

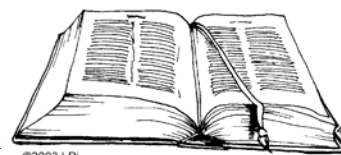
Today's Readings: Acts 2:14, 22-33/1 Peter 1:17-21/Luke 24:13-35

GOSPEL GLIMPSES

Dinner conversation

Want to see your family at their most honest? Come to the dinner table. Alone with family, hungry and tired, people are surprisingly open. Listen closely. Is the talk uplifting or complaining? Do we offer support or criticism? Do petty struggles bubble up as we pass the bread? Does faith have any part of our chat? It's amazing what is revealed about our family and our hearts simply by listening to table talk.

Jesus was wise enough to know this. When He joined the disciples on the road to Emmaus our Savior quietly listened. Along with their meal, the travelers shared their hearts. Then the gospel tells us that Jesus turned the table talk around merely by "the breaking of bread." A phrase, a broken loaf and their hearts were stirred. Suddenly Jesus the Savior was present at their meal. The two disciples heard His table talk and left that communion empowered to share the gospel with all they met. May we pray today to give Jesus a place in our table talk, so that our road to Emmaus will not be with strangers, but a beloved Lord and Savior.



Next Sunday's Readings: Acts 2:14a, 36-41/1 Peter 2:20b-25/John 10:1-10



DON'T MISS our April Generations.... We have some very special things lined up for this season's last session of "Living the Moral Life",

Mercy & Forgiveness. The need to forgive is at the very heart of authentic Christian life. Join us, as we explore God's plan for us as people of compassion, forgiveness and mercy.

Check out today's insert and mark your calendar for Sunday, April 13th or Wednesday, April 16th over at St. John's.

Bible Study Ministry Sessions: For all of you who want to learn a little more about the bible, we have good news! Starting in September 2008, the Bible Ministry team will be offering a monthly session based on the monthly publication "God's Word Today." It has a daily scripture reading based upon a theme for the month, for example, the monthly readings could all be about the Gospel of Matthew.

Each session will be structured so that each participant can do as much as they want or as little; for example- you can do all or some or none of the daily readings and still participate in the monthly session. Each session will start with shared prayer, move on to questions from the prior month reading, a short presentation, and close with faith sharing based on the monthly scripture topic. These sessions can also help existing groups or new groups develop their own session agenda.

To start off successfully, we need to have a session Monday, April 7, at 6:30 pm in the Parish Ministry Center Social Hall to explain the program and to order the materials needed. Call George Newton at 419-782-2776 for more information.

A Special Thank You to St. Mary Noodle Club for their monetary donation.

Inside the church near the ramp door, you will see a new Holy Water Font on the wall. Also there are new ropes on the stairways going to the balcony and a decorative rope guard for the step at the double door entrance near the restrooms. These items totaled about \$1100 and the "Holy Rollers" of St. Mary's graciously gave from their hard earned money. Many thanks to all of you for your faithful participation in this ministry. And the noodles are good too!

Workshop: Life In the Spirit (Vida En El Espirito) in Spanish, starting Friday, April 11, at 7:00 pm at the Parish Ministry Center. For more information call Fela Trevino at 419-784-4508.

St. Mary's Altar & Rosary Society will hold their monthly meeting at 7:00 pm on April 8 in the Parish Ministry Center. The program for the evening is "Memory and History of your Favorite Apron." Members are asked to bring their favorite apron and tell their story about the apron.

Committee chairs are Jean Lightle-Jackman and Josie Roehrig with their committee of Ardis Bergman, Diane Stover, Cheryl Hinojosa, Mary Carroll, Irene MacDonald, Helen Krudel, Mary Batt and Joanne Santo.

In Loving Memory: Please keep in your prayers Margory Schatz & Annabelle Hasselschwert and their families and friends. May they know the peace of God's love.

SCHOOL NEWS



We're back! We now are one week into the fourth quarter, the final days of the 2007-08 school year!

Last Friday, our students enjoyed a couple of trips off campus. Pre K-2 saw "Horton Hears a Who" arranged by Mike Blunt, manager at Regal Cinemas. The third grade heard an author speak; a presentation sponsored by the Defiance Public Library. How blessed we are to have these resources in our community; each trip enhances our students' learning experience.

This week, the third graders will hear a presentation on Seatbelt Safety.

On Friday, we will join with our "neighbors" at St. John Lutheran and walk around the neighborhood. Students from St. Mary Campus will head to St. John Lutheran. All will walk around their school. Then the older students will walk over to St. John Campus and take the younger students there for a little walk. All older students will head over to St. John Lutheran playground for a little "free time." Of course, this activity hinges on good weather.

We will do Scantron testing during April. This will give us a comparative score with the fall test. We will note students' progress and improvement. This time our second graders will also take the test.

A BIG thank you to:

- Our third graders who sponsored a mini Lenten Food Drive. They brought in over 150 items and when they delivered them to the Food Pantry, they had a tour of the Pantry. They set goals and rewards for their efforts so after their successful drive, they treated themselves to a movie and snacks.
- All students for participating in "Pennies for Patients." This project was coordinated by the sixth graders. They raised \$232 for leukemia and lymphoma research.

Hope you are enjoying this fourth month of 2008!

Miss Sandy

Help the School: Please remember to save your Box Tops, Chief receipts, and ink cartridges. Bring them to either school campus or either church office. Thank you for your help!

Thank you....

For all the blessings that came with our Easter celebration. We extend a sincere Thank You to all who gave their Time, Talent & Treasure to enhance this glorious season.

- To Fr. Tim, Deacon George, Deacon John, Deacon Jeff and Cisco, for their spiritual leadership during Lent, Holy Week, the Easter Vigil and commencing with Resurrection Sunday.
- To all who gave so generously in Rice Bowls; to date the amount is \$3,241.26.
- Thank you for giving so generously for Easter, \$13,375.06. The St. Vincent de Paul Society, Furniture Bank and Food Pantry will each receive a promised 3.3% tithe which comes to \$445.40.
- To the R.C.I.A. Team and sponsors for faithfully leading our newest members to St. Mary Community.
- To the R.C.I.A. candidates who are now full active members of the Catholic faith. *Welcome to our Catholic Community!*
- To the Liturgy Ministry Commission for the many hours they gave in preparation.
- To those who gave donations for flowers in memory of loved ones. May their pleasing presence give you peace.
- To all the Eucharistic Ministers, Lectures, Sacristans, Greeters, Altar Attendants & Ushers. Your help is so valuable.
- To the Folk Group and Adult Choir, for sharing with us their gift of voice as a form of prayer.

So many of you participated in various ways, it is a true blessing within our Catholic Community. As Christians we experience God's unconditional love. As Community we have experienced the love for one another as we came together to celebrate.

Thanks be to God who raised Jesus from the dead!

ALLELUIA!

In this Sunday's gospel, as we hear the story of the disciples on the road to Emmaus, we also come to know that our daily reaching out to our neighbor is our daily walk with the risen Christ; we recognize Him in others. **Your gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul will show that you are indeed walking with Jesus and recognizing Him in the poor and suffering.**

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Death Penalty Workshop: In November of 2003, The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops issued the following statement in their publication "Faithful Citizenship."

"Every human person is created in the image and likeness of God. Therefore, each person's life and dignity must be respected, whether that person is an innocent unborn child in a mother's womb, whether that person worked in the World Trade Center or a market in Bagdad, or even whether that person is a convicted criminal on death row. We believe that every human life is sacred from conception to natural death."

In view of this emotionally charged issue in our country today, the Human Rights Commission of the Diocese is sponsoring a death penalty workshop. It is being offered at two different locations:

- Thursday, April 24, from 7:00 to 8:30 pm at The St. Francis Spirituality Center-South Room, 200 St. Francis Avenue, Tiffin OH 44883-3491
- Tuesday, April 29, from 7:00 to 8:30 pm at St. Aloysius-Hartman Hall (gym) 150 Enterprise Street, Bowling Green OH 43402

The workshops are open to everyone and there is no cost, but they do ask that you register for either location. There are registration forms at all entrances of the church today.

Volunteers for PATH Monday Evening Meal:

St. Mary's rotation for hosting the Monday evening meal for the PATH Center is Monday, April 28. Approximately 2 individuals are needed to prepare a meal in their home and deliver to the PATH Center and 2 individuals are needed to serve the meal. If you are able to help with either meal preparation or serving, please list your name and phone number on the sign-up sheet located at the entrance of the church closest to the school or call the parish office. The sign-up sheet will be accessible for the next two weeks- you will be contacted with details regarding food preparation or serving. Thanks for volunteering. Individuals attending the Monday meals are always very appreciative.

What's This Israeli/Palestine Conflict All About? At Marysdale, St. Isidore Church this Sunday, April 6 at 2:00 pm. Presenter Sr. Paulette Schroeder, OSF will share insights and experiences as a Christian Peacemaker in Hebron-West Bank-Palestine.

St. John's

7th Annual Reverse Raffle

\$80.00 admits two

Friday, April 11

Knights of Columbus Hall

6:00 pm doors open

Hors D'Ouerve Buffet

Drawing to start around 7:30 pm

\$2,500 Grand prize

\$2,975 additional prize monies

ONLY 250 TICKETS BEING SOLD

Please call St. John's Parish Office 419-782-7121

Surprise Celebration for Deacon Randy

Redington: June 26th marks the 25th anniversary of Randy's ordination. There are several ways to be a part of this great celebration:

- June 22 at Holy Rosary Parish, 200 Rosemont Avenue, Steubenville, Ohio 43952. Mass at 11:30 am.
- June 29 at Catholic Familyland, Bloomingdale, Ohio 43910. Mass at 10:00 am.
- Or send cards and letters for a memorial book by May 1st to:

Mary Ellen Redington % Catholic Familyland
3375 County Rd 36
Bloomingdale OH 43910

Include your email for Mary Ellen to respond to any questions. For hotel information or more details, call Mike Westrick at 419-784-9125.

**Join the Noodle Club Thursday, April 10,
1:00 pm at the school.**

Annual Retreat for Married Couples: Married couples are invited to attend a retreat offered at the Franciscan Renewal Center in Carey, Ohio the weekend of May 16-18. The theme of this weekend retreat will be: "Recipe for Marriage-Three Necessary Ingredients." The presenters are Deacon Jim and Ann Cavera. The Caveras share a marriage of 40 years. They are the parents of 4 grown children and the authors of "Grounded in God" from Liguori Publications. They minister together at Immaculate Conception Parish in Bellevue.

The cost is \$175, which covers room, linens, meals and retreat materials. A \$25 deposit with your registration would be appreciated. To register or if you have any questions, contact Brother Randy Kin, OFM Conv, by email retreats@olcshrine.com or by phone 419-396-7970.

Parish Finances - Stewardship of Treasure

Last Week You Gave.....	\$8,567.00
Need Weekly	\$10,885.00
Below Budget.....	(\$2,318.00)
Contributions to Date	\$445,246.73
\$10,885 x 40 Weeks	\$435,400.00
Year to Date <i>Above Budget</i>	\$9,846.73

Mark your calendar: 25th/50th Wedding Anniversary Celebration. Sunday, October 5th at Our Lady, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Cathedral, Toledo at 3:00 pm.

55 Plus Club will meet on Tuesday, April 22 at St. Michael's Ridge. Rosary will begin at 10:50 am, Mass at 11:00, catered dinner at 12:00 noon, and meeting at 1:00 pm followed by cards and bingo. Please call for dinner reservations: Dolores Ryan at 782-9441 or Georgiana Wagner at 497-3762. Committee members are Terry Frank, Virginia Rath, Francis Stehulak and Bernis Rahmel.

An Invitation from Heartbeat of Toledo: Join Heartbeat of Toledo, a pregnancy help organization, in their effort to assist teenagers and young women faced with unexpected pregnancies. They offer alternatives to abortion through emotional and material support as well as parenting classes through their Heart to Heart program. The volunteer training classes begin Tuesday, April 15. Classes will meet for two hours on three consecutive Tuesday afternoons from 1-3 pm. In-office training with an experienced volunteer will follow. To register for the classes or for further information, call Mary Keil at 419-841-0971, or Heartbeat's Madison office at 419-241-9131.

Sacred Heart Church in New Bavaria will be holding a chicken BBQ on Sunday, April 20 from 10:30 am to 1:00 pm. Cost is \$7 for adults, \$4 for children. Carry-outs are available. Menu includes 1/2 chicken prepared by Harlan's BBQ, baked beans, potato salad, applesauce, homemade pies, rolls, punch and coffee.

Daily Readings for This Week

Readings for the Week of April 6, 2008

Monday:	Acts 6:8-15/Jn 6:22-29
Tuesday:	Acts 7:51-8:1a/Jn 6:30-35
Wednesday:	Acts 8:1b-8/Jn 6:35-40
Thursday:	Acts 8:26-40/Jn 6:44-51
Friday:	Acts 9:1-20/Jn 6:52-59
Saturday:	Acts 9:31-42/Jn 6:60-69

WELCOME to our parish community! We are happy to have you here with us. A *special welcome* to any guests who may be visiting. May your visit be blessed.

Mass Intentions

Monday, April 7

8:00 AM Communion Service

Tuesday, April 8

8:00 AM Mariam & Dick Babinger Families

Wednesday, April 9

9:15 AM Earline Swary Anniversary

Thursday, April 10

8:00 AM James Bowers Anniversary

Friday, April 11

8:00 AM Lucille Mekus

Saturday, April 12

4:30 PM Angelo Zambone

Sunday, April 13

8:00 AM Adam & Ella Jurcevich

9:30 AM Tony Parsons

11:30 AM Respect for all Life

Events For This Week

Monday, April 7

Bible Study Ministry Mtg	6:30 pm PMC
Charismatic Prayer Group	7:00 pm PMC
SVDP	7:00 pm PMC

Tuesday, April 8

Pastoral Council/Evang Tm	7:00 pm PMC
Altar & Rosary Society	7:00 pm PMC

Wednesday, April 9

Shep of Christ Prayer Group	6:00 pm Church
Youth Choir	6:00 pm Chapel
Youth Group	7:00 pm PMC
Folk Group	7:30 pm Church

Thursday, April 10

Noodle Club	1:00 pm School
Cantor Rehearsal	5:00 pm Church
LMC	7:00 pm PMC

Friday, April 11

Spanish Bible Study	7:00 pm PMC
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Sunday, April 13

Celebrate the Word	9:30 am School
RCIA	10:30 am PMC
Confirmation Session	10:30 am PMC
Baptism	1:00 pm Church
Generations of Faith	12:30 pm St. John's