thursday: 1 Cor 3:18-23/Lk 5:1-11
Friday: 1 Cor 4:1-5/Lk 5:33-39
Saturday: 1 Cor 4:6b-15/Lk 6:1-5
Next Sunday: Ez 33:7-9/Rom 13:8-10/Mt 18:15-20

DIOCESAN COORDINATOR OF PASTORAL CARE

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Albany has a salaried, professional position of 25 hours/week available for a Diocesan Coordinator of Pastoral Care. This is a grant-funded three year position. Responsibilities include: identifying and assessing pastoral care needs in the various regions of the diocese; developing programs, training, and support to enhance and sustain pastoral care ministry within the diocese; collaborating with appropriate diocesan offices/agencies, parishes, and care facilities. Applicant must be a person of active faith with three years experience in a pastoral care setting. Bachelor's degree preferred, but candidates with suitable combination of education and experience will be considered. Part time benefits package available. Flexible schedule can be arranged.

Send letter of application, resume and two references to Search Committee, Office of Ministry Formation, 40 North Main Avenue, Albany, NY 12203 by September 22, 2008. Phone: (518) 453-6670; Fax (518) 453-6793. Job description upon request.

ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE

Weekly (including mail-in)

Aug. 26, 2007.....\$7303.16
Aug. 24, 2008.....\$5202.75
2nd Collection (Catholic Home Missions)
Sept. 2007.....\$1775.75
Aug. 2008.....\$ 949.00

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK
SEPTEMBER 1ST - SEPTEMBER 7TH**

*If you wish to schedule a Mass Intention, please call the Parish Office to speak with Tina or Judy at 273-6020 **two weeks** prior to the desired date so that we can list the intention in the bulletin before it goes to press. Thank you.*

Monday, Sept 1

8:00am at St Joseph's – The Farrell & Synan families

Tuesday, Sept 2

8:00am at St Patrick's – Wilfred J Bouchard, req by Mrs Mary Karabin & family

Wednesday, Sept 3

6:30am at St Brigid's – The Farrell & Synan families

Friday, Sept 5

**8:15am at St Brigid's – The Farrell & Synan families

Please Note:

****On September 5th the Friday morning Mass will resume its regular scheduled time – 8:15am during the school year.**

Saturday, Sept 6

4:00pm at St Brigid's – **Special Intentions**, req by a parishioner
Peter J Gaynor & Ann Maloney (Anniv), req by Betty Gaynor
Rhonda M Bartholomew, req by Martha & Ron Soucy
5:30pm at St Joseph's – **John Corbett, Sr**, req by his children

Sunday, Sept 7

7:30am at St Joseph's – **All Grandparents (Lv & Dec'd)**, req by a parishioner
9:00am at St Brigid's – **Norine Deguire (1st Anniv)**, req by the family
Marie T Burke, req by Julia Guzy & family
11:00am at St Patrick's – **Margaret & Tom Alund**, req by Lorraine Alund
Frank A Baciewicz, req by the family
Charles Matthews, req by the Wellworth family
7:00pm at St Patrick's – **The Farrell & Synan families**

**SANCTUARY CANDLES DONATED FOR THE WEEK
OF AUGUST 31ST TO SEPTEMBER 6TH**

St Brigid's – For special intention, donated by Lilia Langford

St Patrick – In memory of Theresa Ann Parker, donated by Marion Fotache