



Each and every household is challenged to be a part of the life of the work of the Catholic Church in the eastern Connecticut. We can do this through a generous and sacrificial pledge to the Annual Bishop's Appeal (ABA).

Every one of us is a beneficiary in one way or another of the ABA. There is a great satisfaction in knowing that you have had a part in the missionary work of the Church, in training men for the priesthood, in reaching out to the poor, the disenfranchised, and the helpless, in sharing the light of faith through education programs, in prison ministry, in keeping Catholic presence alive for college students and the many other ways in which the Annual Bishop's Appeal serves God's Church.

Please take the time to prayerfully consider what you are able to give in support of our Diocesan Church.

YOUTH GROUP FOOD FAST

The Youth Group 24-hour Food Fast was held March 20th through March 21st. To date, the Youth Group has collected \$421.25 which will be donated to Catholic Relief Services. If you have not had an opportunity to donate to this cause and would like to participate, please contact Rella after Mass. You may also contact her by calling the office (875-4563) or by e-mail her at rella@sacredheartchurch.net.

To all who have contributed already, the Youth Group extends a heartfelt "Thank You!"

**Communal Penance Service
This Tuesday at 7pm**

ATTENTION: CONFIRMATION PREPARATION & YOUTH GROUP

Because of our participation in the 24-hour Food Fast for Catholic Relief Services Confirmation Preparation and Youth Group will not meet on Sunday, March 22. We will resume next Sunday at the regularly scheduled times.

FIRST RECONCILIATION

Some of the children in Faith Formation have been preparing to celebrate our Lord's forgiving mercy for the first time in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. They will celebrate this Sacrament on Wednesday, March 25th at 6:00pm or on Tuesday, March 31 at 7:00pm. They, and their families, are reminded to meet in the Oratory. Any questions or concerns, please contact Rella.

YOUTH GROUP AT CORNERSTONE

Some members of the Youth Group will be going to Cornerstone on Saturday, March 28 to prepare and serve lunch. We will meet in the front parking lot at 9:50am. Please contact Rella if you have any questions.

YOUTH GROUP EASTER CANDY SALE

The Youth Group will be selling Easter candy on Saturday, March 28, Sunday, March 29, Saturday, April 4, and Sunday, April 5 after Mass. All proceeds will go to offset the cost of the Confirmation Retreat.

This year the candy is from See's Candies. You have your choice of the following:

- 4 oz Milk Chocolate Foil Rabbit
- 4 oz. Chick Box filled with a variety of See's Candies
- 4 oz Peanut Butter Egg
- 4 oz. Dark Chocolate Butter Egg
- 4 oz. Bordeaux Egg

All are priced at \$5.00.

All who have already ordered Easter candy may pick up their orders during these times. Or contact Rella to arrange for pickup during the week.

NOTICE – TAG SALE

The Youth Group will be participating in the town wide Tag Sale once again this year. Our tag sale will be held in the front parking lot of the church. Once again we will be offering tables to rent for the tag sale to anyone who would like to join us in the parking lot. The rental fee is \$15 per table. Chairs are provided at no charge. Please contact Rella (875-4563) or by e-mail (rella@sacredheartchurch.net) if you are interested in renting a table.

Also, as you begin your spring cleaning; please remember that the Youth Group will take clean, usable items for the tag sale. We cannot take items of clothing or shoes/boots. Contact Rella for information about dropping off items you wish to donate. The proceeds from the tag sale will help to defray the cost of the Confirmation Retreat. Thank you.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday: 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23/Eph 2:4-10/Jn 3:14-21
-or- 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41
Monday: Is 65:17-21/Jn 4:43-54
Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12/Jn 5:1-16
Wednesday: Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Heb 10:4-10/
Lk 1:26-38 (Annunciation)
Thursday: Ex 32:7-14/Jn 5:31-47
Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
Saturday: Jer 11:18-20/Jn 7:40-53
Next Sunday: Jer 31:31-34/Heb 5:7-9/Jn 12:20-33
-or- Ez 37:12-14/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45

ADULT CONFIRMATION

Do you know an adult who has been baptized and receives Holy Communion but has never been confirmed? Would this person like to be confirmed?

Registrations for Confirmation preparation classes for adults are now being taken. Please contact Fr. Stan or Rella (875-4563) in order to register or to request more information.

BREAKFAST WITH THE EASTER BUNNY

The St. Bernard Home & School Association presents "Breakfast With the Easter Bunny" on Saturday, April 4. Two sittings – 8:15am and 10:15am/ Enjoy a delicious breakfast, coloring and face painting for the children, fun gift baskets, topped by a visit with the Easter Bunny of course! Cost: Adults \$6, Child \$4. For reservations, call 454-0923. Seating is limited. Payment may be made at the door. Express check-in with reservation and pre-payment.

VOCATIONS

Christopher Feeney is preparing for ordination into the transitional diaconate on April 24, 2009 at Mount Saint Mary Seminary in Emmitsburg, Maryland. Rev. Mr. Christopher Schuh will be ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Cote on May 30, 2009 at Saint Patrick Cathedral in Norwich. Please keep both of these men, and all seminarians, in your prayers.

SOUP & BEAD SUPPER

Every Friday during Lent
Join us this Friday at 6pm

Many thanks to the people who made soup for our Lenten Soup Suppers and to all who supported them.

Your almsgiving amounted to \$106 for Caregivers and \$187 for Cornerstone.

May God bless you generosity 100-fold.

THANK YOU – COVENANT TO CARE

Dear parishioners:

I did not forget about getting everyone an update on Covenant to Care. Janet, our social worker, has been on medical leave and we just finally connected over the weekend. She is recovering from surgery and just wants to get back to work. Janet says that our church has made her a better social worker and has brought her inspiration.

We did great, and there was plenty go around thanks to all of you. Thank you for your creative inspirations, like the small treasure chest with bracelets and gloves, and other girl stuff. Janet and I were able to buy some like items for the other sisters and build upon this beautiful idea. The families with the baby girls and boys were thrilled with the clothes...you bought for them like they were your grandchildren, nieces, nephews...

I have some good news, and some sobering news. The father (truck driver) who took custody of his children, but was in dire need of support is doing great. We gave the most to this family, as the kids didn't even have proper shoes or beds. Dad took our large Wal-Mart card and fixed up his apartment, and even was able to get a haircut. Additionally the son and daughter were each given their own Wal-Mart card from Santa. The case is now closed and regular services are in place for the family. The three little boys who were beaten badly by the mother's fiancé, while she was in the hospital loved their action figure toys. Thanks to your generosity each child had their own bag stuffed to the brim. The therapist recommended children's yoga classes to help with their anxiety, and Janet says she was at first skeptical, but it is helping. Please pray for this family, as the abuser may avoid prison time with an accelerated rehab program. A restraining order is being put in place to keep him away from the family, but the mother is very afraid.

Thank you for digging deep during these challenging times. Thank you for the heart you bring to your giving.

God Bless,

Claire Crane

BLESSING OF EASTER FOOD

Saturday, April 11
at 9:30am
at Saint Maurice

All from Saint Maurice and Sacred Heart who wish to have their Easter Food blessed are invited to come to Saint Maurice at 9:30am.

MARCH 22, 2009

THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

- SATURDAY** FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (FT)
5:45pm **Mass: Robert Taksar**, requested by Paul & Carol Perodeau, - and -
John Valli, requested by Donna, John & Family
- SUNDAY** FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (FT)
10:45am **Mass: Tony Gonsalves**, requested by his wife, Betty
- MONDAY**
9:00am **Liturgy of the Word with Communion**
- TUESDAY**
9:00am **Mass: Norman LaPorte**, requested by Stella Sears-Tessier
7:00pm **Communal Penance Service**
- WEDNESDAY** ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD
9:00am **Mass: Deceased Members of the Labbadia & Davia Families**, requested by Maria Davia
11:00am **Memorial Mass: Stephen Sass**
6:00pm **1st Reconciliation**
- THURSDAY**
4:30-6pm **Sacrament of Reconciliation**
7:00pm **Mass: Deceased Members of the Davia & Labbadia Families**, requested by Maria Davia
7:45pm **Intercessory Prayer**
- FRIDAY** DAY OF ABSTINENCE (NO MEAT)
9:00am **Mass: Rev. Albin Gurklis**
- SATURDAY** FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (FS)
11:00am **Memorial Mass: Walter Leary**
5:45pm **Mass: Robert Regan**, requested by Dorothy Regan & Family
- SUNDAY** FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (FS)
10:45am **Mass: Stella Golnik**, requested by Donna Daly, - and - *Douglas Arthur*, requested by Normand Boulanger

MEETINGS

- SATURDAY** **Youth Group Food Fast** ends after Mass
7:30pm **Narcotics Anonymous**, South Rooms
- SUNDAY** **Fellowship before and after Mass**
9:15 **Faith Formation Grades 1-5**
6:30pm **Faith Formation Grades 6-8**
NO **Conf Prep or Youth Group**
- MONDAY** Offices Closed
- WEDNESDAY**
4:00pm **Faith Formation**, Gr. 1-3, 5
8:00pm **Alcoholics Anonymous**, South Community Rms
- THURSDAY**
10:00am **Bible Study – Disciples on the Journey**, South Community Rooms
8:00pm **Alcoholics Anonymous Big Book**, South Rooms
- FRIDAY**
6:00pm **Soup & Bread Supper** – Almsgiving to benefit Food Bank
- SATURDAY** **Youth Group at Cornerstone**
7:30pm **Narcotics Anonymous**, South Rooms
- SUNDAY** **Fellowship before and after Mass**
9:15 **Faith Formation Grades 1-5**
6:30pm **Faith Formation Grades 6-Conf Prep**
7:45pm **Youth Group**

WEBSITE ADDRESS FOR ST. MAURICE
WWW.STMAURICEKOFC.ORG
 e-mail stmauricechurch@sbcglobal.net

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Saturday, March 21, 2009

4:00 p.m. Vigil Mass: Olga Guglielmino,
 request of Samuel Guglielmino and Michael and
 Joanne Williams

Sunday, March 22, 2009

8:45a.m. Frank Hilbie, request of Chris
 and Kate Armstrong
Edward Farly, request of Jennifer and Phil
 Daly.

Next Weekend

Saturday March 28, 2009

**4:00p.m Helen Peruccio and Doris
 Gidius**

Sunday March 29, 2009

8:45 a.m. Raymond Poniatoski

GOD'S PLAN FOR TITHING

Last week's collection was \$ 2,465

Last year's collection was \$ 4,717

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son.."

John 3:16

**Of all the wonderful gifts that God has given to us,
 the gift of His own Son is truly the greatest. How
 can we ever thank God for a gift like that? God
 does not ask us to sacrifice our own precious
 firstborn, but He does ask that we make some
 sacrifices for Him.**

Readings for the week of March 22, 2009

Sunday: 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23/Eph 2:4-10/Jn 3:14-21
 Monday: Is 65:17-21/Jn 4:43-54
 Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12/Jn 5:1-16
 Wednesday: Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Heb 10:4-10/
 Lk 1:26-38 (Annunciation)
 Thursday: Ex 32:7-14/Jn 5:31-47
 Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
 Saturday: Jer 11:18-20/Jn 7:40-53
 Next Sunday: Jer 31:31-34/Heb 5:7-9/Jn 12:20-33



THIS WEEK

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Gospel Reading: Jn 3:14-21

***"And just as Moses lifted up the serpent
 in the desert, so must the Son of Man
 be lifted up, so that everyone who believes
 in him may have eternal life."***

Fr. Stan, celebrant

Ushers Group IV

Pancake Breakfast / Blood Pressure Screening

At the Parish Center

**Monday, 3/23: Mass at 9:00 a.m. for Donald
 Sullivan,** request of Linda Armstrong

**Tuesday, 3/24: Mass at 9:00 a.m. for Robert
 Magnano,** request of Linda Armstrong and for
Ivan Dube, request of Solange Fournier
Choir rehearsal 7:15 p.m.

**Wednesday 3/25: Mass at 9:00 a.m. for Molly
 Murphy**

Christmas Fair Workshop 9:00 a.m.

ADORATION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT

3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

**Thursday, 3/26: Mass at 9:00 a.m. for Molly
 Murphy**

Friday, 3/27: No Morning Mass

**6:30 P.M. STATIONS OF THE CROSS FOR
 ALL AGES.**

**Mass at 7:00 p.m. for Dave Caruso, Jr.,
 request of the family**

**Fish Dinner and take outs 4:00 p.m.-7:00p.m.
 at Parish Center.**

Saturday 3/28: Confessions 3:00 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

PIZZA NIGHT after the 4:00 p.m.

**Mass at the Parish Center. See details on
 Page 2.**

NEXT WEEK, MARCH 28/29

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

SATURDAY, 4:00 P.M. VIGIL MASS

ALTAR SERVERS: Kyle Toce,

LECTOR: Barbara Fiano

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS: Vi Sobol,
 Peggy Peruccio, Linda Wiley**

SUNDAY, 8:45 A.M. MASS

**ALTAR SERVERS: Angelica Czercowy,
 Miranda VanAllen**

LECTOR: Paul Brown

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS: Linda Wiley,
 Margaret Brown, Craig & Paula Fioravanti**

SATURDAY, MARCH 28TH

IS

PIZZA NIGHT

**COME AND ENJOY OUR FRESH OVEN
BAKED PIZZA. CHOICE OF CHEESE OR
PEPPERONI.**

BEVERAGE/ICE CREAM

ADULTS - \$5.00

CHILDREN UNDER 12 AND UNDER

\$3.00

ST. MAURICE PARISH HALL

AFTER THE 4:00 P.M. MASS

SPONSORED BY

ST. MAURICE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS.



**JUST A REMINDER..COFFEE SOCIAL
SUNDAY AT THE PARISH CENTER IS
March 29TH.**

OPERATION RICE BOWL

assist FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT: Nicodemus and Jesus

In today's Gospel, the conversation between Jesus and Nicodemus reminds us during Lent that as we seek to put our spiritual lives in order, we cannot accomplish this task on our own. God has done for us what we cannot do for ourselves. We are reminded that we have been made able to see the kingdom of God; we have been given the gift of eternal life through the waters of baptism.

As we continue our Operation Rice Bowl journey, let us remember in **prayer** that we are called to be good stewards of what has been entrusted to us. Through protecting the environment in which we live, we respect the goodness of nature, a gift God has given. May our **fasting** keep us mindful of the families and communities that are hungry. May our **almsgiving** Catholic Relief Services as we learn about education programming in Ghana.

A SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

This year, Bishop Michael R. Cote, D.D., invites you to the Chrism Mass at Saint Patrick's Cathedral on Tuesday, April 7, 2009, at 10:30 a.m.

The Chrism Mass is the celebration during which the sacred Chrism is consecrated and the Oil of the Sick and the Oil of the Catechumens are blessed. These oils are sanctified for use at the Cathedral and in all parishes for baptism, confirmation, the anointing of the sick and for the ordination of priests. Together the three oils symbolize the sacramental life of the Church. Three of our parishioners will be sent to represent our parish at this Mass and to receive the holy oils for the parish. Since the Chrism Mass is truly a Diocesan event ALL parishioners are invited, and we would like as many people as possible to be present.

THINK EASTER BUNNIES AND EGGS

The Annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held on April 5, 2009, after the 8:45 a.m. Mass.

The Easter Bunny this year has gone green. Please return any empty eggs not needed. The Bunny thanks you.



THE DIOCESE OF NORWICH SEEKS A STRONG LEADER TO SERVE AS SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

With the resignation of Sister Joan O'Connor, C.S.J. Diocesan Superintendent, effective April 15, 2009, the Diocese of Norwich is seeking to fill this fulltime position.

Duties: Bishop's Delegate in all school matters. Leads schools in implementing programs. Directs & monitors policies & procedures. Advocates for, promotes Catholic schools and ensures their growth.

Qualifications: Graduate or Advanced Degree in Education. 5 years of experience in teaching & in executive administration in Catholic education. Fully participating member of the Catholic Church with respect for its leadership, teachings & organizational structure. Strong vision for the future of Catholic Schools, demonstrated record of fiscal accountability, strong interpersonal & communications skills.

APPLICATION: Please send a letter of interest, resume, names, addresses and phone numbers of (5) five references and salary expectations by April 15th to:

Msg. Robert L. Brown, Search Committee, 201 Broadway, Norwich, CT 06360.