

ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

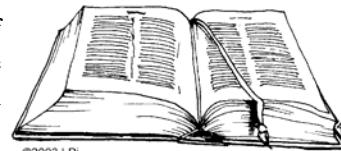
Today's Readings: Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7/Romans 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19/Matthew 4:1-11

GOSPEL GLIMPSES

The devil in disguise

We've probably all seen the skit: A highly emotional evangelist decries the evils of modern society. "The devil is in your TV," he shouts, waving a bible. "Satan lurks at the shopping mall. He sits beside you at the thee-aye-ter." Knowingly we all nudge each other and grin. We're too sophisticated to be taken in by this hyperbole.

Maybe that's because we've already been taken in, by someone a little slicker. The road away from God isn't clearly marked by pitchforks and sulfur. Take tech toys for example. There's nothing inherently evil about buying a new cell phone or ipod. But did you really need it, or have you taken the extra money God gave you to share with others and wasted it on convenience and pleasure? That movie may be a harmless G-rated family feature, but are you staring at a screen when God has called you to feed the homeless, visit the homebound? Before you dismiss the idea of the devil sneaking into your life take a good hard look around you. Are you surrounded by well-earned rewards, or are you entertaining the devil in disguise?



Next Sunday's Readings: Genesis 12:1-4a/2 Timothy 1:8b-10/Matthew 17:1-9

KYRIE

Kyrie eleison

Christe eleison

Kyrie eleison

These Greek words belong to an old hymn the Church has used throughout the ages in the Liturgy. Literally they mean: "Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy." Through these words, we, the faithful, acclaim Christ as our Lord and implore his gracious mercy upon us. We invite you all to join in singing these precious words during the Penitential Rite this Lenten season.

Care for God's Creation: Most of us have clean water whenever we want it. Ciro didn't have this experience. He and his neighbors in rural Guatemala had to carry water for miles to meet their village's needs. With the help of Catholic Relief Services, they were able to construct a water supply system. Disease abated as new sanitation made their village a healthier place to live. God formed Ciro, his neighbors and all of us and infused us with the breath of life. Your involvement in Operation Rice Bowl will help sustain that life, in ways as simple as making clean water accessible. CRS strives to be a responsible steward of creation while pursuing sustainable development. Dirty water, deforestation and pollution don't contribute to a healthier future.

Kalida K of C Fish Fry:

Every Friday in Lent from 4 - 7 p.m.



Do you realize what a positive commandment the Fourth Commandment is? It's the only one that has an award connected to it!

"Honor your father and mother, that you may have a long life in the land that the Lord your God is giving you." All the others tell us "you shall not."

Where did you first learn about love, respect, commitment, gratitude and obedience? What are the "characteristics of a strong family?" Join us **Sunday, February 10th, 12:30-2:30 pm** or **Wednesday, February 13th, 6:30-8:30 pm** over at St. John's as we explore the commandments that challenge us to live faithfully.

Attention married couples! Today, February 10 is World Marriage Day, and the first week of Marriage Week in the US. Our Church community extends to you our congratulations and appreciation for giving us, through your love for each other, a glimpse of the faithful, creative abundant and self-emptying love of Christ. This constant witness is one that takes careful tending and nurturing. We offer the following suggestions for keeping the flame of your love for each other burning brightly. Consider making a Marriage Encounter weekend or Retrouvaille if your marriage needs work. There are many wonderful books, among them, **Take Back Your Marriage** by William Doherty and **Rekindle the Passion While Raising Your Kids** by Anthony Garascia. Your marriage is worth it!

College 101... a preparatory session for high school seniors. Everything you need to know to be prepared to go to college in the fall. How to get along with your roommate, how to manage a checkbook, how to keep connected with a local church. Come to the Chapel at the St. Mary Campus of the Defiance Catholic Schools on February 27th at 7 pm. Pizza, pop, and lots of information will be provided.

YES 2008: We are seeking folks interested in site preparation, materials management, technical support, food, and donations. The opportunities are endless. Please consider one of these opportunities to join in this amazing project of service with our youth to our local community. Call Pam Barnett, Jeff Hahn, or Greg Steyer for details.

A Family Perspective: In today's gospel Jesus cautions it is not enough to provide food for our children; "one does not live on bread alone." Let Lent 2008 be a time when you are "led by the Spirit" to explore new ways to be a moral guide to your children.

Parents in Progress: Catholic Charities Family Connections Department presents Parents in Progress, Adoption Preparation Class on Friday, February 22, 9:00 am to 4:30 pm, at the Catholic Charities Diocesan building, 1933 Spielbusch Avenue, Toledo, Ohio. Cost of the training is \$200 per couple, \$100 for individuals. Call Kathy Kwiatkowski at 419-244-6711 to register.

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.
- 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 419-784-9125.



Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast: The Knights of Columbus is having a free will offering Pancake breakfast on Sunday morning February 17th from 9:00 am till 1:30 pm. The menu will include: Pancakes, Scrambled Eggs, Hash Brown Potatoes, Sausage, Ham, Cinnamon Rolls, Coffee, Milk & Juice. K of C members stop out and pick-up your Charity Raffle Tickets.

First Sunday of Lent: Lent is a call not just to "give up something" but more important to "give something for the poor." Wherever you live in the parish, there are poor families within walking distance of your home. When in need, they ring the rectory bell. They are, in effect, ringing your doorbell. Is there a family you know who needs assistance? Please donate to the **Society of St. Vincent de Paul** so that together we can help the suffering and poor.

NOW Men's Fellowship will host a special "Prayer Roast" on February 16. Our community beloved and devoted, Deacon Don Meyer, after years of dedicated service is going to be put to the test. Family and friends are going to share their side of the story, as they drag him across the coals. So come and share your stories or just join in the fun with other men of our community. It's a great chance to make new friends and share a good breakfast with old friends. Show Don you appreciate his dedicated service on the 16th at St. John's basement. 7:30 am coffee and fellowship, 8:00 am breakfast and program. Questions call George at 419-784-3975.

NFP classes available: Natural Family Planning (NFP) classes are being offered in our area by the Couple to Couple League beginning in March. Couple to Couple Leagues' certified teachers help other couples learn fertility awareness through the Sympto-Thermal Method. Couples can use the method to open themselves to the gift of pregnancy or postpone pregnancy as long as they prayerfully deem necessary. CCL has recreated a format utilizing John Paul II's Theology of the Body and has simplified the method and materials used without losing effectiveness. Any couples interested in learning a natural, healthy, effective means of family planning can call Steve and Barb Coolman at 419-658-2206 for more details. Please call by February 17.



EVANGELIZATION “Bridge Building”

Catholic Evangelization—“Bless the Lord, my soul; all my being, bless his holy name!” Psalm 103

Speak openly and often about God. Use God’s name in praise and thanksgiving for all God has done for you!

Include God in Your Everyday Vocabulary

It is not against the law to speak about God. To be conscious of God’s presence in everyday life, in decisions great and small, in events and casual happenings, and to casually mention how God works in your life is to evangelize. And that helps others to raise their awareness that God is very much alive and present in our midst.

Ways we, as the faithful of St. Mary Catholic Community, acknowledge God in our day:

Pray always and in all ways—consider prayers of thanksgiving and praise

Grow in a greater awareness of God’s presence—
“Be Still! And know that I am God!”

Concentrate on how many times a day you use God’s name in thanksgiving for the blessings God has bestowed upon you.

A Quality of Catholic Evangelization:

Catholic Evangelization happens in the midst of everyday life- God in every moment of our day. Be Alert! Be Watchful!! Listen!!! God IS With Us!!!!



SCHOOL NEWS

Happy First Week of Lent! I hope that these forty days will offer you an opportunity to grow closer to Jesus as an individual and as families. What is your family doing to mark this penitential season? Here are a couple of suggestions:

- Turn off the TV one evening, maybe just for an hour and pray together
- Attend the Stations at least once during Lent
- Do anonymous acts of kindness for one another or a neighbor
- Share the weekend readings sometime before attending the liturgy

Happy February birthday to: Wade Liffick and Courtney Brown, Pre K; Ben Pry, kindergarten; Justin Layne, first grade; Madison Good, second grade; Daniel Chagoyan, grade 3; Kira Armstrong, grade 4; Kaitlyn Koch, grade 6; and Carol Shafer, staff.

I would like to recognize the following sixth graders for their hard work in the second quarter: Mackenzie Guilford, Brenna Rohn and Vincenza Tremante, all A’s; Ivan Chagoyan and James Howard, all A’s 1 B; Natalie Castillo, all A’s, 2 B’s.

Fourth grade recognition in the second quarter: Gabe Arreguin, Corbin Edwards, Justin Howard, Tyler Shafer and Cordell Stover— no warnings, no detentions; Gabe Arreguin, Evan Guilford, Justin Howard, Tyler Shafer and Cordell Stover, all A’s, Kira Armstrong— 51 A.R. points and Beth Lloveras— 131.1 points.

We commend the following fourth graders who completed altar attendant training: Cordell Stover, Christian Driftmyer, Megan Meyer, Garret Eutsler, Corbin Edwards, Evan Guilford, Gabe Arreguin, Justin Howard, Tino Ramirez, Tyler Shafer and Beth Lloveras.

Other News: Our sixth graders once again participated in the D.A.R.E. At the end of the program, they were required to write an essay. Those who completed the essay celebrated with an afternoon at Holiday Lanes—eating pizza and bowling.

- The Pre K studied the vowel I. They had a “hands-on” experience by visiting the Dairy Queen— getting a tour and eating ICE CREAM, of course.
- On February 15, grades 3-6 will spend the afternoon at the YMCA.

Miss Sandy

Parish Finances - Stewardship of Treasure

Last Week You Gave.....	\$12,519.64
Need Weekly	\$10,885.00
Above Budget.....	\$1,634.64
Contributions to Date	\$362,073.73
\$10,885 x 32 Weeks	\$348,320.00
Year to Date <i>Above Budget</i>	\$13,753.73

Toledo Symphony at St. Martin De Porres Church for Black History Month: On Sunday, February 24 at 5:00 pm, St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church- Toledo and Huntington Bank will present an Evening with the Toledo Symphony in celebration of Black History Month. The Toledo Symphony will be under the direction of Mr. Chelsea Tipton II. The concert will also feature the Toledo Interfaith Mass Choir under the direction of Mr. Derrick Roberts. General Admission tickets are \$15.00 per person. For more information, contact the church at 419-241-4544.

Lay Ministry Program: Are you interested in learning more about your faith, in reflecting on your life and what your faith is calling you to be and do, in forming yourself to the image of Christ? If we want to evangelize, we must know our faith. The Lay Ministry Program will assist you in your growth and education.

The Diocese of Toledo is accepting applications NOW for the 8 month weekend program that begins in October. The application deadline is August 1st. Please visit the diocesan website to find out more about the program and obtain an application form: www.toledodiocese.org (click on Evangelization, scroll to Lay Ministry Formation and click on that link) or contact the Lay Ministry Office at 419-244-6711 or cmurar@toledodiocese.org. The site for Year I will be Mercy College in Toledo and possibly St. Francis Spirituality Center in Tiffin.

Daily Readings for This Week

Readings for the Week of February 10, 2008

Monday:	Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Mt 25:31-46
Tuesday:	Is 55:10-11/Mt 6:7-15
Wednesday:	Jon 3:1-10/Lk 11:29-32
Thursday:	Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Mt 7:7-12
Friday:	Ez 18:21-28/Mt 5:20-26
Saturday:	Dt 26:16-19/Mt 5:43-48

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, February 11**
8:00 AM Communion Service
- Tuesday, February 12**
8:00 AM James Stritt
- Wednesday, February 13**
9:15 AM School Liturgy at St. John's
- Thursday, February 14**
8:00 AM Bill Small
- Friday, February 15**
8:00 AM Marian McBride
- Saturday, February 16**
4:30 PM Jeffrey Walter
The Hildeman Family
- Sunday, February 17**
8:00 AM Adam & Ella Jurcevich
9:30 AM Lydia Kunesh
11:30 AM James Decker

Events For This Week

- Monday, February 11**
 - Furniture Bank Meeting 6:00 pm PMC
 - Charismatic Prayer Group 7:00 pm PMC
 - Joint Mtg of St. Mary & St. John's
 - Pastoral & Finance Councils 7:00 pm School
 - SVDP 7:00 pm PMC
- Tuesday, February 12**
 - Catholic Charities Mtg 11:00 am PMC
 - Pastoral Council & Evang. 7:00 pm PMC
- Wednesday, February 13**
 - Shep of Christ Prayer Group 6:00 pm Church
 - Youth Choir 6:00 pm Chapel
 - Generations of Faith 6:30 pm St. John's
 - Youth Group GOF 6:30 pm St. John's
 - Folk Group 7:30 pm Church
- Thursday, February 14**
 - Noodle Club 1:00 pm School
 - Cantor Rehearsal 5:00 pm Church
 - LMC 7:00 pm PMC
 - Retreat Team Mtg 7:00 pm PMC
- Friday, February 15**
 - Stations of the Cross 7:00 pm Church
 - Spanish Prayer Group 7:00 pm Chapel
- Sunday, February 17**
 - Celebrate the Word 9:30 am School
 - RCIA 10:30 am PMC
 - Confirmation Orientation 10:30 am PMC
 - Baptisms 1:30 pm Church