



We are loved as children of God.

The strength of God's love for us allows us to live and share love and wonder like children do, unconditionally.

There are many people in need within our Diocese. Once a year, Bishop Cote asks every Catholic household to consider how they can support the ministries and services reaching others in need. Your prayers for these ministries and the people they serve are greatly appreciated.

Your gifts through the Annual Bishop's Appeal are also necessary to continue services, which assist parishes, ministries, schools, and people throughout our Diocese.

Please look for your letter from Bishop Cote in the mail, and prayerfully consider how you can serve others with a gift to the 2009 Annual Bishop's Appeal.

Please be as generous as your means allow.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday: (Jer 31:31-34/Heb 5:7-9/Jn 12:20-33)
 -or- 1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Eph 5:8-14/Jn 9:1-41
 Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or
 13:41c-62/Jn 8:1-11
 Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9/Jn 8:21-30
 Wednesday: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Jn 8:31-42
 Thursday: Gn 17:3-9/Jn 8:51-59
 Friday: Jer 20:10-13/Jn 10:31-42
 Saturday: Ez 37:21-28/Jn 11:45-56
 Next Sunday: Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16 /Is 50:4-7/
 Phil 2:6-11/Mk 14:1---15:47 or 15:1-39

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.

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 or to pay on your pledge, please see Rella after Mass. You may also contact her by calling the office (875-4563) or by e-mail at rella@sacredheartchurch.net.

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

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 **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 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.

If you have already ordered Easter candy, you may pick up your order during these times. Or contact Rella to arrange for pickup during the week.

LIVING STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The Youth Group will present the Living Stations of the Cross on Good Friday, April 10, 2009 at 7:00pm. All parishioners and their guests are invited to this presentation.

LIVING STATIONS OF THE CROSS – PRACTICE

Youth Group members are reminded that the final practice for the Living Stations of the Cross will be held on Good Friday, April 10, at 10:00am. Since the lights and music will be part of the practice, all members are asked to make every effort to be present for this practice. If you have any conflicts, questions, or concerns, please contact Rella.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

NOTICE – TAG SALE – APRIL 25, 2009

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. Please 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.

SOUP & BEAD SUPPER

Every Friday during Lent
Join us this Friday at 6pm

PARENTS CAN HELP PREVENT SEXUAL ABUSE

By Mar Muñoz-Visoso

Sexual abuse is not an easy topic to talk about in any culture. It is almost taboo for many Hispanics families. However, talking is necessary if we want to help prevent it.

As parents with young children, my husband and I are scared by statistics that say that one in every five girls and one in six boys are sexually abused by age 18.

We both had the luck of growing up in a safe environment where there were certain “sacred” norms in our relationships with adults. However, during my years in pastoral ministry I’ve heard in confidence from many young people and adults who were sexually abused as minors.

Today, I think of the pre-adolescent boy abused by an uncle in Mexico, the hurt, the years of psychological treatment and the anxiety this horrible crime against his dignity have caused him; of the young Latina in California enthused by the idea that a young man “with good intentions” was courting her, but scared to allow the relationship to go forward due to the aftermath of rape as a child; and, of the young immigrant woman who during a moment of intimacy and prayer at a retreat confided that she had been repeatedly abused by her own father.

My heart still cries out loud for them, but I know we are not impotent. As parents and pastoral ministers, we can and should do something to prevent cases such as these. The tools exist today and, more than ever, are within our reach.

The first step is to become informed. I thank the Church for the tremendous effort to train parents, Church workers and volunteers on how to recognize possible indicators of abuse, inappropriate relationships and how to react to a suspected case of abuse. I took safe environment training a few years back in Denver. Virtually every diocese in the United States has similar programs thanks to the Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People (<http://www.usccb.org/ocyp/charter.pdf>) established in 2002.

There is no reason to do nothing. Not even a language barrier is a excuse. Parents who do not speak English must demand that this information be provided to them in their native language. Even as materials and presentations become available in Spanish or other languages, the communities can organize to find creative solutions to pass the information around and encourage others to become informed as well. Nothing must stop parents in the war against child abusers.

And ladies, if your husbands are the kind that simply won’t talk about this issue, find ways to drag them to the trainings; read the information to them at home; make their ears hurt with your insistence. Our children deserve it.

In many dioceses, children are also learning, at their level, things such as no one has the right to touch them, how to defend themselves from an adult who makes them feel uncomfortable, to find someone to talk to, that talking is good and that is not their fault if an adult behaves inappropriately. This is important since guilt and withdrawal of attention or affection are mechanisms often used by child molesters.

The clergy sexual abuse scandal, and the defective manner in which this problem was dealt with in the past, is a terrible disgrace that has hurt not only victims but also the Church in general. However, it is also true that no other institution in this country, public or private, has made the prevention effort the Church has made recently.

As parents, however, we worry that the sexual abuse of children is not a problem just in the Church. Research shows that this is a social problem that occurs in many other environments (daycare, public schools, clinics, hospitals, summer camps, the family) as well, often with higher incidence than in the Church but with much less publicity.

Most of us have our children in public schools. They should be held to the same standards demanded from churches and private schools. We must demand from our legislators laws that punish equally people who commit these horrible crimes regardless of where they happened. Is a child molester less guilty for abusing a child using a position of trust at a public institution? Is the hurt they cause more bearable? Are those who knowingly cover it up or look the other way less accountable? There should be no double standards when it comes to the well-being of our children.

For our part, my husband and I are not ready to allow that any of our children become a part of this terrible statistic. Not if we can help it with information, dialogue and much, much prayer.

Mar Muñoz-Visoso is assistant director of Media Relations for the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

IF YOU CAN DRIVE, YOU CAN HELP

The American Cancer Society is in critical need of drivers. Can you help your neighbor get to his/her much needed treatments?

Drive as much or as little as you like. **Please, we need your help.** Call 1-800-227-2345.

PARISH MISSION OF HEALING AND BLESSINGS

You are invited to a Parish Mission of Healing and Blessings which will be offered Sunday to Tuesday, March 29-31 at 7pm each evening at Saint Mary Church, Coventry. Presenters are Fr. Ray Introvigne and Mrs. Judith Hughes. All are welcome. The theme is “*Faith Does Move Mountains.*”

MARCH 29, 2009

THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

- SATURDAY** FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (FS)
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
- MONDAY**
9:00am **Liturgy of the Word with Communion**
- TUESDAY**
9:00am **Mass: Norman LaPorte**, requested by Stella Sears-Tessier
7:00pm **1st Reconciliation**
- WEDNESDAY**
9:00am **Mass: Deceased Members of the Labbadia & Davia Families**, requested by Maria Davia
- THURSDAY** FRANCIS OF PAOLA, HERMIT
4:30-6pm **Sacrament of Reconciliation**
7:00pm **Mass: Edward Kayan**, requested by Eleanor & John Murphy
7:45pm **Intercessory Prayer**
- FIRST FRIDAY** DAY OF ABSTINENCE (NO MEAT)
9:00am **Mass: For the People of the Parish**
10am-5pm **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**
5:00pm **Close of Adoration**
- SATURDAY** PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION (FT)
5:45pm **Mass: Gertrude Soucy**, requested by Richard & Rella Bernabucci
– and – **George Pinzel**, requested by John & Jeanne Swart
- SUNDAY** PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION (FT)
10:45am **Mass: Mary Rooney**, requested by the Sacred Heart Parish Family & Youth Group

MEETINGS

- SATURDAY** **Youth Group at Cornerstone**
7:30pm **Narcotics Anonymous**, South Rooms
- SUNDAY** **Fellowship before and after Mass**
9:15am **Faith Formation Grades 1-5**
6:30pm **Faith Formation Grades 6-Conf Prep**
7:45pm **Youth Group**
- MONDAY** Offices Closed
- WEDNESDAY**
4:00pm **Faith Formation**, Gr. 1-3, 5
7:00pm **Communal Penance Service at Saint Maurice**
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 Norwich Mission House in Port-au-Prince, Haiti
- SATURDAY**
7:30pm **Narcotics Anonymous**, South Rooms
- SUNDAY** **Fellowship before and after Mass**
9:15am **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

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Saturday, March 28, 2009

4:00 p.m. Vigil Mass, Helen Peruccio, request of Bob and Donna Alibrio
Doris Gidius, request of Richard, Gail & Terri Gidius

Sunday, March 29, 2009

8:45 a.m. Raymond Poniatoski, request of Bob and Jane Hunt

Next Weekend

Saturday, April 4, 2009

Annita DeTuccio and William H. Johnson, Jr.

Sunday, April 5, 2009

Kim Auger and Orlando Santana

GOD'S PLAN FOR TITHING

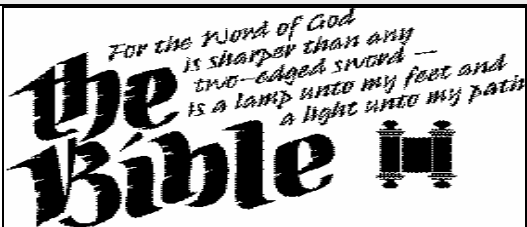
Last week's collection was \$ 2,580

Last years' collection was \$ 4,991

"I will be their God and they shall be my people."....

Jeremiah 31:33

What does it mean to be God's people? It means that first we recognize that everything we have and everything we are truly belongs to God. It also means that we are willing to use our gifts and our lives to care for the world just as God cares for us.



Readings for the week of March 29, 2009

Sunday: Jer 31:31-34/Heb 5:7-9/Jn 12:20-33
 Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62/Jn 8:1-11
 Tuesday: Nm 21:4-9/Jn 8:21-30
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 Next Sunday: Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16 /Is 50:4-7/ Phil 2:6-11/Mk 14:1---15:47 or 15:1-39

THIS WEEK
FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Gospel Reading: Jn 12:20-33

"Jesus answered the, 'The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.' "

Fr. Tony, celebrant

Ushers Group I

Coffee Social Sunday at Parish Center
Youth Group Easter Candy Sale after all Masses. To offset Confirmation Retreat Expenses

Mon. 3/30 Mass at 9:00 a.m. for Sophie Samojedny, request of the family

Tue. 3/31 Mass at 9:00 a.m. for John Ciscon
Choir Rehearsal 7:15 p.m.

Wed. 4/1 Mass at 9:00 a.m. for Ivan Dube
 Request of Solange Fournier
Christmas Fair Workshop 9:00 a.m

Please note time for Adoration . Today only.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
3:00 P.M. – 6:30 P.M.

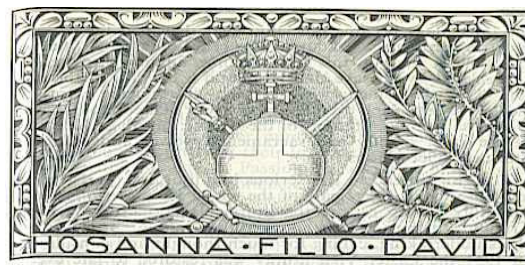
7:00 P.M. COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE

Thu. 4/2 Mass at 9:00 p.m. for Bridget Fitzpatrick K of C Business Meeting at P.C. Nomination of officers

Fri. 4/3 7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross
 Followed by First Friday Mass. Fish Dinner & take out, 4:00 p.m.-7:00p.m.

Sat. 4/4 Boy Scout Leader Training at P.C.
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Confessions 3:00 P.M. – 3:45 P.M.
Pizza Night Parish Center after 4:00 P.M. Mass



NEXT WEEK, APRIL 4/5

PALM SUNDAY

SATURDAY, 4:00 P.M. VIGIL MASS
ALTAR SERVERS: Kyle and Kaila Toce
LECTORS: Georgette Pelletier, Charles Luchini
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS: Patti Cinea, Jean Gately, Ted Lloyd
SUNDAY, 8:45 A.M. MASS
ALTAR SERVERS: Ryan and Benjamin Van Dine
LECTORS: Michael Leiner, David Delorme
EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS: Annedda Stiller, Donna Bradford, Jennifer Carvalho

CALENDAR FOR APRIL

April 1, 2009	Penance Service/Confessions
April 2, 2009	K of C Business Meeting
April 3, 2009	Fish Dinners/take out
April 5, 2009	Confirmation Candidates Meeting Generations of Faith after 8:45 Mass Easter Food Distribution following Generations of Faith Coffee Social Easter Egg Hunt
April 11, 2009	Blessing of Easter Foods
April 12, 2009	Easter Collection
April 13, 2009	Building Committee Meeting
April 14, 2009	Parish Council Meeting
April 19, 2009	Pancake Breakfast
April 21, 2009	Finance Committee Meeting
April 26, 2009	Coffee Social

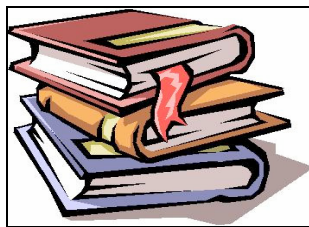
Check weekly bulletins for time and place.

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 all Masses. All proceeds will go to offset the cost of the Confirmation Retreat.

All candies are priced at \$5.00 each

PLEASE HELP OUR YOUTH GROUP



DON'T THROW AWAY THOSE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC, NATURE, TRAVEL, SPORTS AND LIKE MAGAZINES, OR THOSE READ DETECTIVE, SPY, MYSTERY PAPERBACK NOVELS.

THE PRISON MINISTRY IS IN NEED OF MAGAZINES AND BOOKS FOR THE MEN AT THE HARTFORD CORRECTIONAL FACILITY. A COLLECTION BOX WILL BE LOCATED IN THE NORTH VESTIBULE FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE.

2009 ANNUAL BISHOP'S APPEAL

Each and every household is challenged to be a part of the life of the work of the Catholic Church in 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.

"I am the vine, you are the branches" Jn 15:5

WAY OF THE CROSS**A PUBLIC PROCESSION OF
SCRIPTURE AND PRAYER**GOOD FRIDAY

APRIL 10, 2009, 6:00 P.M.

WALK WITH THE
MOST REVEREND MICHAEL R. COTE,
BISHOP OF NORWICH, AND LEADERS OF OTHER
CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES
AS WE PRAY THE WAY OF THE CROSS.

JOIN THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY IN
FORMING A PRAYER PILGRIMAGE DOWN
BROADWAY AND UNION STREET TO
CENTRAL BAPTISH CHURCH REMEMBERING
THE SUFFERING OF CHRIST. WE WALK IN
COMMEMORATION OF HIS JOURNEY AND
WE SING TOGETHER AS CHRISTIANS FOR
THE SALVATION OF ALL KNOWING THAT
THE CROSS LEADS TO RESURRECTION
EVEN TODAY.