

Saint Mary Parish Community

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

June 19, 2011



Father Corey V. Piccinino, *Pastor*

**Father Cyrus Bartolome
Father Edward McAuley
*Parochial Vicars***

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*Deacons***

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**Sister Anne McCarthy
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School Phone: 744-2922

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*Director of Religious Education***

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St. Mary Church & Rectory

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www.stmarybethel.org

Fr. Corey's Comments

◆ I begin this column with the Annual Bishop's Appeal. We still have not made our goal. As of this writing, we are at 547 donors of St. Mary Parish have given \$102,622.00 out of our goal of \$135,000.00. We have 2,600 families (a family is considered a household, a single or multi-person residence) in our parish and so we have not heard from approximately 2,000 families. As I have mentioned time and again, the \$135,000.00 goal is our responsibility as a Parish. The monies that are raised go to those with serious need in our Diocese. I continue to ask you to prayerfully consider giving a gift, no matter what the size to this most worthy cause. If we do not meet our goal, we have to make up the remaining money not raised out of our weekend collection. This will severely limit those improvements and normal repairs that we had on our schedule this summer and fall. *Please, help us make our goal.*

◆ This week we celebrate the feast of the Most Holy Trinity. I ask St. Patrick to help explain this mystery. The shamrock is a symbol both for the Holy Trinity and St. Patrick (389-461). The shamrock is a clover plant with a yellow flower and leaflets made up of a stem with three small green leaves. The plant is very common and widely distributed throughout Ireland. St. Patrick was a zealous missionary to the Irish, a people who upon his arrival in 432 had heard little or nothing of Jesus and his gospel. St. Patrick was an energetic traveler, a determined evangelizer, and a courageous preacher, and as he canvassed the countryside he was assailed by bitter opponents who threatened his life and undermined his message, but undeterred, he made hundreds and thousands of converts.

Whether St. Patrick was speaking to local pagans who knew nothing of the Christian faith, or to neophytes, newly-baptized disciples who were not well-grounded in the truths of the faith, he was faced with the daunting task of explaining profound mysteries such as the Trinity which are so difficult to understand. There are several popular legends about how St. Patrick used the shamrock to explain the mystery of the Trinity. According to one story, St. Patrick went to Connaught where he met two of King Laoghaire's daughters, Ethne and Fedelm. St. Patrick had been unable to persuade the king to convert, but he convinced the king's daughters. During their time of instruction St. Patrick used a shamrock to visualize the mystery of the Trinity, how a single plant with three leaves is analogous to the one Triune God with three separate and distinct Persons (*Thurston, H. J., ed., Butler's Lives of the Saints, Vol. 1, 615*).

According to another legend, St. Patrick used a shamrock to help explain the Trinity in a sermon he preached directly to King Laoghaire. The third legend says that St. Patrick was traveling and happened upon a number of Irish chieftains along a meadow. The tribal leaders were curious about the Trinity and asked St. Patrick for an explanation. So he bent down, picked a shamrock, and showed it to them, and explained how the three leaves are part of the one plant, and how similarly the three Persons, Father, Son, and Spirit, are part of one Supreme Being.

According to the Catholic Encyclopedia: "The beautiful prayer of St. Patrick, popularly known as 'St. Patrick's Breast-Plate,' is supposed to have been composed by him in preparation for this victory over paganism. The following is a literal translation from the old Irish text . . ."

*I bind unto myself today
the strong Name of the Trinity,
by invocation of the same,
the Three in One, and One in Three.*

*I bind this day to me for ever,
by power of faith, Christ's Incarnation;
his baptism in Jordan river;
his death on cross for my salvation;
his bursting from the spiced tomb;
his riding up the heavenly way;*

*his coming at the day of doom:
I bind unto myself today,
I bind unto myself the power
of the great love of cherubim;
the sweet "Well done" in judgment hour;
the service of the seraphim;
confessors' faith, apostles' word,
the patriarchs' prayers, the prophets' scrolls;
all good deeds done unto the Lord,
and purity of virgin souls.*

(Prayer continued on next page)

Fr. Corey's Comments (cont'd)

*I bind unto myself today
the virtues of the starlit heaven
the glorious sun's life-giving ray,
the whiteness of the moon at even,
the flashing of the lightning free,
the whirling wind's tempestuous shocks,
the stable earth, the deep salt sea,
around the old eternal rocks.*

*I bind unto myself today
the power of God to hold and lead,
his eye to watch, his might to stay,
his ear to hearken, to my need;
the wisdom of my God to teach,
his hand to guide, his shield to ward;
the word of God to give me speech,
his heavenly host to be my guard.*

*Christ be with me, Christ within me,
Christ behind me, Christ before me,
Christ beside me, Christ to win me,
Christ to comfort and restore me.
Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,
Christ in hearts of all that love me,
Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.*

*I bind unto myself the Name today
the strong Name of the Trinity,
by invocation of the same,
the Three in One, and One in Three.
Of whom all nature hath creation,
eternal Father, Spirit, Word:
praise to the Lord of my salvation,
salvation is of Christ the Lord.*

◆ In preparation for the Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, which we celebrate next week, I offer to you a renewed understanding on the reception of Holy Communion. The Bishops of the United States have decided that the universal action that we all should take before receiving Holy Communion is a bow to the Blessed Sacrament and then say "AMEN" to the statement "THE BODY OF CHRIST", or "THE BLOOD OF CHRIST".

When it comes to receiving Holy Communion, please use the method prescribed by the Church. You have two options: 1) Receive Holy Communion on your tongue by opening your mouth and sticking out your tongue (please do not bite down on the Eucharist as you may bite the minister's finger), or 2) Putting one hand on top of the other and then placing the Eucharist into your mouth with the bottom hand. Now many people have decided to make up their own variations of this practice. Let me explain the variations that are not helpful: *The Laced Bridge*... Hands linked or intertwined that look like a bridge with a hump in the middle, or *The Valley*... two hands side-by-side pointed downward. Or *The Snapper*...taking two fingers and grabbing the Eucharist from the minister's hand, or *The V for Victory*...two hands with the heels of the palms touching and the fingers pointed straight up. Now, these positions may sound a bit humorous, but they are not allowed or recommended because there is a greater chance to drop the Eucharist in the process of receiving Holy Communion. So, please place the bottom of one hand into the palm of the other and then using the bottom hand to place the Eucharist in your mouth. Please, remember to say "Amen" after the minister says: "The Body of Christ or the Blood of Christ".

◆ A first grade teacher collected well-known proverbs and sayings. She gave each child in her class the first half of a proverb and asked them to come up with the remainder of the proverb. Their insights may surprise you:

*~Better to be safe than...punch a 5th grader
~Strike while the...bug is close
~It's always darkest before...Daylight Savings Time
~Never underestimate the power of...termites
~You can lead a horse to water but...how?
~Don't bite the hand that...looks dirty
~No news is...impossible
~A miss is as good as a...Mr.
~You can't teach an old dog new...math
~If you lie down with dogs, you'll...stink in the morning
~Love all, trust...me*

*~The pen is mightier than the...pigs
~An idle mind is...the best way to relax
~Where there's smoke there's...pollution
~Happy the bride who...gets all the presents
~A penny saved is...not much
~Two's company, three's...the Musketeers
~Children should be seen and not...spanked or grounded
~Laugh and the whole world laughs with you, cry and...you have to blow your nose
~When the blind lead the blind...get out of the way
If at first you don't succeed...get new batteries*

PARISH HAPPENINGS

The Parish Office will be closed the week of June 27-July 1 for repairs to the floor. After 12 years of wear and tear, we will be putting in a laminate floor that has a 30 year warranty. Fun-in-the-Sun and Vacation Bible School registrations can be mailed in or dropped off in the mailbox by the Office Door. You can still call the Parish office at 744-5777 for emergencies.

MEN'S MINISTRY FAMILY PICNIC Come join for barbeque, pool, volleyball, refreshments and fellowship at 8 Jacobs Lane on **Saturday, June 25th from 1pm-7pm** (rain or shine). Please RSVP with estimated head count to Davis Whitmore at dwhitmore@snet.net or 470-0909. Suggested donation is \$10 per family, but no donation is required.

ST. MARY BOOK CLUB: JUNE BOOK

"Twelve Apostolic Women", by *Joanne Turpin*. Join us on **THUR., June 30, 7:30pm**, in the **Children's Room**.



If you or someone you know is in need of prayer, please call our **Prayer Line**. Our team leaders are **Mary Walsh (798-1237)** and **Colleen Santaniello (792-0009)**.



SCHOOL NEWS

There will be an **Early Dismissal** on **Monday, June 20th** which is the last day of school. The school community will be attending the 9:00 AM Mass. All are welcome.

St. Mary School Registration is ongoing for Preschool through 8th Grade. Please contact the School for additional information at www.stmarybethelct.org or at 203-744-2922.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

REL. ED. REGISTRATION FORMS are now available for children in K-8th grade. They **must** attend each year in **Grades 1-8** in order to make their sacraments. Forms are available on our website. If your child entering **Kindergarten or 1st grade** is not registered for the Fall, call **Rel. Ed. (743-4557)**

Youth Group

This year's **Teen Mission Trip/Retreat** team of 30 teens and 12 adults will be leaving on **Saturday, June 25** to spend a week of service at the **Mission of Our Lady of the Angels** in the Humboldt Park area, one of the poorest neighborhoods in the City of **Chicago**. We will be running a camp for children in the neighborhood, working to renovate the church and grounds and assisting in any way with their outreach programs. ***Please keep us in your prayers!*** You can visit www.ourladyoftheangelsmission.com (which is the Mission's website) to see the great work they do! We look forward to sharing with you our experiences of the week when we return!

SENIOR YOUTH GROUP will be collecting **backpacks** that will be donated to shelters, midnight run efforts, and other organizations that will make them available to children that need them. New or used is fine! The final day for drop-off is **June 19th** in the church vestibule.

Around the Diocese

Bethel Senior Center's Dessert Card Party **Friday, June 25 at 7 pm**. Call the Center's office at 203-792-3048 to reserve a table. There are door, raffle and table prizes. You can play any kind of board game or card game, pool, table shuffle board. We serve great desserts, punch, and coffee. Tickets are \$5 per person.

IMMACULATE HIGH SCHOOL needs host families for incoming international students who hope to attend the school next year. Families who host an international student receive an \$800 per month stipend which can be applied toward tuition for a family's student attending IHS. For more information, please contact Amy Barth at (404) 277-5175 or at flowrbyrd@aol.com, or IHS President Kathleen Casey at (203) 744-1510 extension 134 or at kcasey@immaculatehs.org.

2011 SUMMER VOCATION DAYS, June 28-30, 2011 at Sacred Heart University. "***What's your status?***" is the theme of this year's dynamic three-day event for high school students, designed to help them grow closer to God, and hear His call - whatever it may be. For more information, or to register, visit Facebook.com/summervocationdays.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

MON., JUNE 20	6:30	+	Cathryn Costello
	9:00	+	Rev. Patrick J. O'Connell
TUES, JUNE 21	6:30	+	Louise Gauthier – Daughters
	9:00		Yola & Don Buonomo (<i>50th Wedding Anniv.</i>) – Paul & Rosalie Demarco
WED., JUNE 22	6:30	+	Barbara Rorick – Patty Vitarelli
	9:00	+	John Hafner – Asta Smith
THU., JUNE 23	6:30	+	Czeslaw Zabrzewski – Daughters
	9:00	+	Msgr. Edward B. Karl – Friend
FRI., JUNE 24	6:30		Blessed Mother's Intentions
	9:00	+	Henrietta & Lawrence Tirella – Eleanor Roche
SAT., JUNE 25	8:00	+	Alice McShane & Brenday Duffy – Friend
	5:30	+	Anthony Cannata – The Broccoli Family
SUN., JUNE 26	7:00	+	William Bonacci – Mom & Dad
	8:30	+	Loretta Keough – Family
	10:00	+	Archie LaForte – The Morgan Family
	11:30	+	Helen Broccoli – The Broccoli Family
	5:30	+	Kellianne Gartland – Family



WELCOME TO THOSE WHO WERE NEWLY BAPTIZED

Ava Alessandra Osimanti



III – Mark Fleckenstein & Christine Surdel

SUNDAY COLLECTION: \$18,095.25

PARISH OFFICE (744-5777)

Kate Fitzgerald: *Parish Secretary*
Paul Orsino: *Property Manager*

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (743-4557)

Mary Ferri: *Director*
Peggy Gavin: *Secretary*
Dennis Nauheimer (RCIA): 794-9488
(Call if interested in becoming a Catholic or completing your initiation as a Catholic with Confirmation and/or Eucharist.)

MUSIC MINISTRY

Michael Ferrari: *Music Director*
Elizabeth Barnes: *Choir Director*

ST. MARY SCHOOL (744-2922)

Sister Anne McCarthy: *Principal*
Linda Curry: *Secretary*

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday – Friday: 6:30 & 9:00am
Saturday: 8:00am & 5:30pm (*Vigil Mass*)
Sunday: 7:00, 8:30, 10:00, 11:30am & 5:30pm

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Saturday: 4:00 - 5:00pm.

BAPTISMS: *Every Sunday at 12:45pm.*
(Call the Rectory to Schedule.)

PRE-BAPTISM CLASSES: *Once a Month.*
(Call the Rectory to Schedule.)

ARRANGEMENTS FOR MARRIAGE: *All Couples must meet with a parish clergyman at least six (6) months before the marriage is to be celebrated.*