
Fr. Corey's Comments

Health Care seems to be the topic that everyone is discussing these days. I think we all can agree that Health Care is not really working the way it is. I admit that I am not the sharpest knife in the drawer, but I truly don't understand the current government plans and going forward without clear knowledge is somewhat uncomfortable for me. I do believe that things must be fixed, so I did some research, and I found a statement from Archbishop Greg Aymond, the newly installed archbishop of New Orleans. I share his words with you:

“The Catholic bishops in the United States recognize a pressing need for health care reform. Too many American citizens lack basic health care coverage, and the cost of health care is becoming prohibitive for many more. The Lord Jesus, who came to save us from our sins, manifested a great concern for the sick in his public ministry. He also urged us to reach out to the poor and sick in our midst. The Church rightly considers that government has a responsibility to ensure access to basic health care for all.

The bishops do not propose a specific plan or policy. But, we set out the following principles to shape public policy:

- * We need to develop a plan which ensures access to basic health care for all.*
- * We need to make sure that the poor and the vulnerable, including legal immigrants, are part of this plan.*
- * We need to control health care costs so that it is affordable to all.*
- * We need to make sure that abortion, euthanasia or other immoral activities are not mandated or financed with taxpayer dollars. This includes conscience protection for all providers, whether institutions or individual persons, and for all recipients.*

The bishops, without proposing either a public or private sector option, urge that any plan which is developed embrace these principles. Catholics are urged to contact their United States Senators and Representatives to ask them to use these principles to evaluate all proposals that are developed.

Strident or shrill rhetoric does not help us to engage in civil and respectful deliberation about a serious social issue with significant moral implications. God grant us the wisdom to discern what is right and the courage to do it.”

So, there it is, the Health Care changes that I can put my heart and soul into.

Last week I mentioned the “New Translation” of the Mass that has been approved by all who need to approve it. If I had to guess, I think that this new translation will not take effect until Advent of 2010. (That is only a guess on my part.) Of course, we at St. Mary Parish will do our best (through instructions) to make the transition as easy and painless as possible. For more information on the new translation visit www.usccb.org/romanmissal/. This translation is meant to share the original meaning of the texts. Also, new prayers have been developed for newer saints and celebrations in the Church. Take a look at the website, I am sure you will find it most interesting.

Fr. Corey's Comments (Cont'd.)

➤ *Last week was back to school week! Some were probably nervous, some excited, some filled with anticipation at seeing friends again, some thrilled to be in the mode of learning again, and some breathing a sigh of relief that the summer is over. I am excited to have school back in session. The quiet of the summer is nice, but the hustle and bustle of the daily activities of school add a special spirit to our parish community. WELCOME BACK TO EVERYONE AT ST. MARY'S SCHOOL, and GOOD LUCK TO THOSE ATTENDING HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE ... Have a great school year!!!*

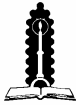
Answers to last week's Catholic Trivia:

- 1. In many Eastern Rite Churches the staff that bishops use has a medical caduceus (the symbol for the medical profession) as the bishops represent Christ the healer.*
- 2. A Catholic Tribunal is the Catholic court, (most know it because they are involved in annulment cases).*
- 3. A cardinal can vote for a new pope until he is 80 years old.*
- 4. The Diocese of Bridgeport was created in 1953. 4 dioceses were established from the Archdiocese of Hartford: Archdiocese of Hartford, Diocese of Bridgeport, Diocese of Norwich and the Diocese of Providence. (Rhode Island).*

This is the last week of Catholic Trivia for this summer. Remember to put your name and phone number and how many questions you correctly answered (you can approximate if you like) and place it in the basket next weekend. The winner and their family will have Sunday breakfast in the Rectory.

- 1. What is a ciborium?*
- 2. What three things are necessary for mortal sin to occur?*
- 3. What is the translation of the term CHRIST?*
- 4. What is the Canon law term for associate pastor?*

➤ *A reminder to all police personnel, firefighters and EMS workers about September's Blue Mass with Bishop Lori. The ANNUAL DIOCESAN "BLUE MASS" will be celebrated by Bishop William E. Lori on Sunday, September 13th, at 12Noon at Assumption Parish, 98 Riverside Drive, Westport. All are invited to attend this special Mass, honoring the daily service and sacrifice of Fire, Police, and EMS personnel in 21 towns and cities in Fairfield County, with special remembrance of those who gave their lives in service to others eight years ago on September 11, 2001. A reception will follow, sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. For more information, contact Donna Schmidt: (203) 416-1457.*



NOCTURNAL ADORATION will be on **FRI., SEPT. 4th**, from **9:00pm to 7:00am**.

COFFEE & ... will be served after the **07:00 Mass** on **SUN., SEPT. 6th**.



DOROTHY DAY VOLUNTEERS

WED., SEPT. 2nd: *Our turn to Cook.*

ST. MARY CLOTHING BANK

The **Clothing Bank** will reopen on **THURS., SEPT. 17th**, and will be open every **Thursday**, from **9:30-11:30am**, at the **Senior Center** on School Street.



REGISTRATION – Religious Ed.

is available for children in grades K-8. If you have a child entering **Kindergarten or 1st grade** who is **not** yet registered for the Fall, please check our website: **www.stmarybethel.org** to download a registration form. You may send it in or leave it in our mailbox by the office door. **Religious Ed. office will open TUES., SEPT. 8th**.

Single and looking to meet other great singles with similar values and beliefs? Let's get together and have a great experience! Who wants to help get the fun started? Meet on **WED., SEPT. 2nd**, at **7:30pm**, in the **Parish Hall**.



Friends of the Bethel Public Library is sponsoring a concert on **SAT., SEPT. 26th**, featuring Las Vegas/Atlantic City singer, **Steve Lippia**, who specializes in music of the Sinatra era. All proceeds will go toward the completion of the Library. The event will take place at **7:30pm** at the **Ives Concert Hall**, White Street, Danbury. Tickets are \$40 per person and are available: online at **www.wcsu.edu/tickets**; at **WCSU (203 837-8499)**; or a check made out to **Friends of the Library** may be left at the Library circulation desk. For more information please call **Mary O'Leary (743-0861)**.

SCHOOL NEWS

SMS ANNUAL MAGAZINE/MUSIC DRIVE

began on **FRI., AUG. 28th**, and ends on **MON., SEPT. 14th**. If you have not been approached by a student and would care to place an order, please contact the **School (744-2922)**. Thank you all for your continued support.



St. Mary School IBM Technology Upgrades

The **IBM Corporation** supports the technology needs of K-12 Schools through their IBM Matching Grants Program. IBM employees and IBM retirees can participate in the IBM Matching Grants program in support of any school. Under the program when an IBM employee or retiree donates 20% of the cost of the equipment, IBM donates the remaining 80%. Each employee may donate up to a maximum of \$5,000 per year.

IBM employees who are parents of St. Mary School students are sponsoring a Technology Drive aimed at upgrading the school Computer Lab. We realize that these are tough economic times and computer technology may not be high on your personal priority list. St. Mary's school has always been a leader in technology education, and through the generosity of IBM and its employees and retirees we have been able to continue to keep our equipment current.

If you are an IBM employee or an IBM retiree and are interested in assisting with our Technology drive, please contact **Ken Stevens (203 792-2027)** for further details.

ST. MARY BOOK CLUB: SUMMER BOOKS

“Christ the Lord: The Road to Cana”;
“Christ the Lord: Out of Egypt”. Both by **Anne Rice**. See you for discussion on **TUES., SEPT. 29th**, at **7:30pm**, in the **Children's Room**. **Have a great summer!**

Come Sing with the Choir! The adult choir welcomes singers to become part of our Music Liturgy. If interested in joining, please call **Elizabeth (798-0076)**.



Coming Soon

GREATER DANBURY IRISH FESTIVAL



Ives' Concert Park, Danbury

FRI., SEPT. 11th – 5:00pm–10:30pm

SAT., SEPT. 12th – 11:00am–10:30pm

SUN., SEPT. 13th – 11:00am– 6:30pm

The Irish Festival will feature Irish entertainment, food and beverages, shopping, cultural exhibits, ceili and set dancing, and children's activities. **Adults: Fri. – \$5/evening, Sat. & Sun. – \$12/day; Children U-12 with adult – Free; 3-Day Pass – \$20. For more info.: AOH - 203 730-8211.**

RCIA will have an **OPEN HOUSE** in the **Parish Hall** on **SUN. SEPT. 20th**, from **12:00-3:00**. We welcome anyone interested in finding out more about the RCIA process to join us at that time. For more info. please call **Dennis Nauheimer (794-9488)**.

OPEN HOUSE



RETROUVAILLE OF CT. – *If your marriage has become troubled, unloving or uncaring, you are thinking of separating, or are already separated or divorced, want to try again, then this program can help you. The next weekend: SEPT. 12-14. Retrouvaille couples from all or no faith are welcome. For more info. call (1-800-470-2230) or e-mail: 3001@retrouvaille.org.*

*If you are suffering from the pain of abortion (or know someone who is), experience the healing love of Jesus on a **RACHEL'S VINEYARD RETREAT** weekend from **SEPT. 19-21.** The retreat will combine spiritual meditations, discussions, confession, a Memorial Service and Mass. Participation is strictly confidential and offers a beautiful opportunity to experience God's love and to help forgive yourself and others. This ministry is sponsored by the Respect Life Office of the Diocese of Bridgeport. For more information please call the retreat director (203 218-0291); email Jeremiah31v17@aol.com; or visit the website www.rachelsvineyardbpt.com.*

STEBENVILLE

(Here are comments from two teens who attended.)

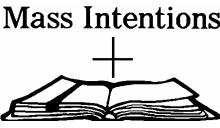
My Steubenville experience mirrors one of the sacred gifts of the Holy Spirit which I received on the day of my confirmation: the gift of wonder and awe. It was incredible to me to witness the thousands of teens falling and weeping at the feet of Jesus Christ. Often teens as well as adult parishioners tend to focus on the rules and regulations that the church sets rather than the gifts it offers. Wonder and awe is such a crucial gift because it reminds us to cherish the power and might that is the Lord, and puts us into our place as simple human beings. It reminds us that we exist because God exists, and we are HIS and HIS alone. It reminds us not to be self-righteous or proud, greedy or selfish. My most powerful experience at Steubenville 2009 was renewing my gift of wonder and awe, and recognizing its value in my life.

Katlyn Higgins

This was my second year attending the Steubenville East conference, and it was definitely unique insofar as it wasn't anything like I expected, and it was in no way a repetition of the conference last year. What makes the conference so priceless and even necessary is that it allows you to afford a precious three days where you don't have to be concerned with worldly issues and can take the time to focus on the quality and meaning of your faith and those who share it. This year's conference was even more intense than I had anticipated that it would be, as I have been unable to distract my mind from its new preoccupation with God and Christ, something I didn't experience as overtly last year. I've always been more contemplative than charismatic when it comes to my perception and experience of religion, and I've never before had so much stimulation to satisfy my theological and philosophical explorations! I'm so glad I went; it truly was a rewarding, fulfilling, and fun experience, and definitely had an impact on everyone who attended.

Jonathan Whelton-Pane

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

MON., AUG. 31	6:30 + Elda Braden – Family	
	9:00 + Manuel Goncalves – Family	
TUES, SEPT. 1	6:30 Special Intention	
	9:00 + Thomas McCormich – Paul & Nan Rinaldi	
WED., SEPT. 2	6:30 + Edward Zolo – DiMatteo Family	
	9:00 + Tony Soegaard – Jed & Cornie Costello	
THU., SEPT. 3	6:30 + Mr. & Mrs. Donald Chase – Son, Ron	
	9:00 + Richard Lawlor, Sr. – Family	
FRI., SEPT. 4	6:30 + Rev. Robert Nugent – Mary & Bill Walsh	
	9:00 + Patrick Buckley – Friend	
SAT., SEPT. 5	8:00 + Rev. John E. Fay	
	5:30 + Bill Benzing – Yolanda & Don Buonomo	
SUN., SEPT. 6	7:00 + Mary Nehez – Art & Bridget Cuomo	
	8:30 + Carmina Gryskiewicz – Ken & Cindy Roberts & Family	
	10:00 + Ryan Thaddeus Prado – Frank & Kathi Raftery	
	11:30 + Phillip Infurchia, Sr. – Krchnavy Family	
	5:30 + Kellianne Gartland – Family	

WELCOME TO THOSE WHO WERE NEWLY BAPTIZED



Payton Nicole Laurino

Robert Frank Mariano

II – Robert Sanford & Tracy Horrocks



GOAL: \$15,000

COLLECTION: \$15,058

*If you, or a family member, are planning a stay at Danbury Hospital,
please inform the Rectory so a member of the clergy may visit.*

PARISH OFFICE (744-5777)
Sheila Kurjiaka: *Bulletin Editor*
Kate Fitzgerald: *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
Mike Macelletti: *Music Director*
Elizabeth Barnes: *Choir Director*
Debbie Caraluzzi: *Contemp. Group 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
Sunday: 7:00, 8:30, 10:00, 11:30am & 5:30pm

CONFESSION SCHEDULE
Saturday: 4:00 - 5:00pm.

BAPTISMS: Every Sunday at 1:00pm.
(Call the Rectory to Schedule.)

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

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