

MASSES FOR THE WEEK



SATURDAY AUGUST 2nd

5:00 Pearl Schork
r/b Dolores & Jim Fernandez
Betty Coyle
r/b The Rectory Staff

SUNDAY AUGUST 3rd

8:00 Rita Roche
r/b Leon & Lillian Silverman
Margaret Maffia
r/b Neil & Peggy Campbell
10:15 Margaret & George Balog
r/b Sullivan / Balog Family
12:00 Maureen Boyle
r/b Patrice & Kyle McKay

MONDAY AUGUST 4th

12:10 John Krener—7th Anniversary
r/b Claire & Stan Laikowski

TUESDAY AUGUST 5th

12:10 Mary Melnyck—5th Anniversary
r/b Husband

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 6th

12:10 Opal Mae Craig
r/b Judy & Walter Fitzgerald

THURSDAY AUGUST 7th

12:10 Joseph Seggio
r/b Dino & Rhiannon

FRIDAY AUGUST 8th

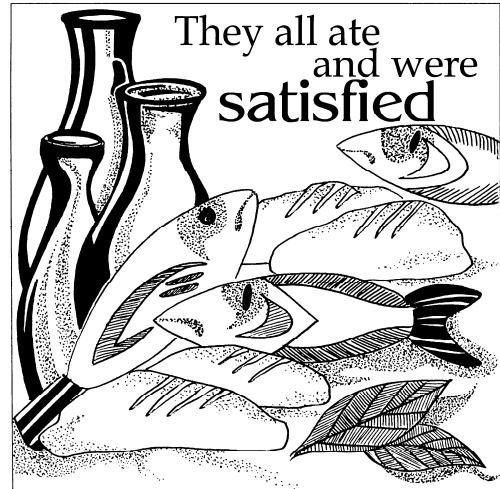
12:10 Jean Tucker
r/b Family
Pasquale, Giovannina
& Dec. Members of the Biele Family
r/b Carmela Biele

SATURDAY AUGUST 9th

5:00 Maureen Boyle—1st Anniversary
r/b Mary & Noel Bradley
Bernice La Porta
r/b Michael & Kathleen Grifone

SUNDAY AUGUST 10th

8:00 Edward Shinnick
r/b De Luca Family
10:15 Aldo Piccarreto
r/b Christopher & Rebecca Carione
12:00 Eugene Gartlan
r/b William & Carol Cunningham



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Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 3, 2008



All you who are thirsty,
come to the water!

— Isaiah 55:1a



P R A Y E R C H A I N

*The Church of the Nativity
Prayer Chain is accepting prayer requests.
Please call the rectory with your request.*



Thank you for your continued support to our
Church throughout the year.

Our collection for Sunday, July 27, 2008
amounted to \$7580,00



A WORD FROM THE PASTOR



*I hope you are enjoying the summer. It has certainly been a hot and humid one so far. I hope everyone is able to relax and restore themselves in the next couple of weeks. I was able to go 2 weekends ago with my family to visit cousins in Massachusetts. It was great seeing all of them, and sharing the time with one of my brothers and his family, and my sister and her family, and my parents. But it was far from relaxing. **I have a new appreciation for all you who are parents, especially with small** children. Spending 48 hours with my niece and nephews was exhausting. Couldn't wait to get home and get in my own car (I drove in my sister's car) and go to my own room and not be guided by all the things you have to do.*

I LOVE children! And certainly my niece (Casey) who is 3 3/4, my nephews (Cameron 6 1/2, Connor 7, Trevor 5 1/2 and Collin 18). Collin was no problem at all because he can drive and helps out a lot with his siblings and other cousins. But driving for 5 hours in a car and staying at a hotel and having all our meals together was an adventure. I don't know how parents do it every day? I guess that's why GOD led me to the vocation of priesthood.

Anyway, it was FUN and I pray that the rest of the summer is good for everyone.

I found this reflection on the readings this week which I thought you might enjoy.

Living the Paschal Mystery

The readings this Sunday help us move our reflections about God's kingdom out of the gospel and into our everyday lives.

We can't make the kingdom present by ourselves. At first, Jesus tells the disciples to "give them some food yourselves." They can't; human resources are not sufficient to make present what God's kingdom promises. Jesus then takes the meager human resources—"five loaves and two fish" - and blesses them and gives them to the disciples to distribute to the crowds. What the disciples cannot do alone they can do with Jesus' blessing. A similar circumstance is poetically presented in the first reading from Isaiah: "All you who are thirsty, come to the water!" The image here is that of a desert place where, not only is there uncomfortable thirst, but death threatening as well. In this barren place that cannot support life, God invites the people to drink and eat without paying out of their own resources. God makes the desert place fertile and produces abundantly without efforts on our part except to "come to [God] heedfully" and to "listen."

We already share in the kingdom because we have received life. The presence of the kingdom is a presence of life lived fully. "Heed me, and you shall eat well, you shall delight in rich fare" (first reading). Not only that—the abundance points to God's messianic banquet, everlasting life.

Fr. Peter K. Funesti



Masstimes.org

For those travelers who would like to know what time Mass is in the area they are visiting, please check out the Catholic website: masstimes.org.

You can locate a Catholic Church anywhere in the US and view a listing of Mass times, address, and phone number for every church in the area. You can search for churches in a variety of ways including zip code, name, or city/state. If you're away from the computer, you can call the toll-free number 410-676-6000 to request a listing of churches and Mass times.

CATECHETICAL CENTER

Religious Education Fall Program for Grades K-8:



Re-registration letters have been mailed to all families presently enrolled. Re-registration may be done either by mail or in person. NEW registration will be taken at the Center during office hours. To complete registration for our Parish Catechetical Program, a family must be:

- Registered members of the parish
- Present a certificate of Baptism for the child/ren and

Registration fee.

To ensure that we make adequate provision for all planning to attend in the fall, we ask that ALL NEW REGISTRATION be completed ASAP!

Summer Schedule:

Please note that the Religious Education Office is operating on a summer schedule of reduced hours from 9:00 AM to 12:00 noon. Please CALL before coming. The voice mail will receive your message when no one is in the office and we will call you as soon as possible.

Attention Newcomers!

We are accepting registration of new students for K-8 in the Center during office hours. A certificate of Baptism and a registration fee are required. Please call the center (201-447-1776) before coming to register, since we are on a summer work schedule of reduced hours.

Babysitting Available- LiOnSS Group (Little Ones Summer Sundays)

Starting June through September 21st child care will be available in the Upper Room, during the 10:15am Sunday Mass, for children five (5) years of age and under.

Confirmation 2009

Letters regarding details of our program and coming events were mailed to all students who will be in freshman year of high school by the Fall of 2008 and who are considering taking part in next year's Confirmation program. If you did not receive the letter, and wish information, please call the Center at 201-447-1776.



First Penance and First Communion Programs:



To enroll in the second grade Reconciliation & Eucharist programs, it is necessary that a child must have completed Gr. 1 of formal catechism.

Can You Help?

Catechists Needed!



Our Parish Catechetical Program is once again in need of catechists for grades K-6, for either Sunday morning or Thursday afternoon in our school and/or our summer option program. We are especially in need of catechists to teach a small group (6-8 students) in their home for 7th and 8th grade. The Religious Education Coordinator will provide both group and individual sessions to prepare you for this vital ministry to our young children. If you feel called to this ministry, or even if you're curious about what is involved, please call the Center @ 201-447-1776 for information.

Helpful Literature Available



Please check the literature rack in the back of the church. You will find some new booklets regarding help for yourself, your friends, and family. Please help yourselves to these booklets.

Bridges to the Dominican Republic Accomplishments

From May 29-June 12, 2008, BRIDGES brought 21 college students and staff to do community service in the remote mountains of the Dominican Republic. The participants lived with eight poor farming families. Each day the group came together to offer a variety of services. Our volunteers taught English, math, arts & crafts, and dance in two rural elementary schools. Among the concrete services we provided were the following:

1. Collected, transported, and distributed 1,500 pounds of new clothing, bedding, medicines, vitamins, books, and toys to various rural communities.
2. Painted a 22' x 14' mural on the general store in the center of La Cuchilla, and various decorative designs on the school in Jagua.
3. Painted the meeting building and the new storage building in La Cuchilla.
4. Cemented benches in front on the chapel in La Cuchilla.
5. Provided materials to lay 850' of reinforced cement on the steep dirt road from Dojima down to the river, the first part of the access road to La Cuchilla.
6. Completed cementing a gradual incline to the concrete wall of the new swimming hole, so that the creek's current can push leaves and debris over the wall and out of the swimming hole.
7. Purchased the materials for the foundation and roof of one house, materials to complete a kitchen for second house, and helped pay for roofing of a third house.
8. Provided the building materials in El Ocho, outside of Fantino, to construct a meeting building, similar to the one we already constructed in La Cuchilla.
9. Installed five additional rural homes with inverters to provide continuous electricity during the daily blackouts.
10. Provided \$700 of food a month for the 30 students, from various rural communities, who live in La Casa Madre Maria from Monday through Friday so that they can continue their studies. After the last day of classes, brought all the students and staff on the 5 hour bus ride down the mountains for a day of bathing and picnicking at Cofresi Beach on the north coast.
11. Provided special medical assistance for four rural people.
12. Paid the tuition for 2 college students, assisted 2 additional college students with transportation money, and provided uniforms and school supplies for a dozen rural students.
13. Submitted to the Department of Education a formal request to establish a "TV Centro" high school in La Cuchilla, to serve students from four rural communities. If and when approval is granted, we have secured offers of several different sites along the main road where we would construct the building.



Reflection from a Student

This trip was a life changing experience that I was thankful to be a part of. It was a privilege to serve those who are less fortunate and make a difference in the lives of such beautiful people. The physical needs we donated to them were reciprocated tenfold through the love that they shared with us.

- Danielle Pittaluga



It's that time of the year again when school supplies need to be purchased. We would like to think of our friends at the York Street Project and give them some school items to get them on their way.

We will be collecting the following items the weekend of August 9th / 10th, and August 16th / 17th.

Items needed:

- Glue Sticks
- Jumbo Crayons
- Watercolor Paints
- Fiskers Brand Safety Scissors
- Colored Tissue Paper
- Construction Paper
- Popsicle Sticks/Craft sticks
- Assorted Stickers
- Play-dough
- Pencils

Teacher Supplies

- Pens
- Pencils
- Name Labels
- Pads
- Tape
- Staples
- Folders
- Single hole punchers



They can also use holiday decorations for the classroom and children's wrapping paper and bows.

If you have any questions, please contact Lynn Bonasia at the rectory.

Thank you again for your continued support.



SAVE THE DATE!

Sunday, October 5, 2008
12:00 Mass
Installation Mass for
Fr. Peter K. Funesti



NEEDED: NEW ALTAR SERVERS



Any boy or girl who is interested in becoming an Altar Server is invited to sign up now to serve starting October 2008. If you have received your First Holy Communion and are in third through eight grades you are eligible. You must be reliable and able to sit quietly throughout the Mass. If you are interested please fill out the form below and have a parent or guardian sign the form.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

E-MAIL _____ @ _____

PHONE: _____

GRADE _____

SIGNATURE OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN

RETURN THE FORM TO THE RELIGIOUS
EDUCATION OFFICE, THE RECTORY, OR
IN THE COLLECTION BASKET