

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Typing up my column on Wednesday February 22nd brings back loads of memories. February 22nd is, of course, Washington's birthday. In the Church we celebrate the feast of the Chair of St. Peter. In the life of Fr. Rick Tomasone, I remember this as the anniversary of meeting a saint.

In 1980 February 22nd fell on a Friday in Lent. That was the day a young Pope John Paul II visited the North American College. I was in my fourth year of study and already ordained transitional deacon. During his homily the Holy Father made the connection between George Washington's birthday and the Feast of the Chair of St. Peter. After Mass the Pope walked around and greeted each student, faculty member, staff, and college worker. To each student he asked a few simple questions..."What diocese are you from?, Who is your bishop?" and a third one that has since slipped from my memory. To each of us he handed a rosary in a case with his coat of arms embossed on it and then he shook our hands before moving on to the next person.

After he had greeted everyone we moved to the refectory for the meal. The original menu was fit for a pope with his favorite Polish dessert. However, His Holiness Pope John Paul II reminded the planners of the meal that this was a Friday in Lent and there would be only a simple meal. The tables were arrayed in a radiating pattern so that no person sitting for the meal would have his back to the Pope. Even the noise level in the refectory reflected the fact that a Friday in Lent was a day of penance.

Did we know that day that a saint was in our midst? We recognized from the moment that that Pope John Paul II stepped onto the balcony of St. Peter's Basilica on the evening he was elected to address the multitude that had arrived in the square that he was a special presence. That night at the North American College confirmed his specialness in our minds. But a saint? I don't think so. After all saints walk on a cushion of air, don't they?

Apparently, Pope John Paul II didn't think so. Over the course of his pontificate he canonized more saints than had been previously canonized in the history of the church or so it seemed. Pope John Paul II understood that saints are in our midst whether we can recognize them or not.

Even if we did not recognize Pope John Paul II was a saint on February 22nd, 1980, we've come to appreciate that fact since.

Fr. Rick



During February, we are asking you to help fill the shelves at the Salvation Army with cans of **Beef Stew, Spaghetti O's, and Beef-A-Roni**. Baskets to put your donations can be found at the exits of the Church.

PARISH NEWS

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER The Youngsville Knights of Columbus will be serving pancakes and sausage on Tuesday, February 28th at St. Luke in Youngsville. Cost is by donation at the door. They are serving supper from 5-7pm.

PAINT IT FORWARD FUNDRAISER PAINT PARTY to help raise money for the RCIA Candidates Service Project "Make a Dream Come True!" It will take place on Wednesday, March 8 from 6-8pm in Meyer Hall/\$40.00 registration fee payable to St. Joseph Church. To register, call Kathy Amsdell at 723-2090 Ext. 14 or email her at kamsdell@sjcswarren.org. Limited to 30 registrants, so sign up quickly. Each participant will be led step by step by an artist to paint a picture with a Lenten theme. All supplies will be provided. You will leave with your beautiful painting. All proceeds will go toward the RCIA Candidates Service Project of sending a deserving family to a Cleveland Cavalier basketball game, providing the bus trip, pre-game dinner, t-shirts, and an "on court high five players greeting." If you do not want to participate in the painting evening, donations will gladly be accepted. Just drop them off at the church office or put them in the collection basket clearly marked "Paint it Forward." Thank you.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION DURING LENT "Breathtaking" was the comment of 4th grader Sophie Walker after a session of Eucharistic Adoration during Catholic Schools Week. Consider making this wondrous Sacrament an essential part of your Lent. Hours for Lent: 8am-8:15pm. Night prayer and Benediction begin at 8:15. To sign up for a holy hour contact Arlene 723-1726 or Becky 726-2849 or just drop in whenever convenient.

4th ANNUAL BILLY PAUL MEMORIAL PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT Mark your calendars for Sunday, March 5th! The tournament starts at 11am in the school gymnasium. The fee is \$15 per person. Team up with a friend and have a blast. All proceeds benefit CCY attending Catholic Heart Work Camp. If you don't know how to play but want to contribute, monetary donations are appreciated. This is open to anyone from novice to skilled levels. Concessions will be available. Awards given to top finishers. Entry deadline is Monday, February 27th. Please make checks payable to CCY and mail them to Marlene Sandberg, 300 Tall Trees Road, Warren, PA 16365. For starting times and questions please call Marlene Sandberg at 688-1607.

PIEROGI SALE St. John Church in Tidioute will be selling frozen pierogi as a fundraiser during Lent this year; every Saturday from March 4th through April 8th from 1pm to 4pm in the church's center. We will be making potato & cheese and potato & sauerkraut pierogi. Pre-order each week by Thursday to guarantee availability. Walk-ins are welcome. Call Fran O'Hosky 484-7157 to pre-order. Cost is \$9 /dozen or \$6/half dozen.

2232 MEN'S CONFERENCE The 4th Annual 2232 Men's Conference will be on Saturday, March 25th at the Erie Warner Theatre, 811 State Street, Erie. Registration starts at 8am. The conference starts at 9am and lasts until 3:30pm. Cost is \$40 per person, but group rates are available. Please contact Troy McFate, 563-7339 if you are interested in attending.

CHILD PROTECTION AND CREATING SAFE ENVIRONMENTS Have open conversations with your children about the kinds of websites they are allowed to visit. Clear, simple, easy-to-read rules for use should be posted on or near the computer monitor. Once you establish guidelines, check to make sure that your users stay within these agreed limits. Encourage them to turn off the monitor and tell you immediately if something online makes them scared, uncomfortable or confused. To see what the Diocese of Erie is doing to help create safe environments, check out <http://www.eriecd.org/protectyouth.htm>

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, 2/26 - Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
 8:45am Mass at St. Luke in Youngsville
 10:30am Rose Halle by Estate
 (Adult Choir)

Monday, 2/27 - Weekday
 12:00pm Mass at St. Luke in Youngsville

Tuesday, 2/28 - Weekday
 12:05pm Homer Peck by Judy Dilick

Wednesday, 3/1 - Ash Wednesday
 12:05pm Frank Chiodo by Mike & Lisa Lewis—School Mass
 5:30pm Mark Bevevino by Bevevino Family of Beaver, PA

Thursday, 3/2 - Thursday after Ash Wednesday
 12:05pm Gervase & Ella Wortman by Jerry & Ann Wortman

Friday, 3/3 - Friday after Ash Wednesday
 8:00am Helen Scalise by Mike & Lisa Lewis

Saturday, 3/4 - Saturday after Ash Wednesday
 8:00am Teoffil & Pauline Corban,
 Benjamin & Isabel Malec by Estate
 5:30pm Jack & Mary Fill by Doris & Howard Labowski

Sunday, 3/5 - First Sunday of Lent
 8:45am Mass at St. Luke in Youngsville
 10:30am Living & Deceased Parishioners of Saint Joseph
 (Adult Choir)

Monday Sirach 17:20-24; Gospel - Mark 10:17-27

Tuesday Sirach 35:1-12; Gospel - Mark 10:28-31

Wednesday Joel 2:12-18; 2 Corinthians 5:20-6:2;
 Gospel - Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Gospel - Luke 9:22-25

Friday Isaiah 58:1-9a; Gospel - Matthew 9:14-15

Saturday Isaiah 58:9b-14; Gospel - Luke 5: 27-32

Sunday Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7; Romans 5: 12-19; Gospel - Matthew 4: 1-11

WEEKLY SANCTUARY CANDLES in memory of
 Florence Scalise by C & D Hayes

COMING EVENTS

Sunday, February 26
 9:00am K-9 Faith Formation
 10-11 Confirmation (School)
 9:00am-1:00pm 6-8 grade Retreat (School)
 11:30am Coffee/Donuts after Mass (Cafeteria)
 3:00pm The Gospel of John (Meyer Hall)
 6:00pm Teen Praise Team Rehearsal (Church)
 7:00pm HS CCY (Youth Room)

Monday, February 27
 6:00pm Cub Scout Pack Meeting (Meyer Hall)
 6:30pm Book Club (Boardroom)

Tuesday, February 28
 4:30pm Soup Kitchen (Cafeteria)
 5:00pm-7:00pm Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper @ St Luke

Wednesday, March 1
 10:30am Faith Share (Meyer Hall)
 12:05pm School Mass (Church)
 2:00pm Communion Service at Rouse Home (Youngsville)
 5:30pm Mass (Church)
 6:30pm RCIA (Meyer Hall)
 7:00pm Choir (Church)

Thursday, March 2
 8:00am Adoration (Mother's Chapel)
 7:00pm Prayer Shawl (Meyer Hall)
 8:15pm Night Prayer & Benediction (Mother's Chapel)

Friday, March 3
 Homebound Communion
 5:00pm K of C Fish Fry in Sheffield
 6:30pm Stations of the Cross (Church)

Saturday, March 4
 4:30pm Reconciliation (Church)

Sunday, March 5
 9:00am K-9 Faith Formation (School)
 10-11 Confirmation (School)
 10:30am RCIA Rite of Sending at Mass (Church)
 Children's Liturgy
 11:00am Pickleball Tournament (Gym)
 11:30am Cherub Rehearsal (Church)
 1:00pm Sunrise Rehearsal (Church)
 3:00pm The Gospel of John (Meyer Hall)
 7:00pm MS CCY (Youth Room)

LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULES

	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Extraordinary Ministers</u>	<u>Altar Servers</u>
3/1 12:05pm	School Children	K Darling, J Rickert, A Wortman, T Grana, R & P Osche, C Feaster	School Children
3/1 5:30pm	B McGinn	F Perrin, J & M Sabat, H Zaffino, R Williams, D Labowski, P Bailey	M Shene P Shene C Shene
3/4 5:30pm	M Sandberg	K & C Darling, M Sowa, K Weigel, A Kiehl, R Sharp, P Tack	E Darling I Darling J Darling
3/5 10:30am	D Wortman	C Zawacki, *A Wortman, V Amsdell, *M Kirkpatrick, *P & R Osche, R Beyer	I Wortman G Wortman A Beyer

40 cans for 40 days of Lent We will have a basket by the parish office for you to put one can of nonperishable food items for each day of Lent. All donated foods will be used at the Youngsville Food Pantry. Matthew 25:40 "Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me."

VOCATIONS ICON

We would like to thank the **Victor & Kathy Amsdell** for taking the Vocations Icon this week and praying for an increase in vocations here at St. Joseph Catholic Church.

Weekly Donations - February 12: \$ 7,158
 CSA Pledged: \$124,995; Paid to date: \$ 121,572
 Thank you for your continued generosity!

SAINT JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL

If you or your children want to send your/their child/ren to St. Joseph Catholic School, please call the school at 814-723-2030. We have open enrollment. There are numerous grants and scholarships available. Call the school today.

Reminder that Pre-School Roundup is March 10th.

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

Barnhart & Davis Co. 723-5600

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