

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear friends,

This upcoming Wednesday we will celebrate "**Ash Wednesday**," which means that we will start the new season of Lent. By nature, this season is "*penitential*" and this particular flavor will be expressed in every dimension of our Christian life. Our liturgies will be simpler: the music will be less festive and the environment will use darker colors, especially purple. We are invited to do penance in our lives as well. The church, following the Gospel, invites us to focus on fasting, alms-giving and prayer. We are encouraged by these practices to take a different look at our lives and focus on all those things that most of all separate us from God, from each other and from ourselves. We call these things "sins."

It is also part of our Lenten Journey to "*give up something*" that is not good for us or to "*pick up something*" that we are supposed to be doing. Lent is truly an opportunity for us to grow as Christians and to respond more properly to God's love and grace.

In the first reading we hear that **God is "doing something new."** He wants to give all of us a new life, a life full of meaning and joy. This renewal can happen only if we get rid of the junk and "old stuff" that we keep carrying in our lives. I pray that all of us will be able to experience this gift that God wants us to have. A wonderful way of doing this is to celebrate the **Sacrament of Reconciliation** (we celebrate in on Saturdays 4:15-5 or by appointment; we will have a joined reconciliation service, also). We want to take some time, however, to prepare ourselves for this sacrament by doing an **examination of Conscience** that is

based on the Gospel and not on our opinions. You will find some examinations of Conscience on the tables in the back of the Church.

During the Lenten season we will have lots of opportunities to be involved in the life of the Parish. Our "**Christian Formation**" committee is sponsoring some activities: check the rest of the bulletin. The Social Concern Committee is launching the "**Rosary Campaign**" for the Unborn and for an end to Abortion that starts this weekend. Rosaries will be provided by the Committee and the Knights of Columbus.

A word of thanks goes to all those who participated in our **Coat Drive**. We collected more than **500 coats**. It's simply amazing! We may be small parish but our heart and generosity is huge ☺

As always, we will have the "**Pancake Breakfast**" on Tuesday 21st from 5 to 7pm and the "**Lenten Soupers**" on Friday nights from 5-6:45 starting on the 24t before **Stations of the Cross**.

Ash Wednesday services are at 8:30am and 7:00pm.

Don't forget to keep checking our **Parish Facebook page** for updates.

In Christ,

Fr Stanislaw

www.heavenwards.org

Word of Life
February 2012

"Repent, and believe in the Gospel" (Mk 1:15).

PRESIDER'S INTENTIONS

February	18	Saturday
Holy Savior	5:15p.m.	Parishioners
February	19	Sunday
St. Mary's	7:00 a.m.	Edward "Ted" Schwartz, Jr.
Holy Savior	8:30a.m.	Clemy Mishraky
Holy Savior	10:00a.m.	S.I. of Sally & David Sarlitto
February	20	Monday
8:30 a.m.		Olga Kielb
February	21	Tuesday
8:30 a.m.		Dennis Sweeney
February	22	Wednesday
8:30 a.m.		Tony Carozza, Jr.
7:00 p.m.		Al & John Marchese
February	23	Thursday
8:30am		Gertrude Couzens
February	24	Friday
8:30 a.m.		Prayer Service- Adoration



You can have a **Sanctuary Candle** burn weekly at St. Mary, Star of The Sea or Holy Savior Church in memory of a deceased loved one or for a special intention. The intention and the donor will be announced in the bulletin, please call the parish office to reserve your week. The intention for the week of February 19th at Holy Savior is for Special Intentions of Christine LaPratt from her mother and for St. Mary's In Loving Memory of Marie Daley from the Ladies of Sodality.

En Theos

Enthusiasm for the Faith

Is addiction a sin?

Understanding the nature of addiction will help shed some light on the question of its sinfulness. Addiction is commonly thought to be a disease. It affects every aspect of a person's life to one degree or another and is progressive. Gradually, it claims more and more control of a person's health and well-being. Even if a person is successful in managing the addiction, it is always present. It is not something that a person is cured of, but rather something that one learns to control. This being so, then the element of choice and free will is not present, a necessary factor to be guilty of sin. Therefore, the addiction itself is not a sin.

That does not excuse the addict from all responsibility for sin. Some of the activities that support addiction may indeed be sinful. For instance, if the addict steals, cheats, or robs to feed the addiction, knowing that action is wrong or serious and choosing to do it anyway, there is an element of sin present. Each case would have to be taken individually to make a better judgment.

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Every Monday through, March 26, 2012 there will be **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** in Holy Savior Church from 9:30am to 3:00pm. All are welcome and encouraged to spend some quite time in the presence of the Living God to worship, to thank, to praise, to hear and to receive. **Please note: There will be no Adoration on Monday, February 20th due to the Holiday.**

In an effort to be certain that all of our sick are considered in your prayers, we have placed all their names in the Book of Sick in the rear of church. If you are unable to list them yourself, please feel free to contact the parish office and we will do it.

St. John Neumann is sponsoring an evening on Sin & Grace presented by Fr. Stanislaw on Tuesday, February 28th at 7:00 pm at St. John Neumann. **All are welcome to attend!**



Ash Wednesday

February 22, 2012
Masses will be held at
Holy Savior at
8:30am & 7pm.

The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, February 20th in honor of Presidents' Day. It will reopen on Tuesday at 9:00am



1st Collection
\$3,684.89

2nd Collection
\$499.93

Thank you to all of you for your most generous donations.

The Second Collection next week will be for The Black & Indian Missions.

St. Luke Parish Lenten Service will be held on Tuesday, March 13th at 4pm at St. Luke Church 9903 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD. All are welcome to attend.

Kitchen Crew:

Hey, Hey, Hey, just a quick reminder that we would like to see everyone at least one time this week. We have the yummy A.U.C.E. Breakfast this Sunday. The Pancake Dinner on Tuesday will be loads of fun! We are planning on having crepes with fruit topping, scrapple, bacon, sausage and lots of sweets in addition to just pancakes. Be sure to wear your beads! We are still working on the souper menus but it will be tasty. The cost for all these events is \$8. for adults and \$4. for children under 12. We are asking that you bring a can of nice hearty soup with you to the souper so we can help replenish our food pantry☺

Social Concerns:

Did you know that there are some \$37,000. children aborted in Maryland every year – more than 700 per week. This is a rate that is 50% higher than the national average. While direct action to eliminate this killing is necessary, it must be accompanied by prayer. The Archdiocese of Baltimore, in collaboration with the Knights of Columbus in Maryland, the Archdiocese of Washington and the Diocese of Wilmington is soliciting pledges to have 100,000 rosaries said in the month of March to eliminate abortion in our state and our nation and to pray for the souls of the unborn children who have been aborted. Can you say four or five rosaries over the course of one month? A pledge sheet is available in the rear of the church awaiting your pledge.

Be sure to check out the **Parish Book & Gift Store** after the weekend Masses. There have been quite a few items put on sale and some new books for lent will be arriving any time now!

Faith Formation

Love, frequently the focus of our attention in February, is a beautiful human emotion. Some say that the Valentine season is just a creation of the card companies or to keep the florists busy. I see it as something more. I see it as a time for us to stop and take inventory of all those that we hold dear. Perfectly placed in the beginning or just before the start of Lent it allows us to recall the unconditional love that we receive from God! Our relationships are our turn to reflect God's love for us. It allows us the time to love Jesus in the other. We plan special meals or pick out that perfect card or just pause together as a family to say "This love is a special important gift from God and I will make time to celebrate it and to share it!" So, while the card companies/florists now have a vested interest I think it was God's idea first! So I'd like to take the opportunity to thank all those involved in the Valentine's industry for helping to spread God's message of Love so clearly in this week of "Love"!

LIBRARY "ADOPT-A-BOOK"

Help the Parish Library expand its collection of books for children by purchasing a book or books from our "Wish List." All hardback donations will be marked with a book plaque indicating the donor's name. This is also an excellent way to make a donation in memory of a loved one or as a way of Marking a birthday or anniversary. This month's "ADOPT A BOOK" featured book is Why am I Here? By Matthew Kelly. The book focuses around the main character Max, a seven-year-old boy, and his quest to discover the meaning of life. Max is a curious boy. One day while he is fishing with his Grandpa, Max stumbles upon the ultimate question, Why am I here? His Grandfather suggests that Max is here to become the-best-version-of-himself! In the days and weeks that follow, Max begins to

notice when he is and when he is not celebrating the-best-version-of-himself. This single idea becomes the touchstone for his decision making, begins to guide his words and actions, and fosters a remarkable self-awareness. Why am I Here? is a remarkable lesson for children of all ages about living with passion and purpose. You can adopt this book for \$20.00. Just contact the Religious Education Office-289 7038

Cube Corner

Jacob, a fourth grade student, learned that being nice can help others learn to be nice as well. He helps a boy who is sometimes mean to others. When the boy is mean to Jacob, he just ignores him because he thinks that maybe the boy is just trying to get a reaction. Now the boy tries to be nicer to make up for the times he was not nice!

NEW DRIVERS

Do you have a new driver in your home? Turn them in to us! Call and let us know if someone in your family has recently received their Drivers license. We will be having a Blessing of new drivers and would like to count yours among them! Call Rita 410 280 7038 or email dre1705@comcast.net

Rita Danhardt

dre1705@comcast.net



From the desk of Mark J.

Record, Principal...

Congratulations to the following MBSCS students whose entries in the Junior American Citizens (JAC) art and creative expression contests were chosen for recognition.

Banner:

Grade 7 – Holly Adelhardt, Allie Burton and Angela Aleman

Poster:

Grade 3 – Ariana Holland-Seda
Grade 6 – Caroline Engle
Grade 7 – Alexandra Santa

Barbara

Stamp Design:

Grade 3 – Jacob Shoup
Grade 6 – Carissa Gabbard
Grade 7 – Alexander Abbott

Poem:

Grade 3 – Riley Rayne
Grade 6 – Caroline

Pasquariello

Grade 7 – William Sass
Grade 8 – Amy Jackson

Short Story:

Grade 3 – Bridget Kemp
Grade 7 – Holly Adelhardt
Grade 8 – Nicholas Curtis

Their entries have advanced to the state level. Congratulations to all of our students and their parents for a job well done. We are very happy for you!

Parents who are interested in knowing more about our school are asked to contact our Director of Admissions, Mrs. Valerie Sharp, at 410-208-1600. We are currently accepting applications for admission from families who are registered in one of our eight supporting parishes. Beginning on February 16th, we will accept applications for admission from Catholic families who are not registered in one of our eight supporting parishes. ***Please don't delay as openings are limited.***

Join us at the 4th Annual Casino Night and Auction on Saturday, March 10, 2012 from 6 p.m.—Midnight! Reservations are selling fast! Try your luck with Cash Black Jack, Roulette, and Texas Hold 'Em Poker. To make reservations, contact Gina March @ 443-528-9028 or mbscscasinonight@gmail.com, or pick up a reservation form in the school office Monday –Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Cost is \$40 in advance or \$50 at the door.

Don't forget to also try your luck to win one year of FULL in-parish tuition or take the cash option of \$4,000!!! Tickets cost \$100 each for a 1 in 72 chance of winning – these are great odds!! Contact Cathy Pasquariello @ 410-726-3385 for more information or to purchase your LUCKY NUMBER! Drawing will be held on Casino Night on March 10, 2012.

R.C.I.A. News

This week we finished our discussion about the mass, with our look at the Communion rite.

Four smaller rites make up the Communion Rite:

1. The Lord's Prayer, which is our spiritual preparation, our cleansing prayer for Communion.
2. The Sign of Peace, where we acknowledge the presence of Christ that we share in Communion to be present in the person to whom we extend peace.
3. The Breaking of Bread, which is a central part of the Eucharistic liturgy, when we remember Christ's broken body, and that he shed his blood so that sins may be forgiven.
4. Communion, when we process to the altar table and become Christ's body and blood. St. Theresa said, "Christ has no body now but ours." We literally take Christ to the world. Nourished by this feast, we go forth to feed others, recognizing that we have just shared in the eternal banquet and fully participated in the paschal mystery of Christ.

Reflection...

Who are the broken hungry in your world today?

Who desperately needs you to nourish them with the Presence of Christ within you?

Today we celebrated the Rite of Sending for our two candidates, Donna Rhynalds and Kathy Engle. Donna and Kathy and the R.C.I.A. team will be attending the Rite of Calling the Candidates to Continuing Conversion on Saturday, February 25th at Holy Cross Church, where Bishop Malooly will recognize them.

Please keep Donna and Kathy in your prayers as they enter into their final preparation before being received into full communion with the Church.

Adult Faith Formation

Mother's Book Club—1st meeting Sunday February 26th at 6:30 PM in the Parish Hall. Will discuss "Between Heaven and Mirth: Why Joy, Humor and Laughter Are at the Heart of the Spiritual Life by James Martin. All are welcome! For more information contact Sally Dowling

s.dowling1@verizon.net

Deacon Ed Gardner will present weekly sessions of **A Biblical Walk Through the Mass** during Lent. Each session will last approximately 75 minutes. The sessions will be held on Sunday's after 10 am mass in the Parish Hall and another after weekday mass on a day to be determined. Please e-mail Sally Dowling at s.dowling1@verizon.net or 302-542-9384 if you are interested in attending.

Lenten Bible Study will be meeting every Sunday during Lent in the Parish Hall at **8:30am**. The booklet, "Open Our Hearts will be provided. For more information contact Sally Dowling s.dowling1@verizon.net

Community Events

A.U.M.C. Soup Sales are back! February 23rd 11am to 1pm. Fresh homemade sandwiches, Hot Soups & Biscuits & Delicious Homemade Desserts. Carry-Out is also available. Atlantic United Methodist Church. 4th & Baltimore Streets.

Spaghetti Dinner to Benefit Camp Possibilities for Children with Type 1 Diabetes is being held on Saturday, March 24, 2012 from 5 to 7 pm at St. Peter's Lutheran Church Community Life Center at 10301 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD. Tickets are \$10. for adults and \$5. for Children under 12. To order tickets, contact Katie at 410-251-4793 or Corey 410-251-0626. In addition to the dinner, there will be a Chinese Auction and Raffle!

Institute of Notre Dame Alumni Luncheon will be held Monday, February 20th at 12noon at the Dunes Manor Hotel in Ocean City. Please contact Charlotte Badolato at 410-641-5968 for further information.

Knights of Columbus have bingo every Friday at their hall on 9901 Coastal Highway Ocean City, MD. Doors open at 5:00pm and the Games begin at 6:30pm. For additional information, please call 410-524-7994.

The Knights also offer a breakfast every 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month from 8 am to 12 noon. Adults \$8.00, Children under 12 \$4.00

St. Luke's Lenten Soup and Salad Dinners will be held on Tuesday Evenings in Lent. Tickets must be ordered ahead of time. Please call 410-250-0300 for additional information.