

SIXTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Dear Friends,

On a snowy December evening years ago, there was a party for teenagers at Addie's house. Addie was a twelve year old boy who felt out of place, but his older sisters asked him to stay.

An older boy at the party noticed him looking gloomily out the window and offered to do the manual of arms that he had learned at school for him. Addie got the family's .22 rifle out and the boy gave a quick demonstration of the manual of arms. Accounts of what happened next vary. Some say Addie was trying to imitate what he had just seen; others say he was putting the rifle away; others say he pointed it at one of the girls and pulled the trigger. The gun was loaded, and a young girl, Ruth Mervin, fell dead. The aftermath was as curious as the incident. No one in Addie's family ever mentioned it. Addie didn't either for many years.

A psychologist traced Addie's devotion to "causes" and good works to this incident. For years, Addie was haunted by self-doubt and feelings of unworthiness. Later, when a special honor was bestowed on him, he said, "I should have preferred those words uttered for a stronger, wiser, a better man than myself."

That gunshot, on a snowy December evening, echoed throughout his life. Addie became a man who spent the rest of his life serving other people. He was gentle and kind. He found forgiveness. He could never change what happened. He finally forgave himself. The honor that he would have preferred a better man receive was the Democratic Presidential Nomination of 1952. Addie was Adlai Stevenson.

As we enter into this most holy of weeks in the church year, may I suggest that for a few moments we contemplated some of the failures we have experienced. I mention this because it is in the very act of accepting what we consider to be our failures that we can eventually develop in grace.

It seems so foolish to look at our past and grapple with those occasions when we felt at the bottom of the pit because of failure. It just isn't done in our society! After all, weakness cannot be tolerated. It is better to avoid the matter altogether.

Imagine the pain Christ himself must have felt when he went to Gethsemane to pray on the night before his death. Surely he must have contemplated those events which led him to that moment. Surely he must have, for even a brief moment, considered his ministry to and for God's chosen ones to have been a failure. In that garden, though, Jesus recognized that in weakness, power reaches perfection. In facing the reality of apparent failure, he found that the grace of God was the very thing that he had to rely upon if he were to advance. And he did.

Can we, too, risk the pain this week?

Love,



Fr. Dave

PARISH PENANCE SERVICE will take place on **Palm Sunday, April 4, at 4:30 PM.** Several priests will be available for the **Sacrament of Reconciliation.**

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY AND PRAYERS to the family and friends of *Ruth S. Virden (100)*, and *Florence A. Stein (92)*. We pray the bereaved may find comfort as the soul of their loved one enters into the eternal realm of our Almighty God.

SCAT DRIVERS - April 11, Ken and Ann Jones.

Schedule of Liturgies

April 3—April 11, 2004

- SATURDAY, April 3, Vigil: Palm (Passion) Sunday**
 4:30 PM Eugene Lucius; Picciuto Families; James Schostek
 6:30 PM Regina Bogner
- SUNDAY, April 4, Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion**
 8:00 AM St. Mary Parish Family
 10:00 AM Michaelina Paulus; Francis Theis; Rita Keller
 11:30 AM Paul Haman; Arthur & Margaret Steinmetz
 4:30 PM **Parish Penance Service**
- MONDAY, April 5, Monday of Holy Week**
 7:00 AM **Mass at St. Francis Convent**
 8:30 AM Hubert & Dorothy Elchert; Living & Dec'd Paul Thome Family
- TUESDAY, April 6, Tuesday of Holy Week**
 6:30 AM Communion Service
 8:30 AM Ed & Pauline Boehler
 4:30 PM **Mass at St. Francis Convent**
- WEDNESDAY, April 7, Wednesday of Holy Week**
 7:00 AM **Mass at St. Francis Convent**
 8:30 AM Neenan-Wolter Family; James Schostek
 7:00 PM ***Tenebrae Service (Evening Prayer Serv.)**
- THURSDAY, April 8, Mass of the Lord's Supper**
 7:00 PM Dec'd Priests who served St. Mary Parish
 7:00 PM **Mass at St. Francis Convent**
- FRIDAY, April 9, Good Friday of the Lord's Passion**
 12:05 PM **Good Friday Services**
 1:15 PM **Good Friday Services at St. Francis Conv.**
 7:00 PM **Stations of the Cross**
- SATURDAY, April 10, Easter Vigil**
 8:00 PM **Mass at St. Francis Convent**
 8:00 PM St. Mary Parish Family
- SUNDAY, April 11, Solemnity of Easter Sunday:**
 Resurrection of the Lord
 8:00 AM **Mass at St. Francis Convent**
 8:00 AM Donato Monaco; Ruth Schreiner; George & Marcella Pahl; Martha Fleck; Donald Reinhart; Doris Heminger; Frank & Carmella Mangiola; Carmen & Grace Mangiola; Robert Reid; Norman & Ruth Cassidy; The Gillig Family
 10:00 AM Franklyn Ambrose; Evelyn Ward; Dec'd Zoeller-Strausbaugh Families; John P. Kesler; The James Rohrbach Family; Clarence & Wilfred Schalk; John & Michaelina Paulus; Tim Renninger; Joseph & Sonia Gaietto; Joseph & Ruth Oddou; Richard Vassalle; Jake & Nellie Culichia; Dick Theis; Jerry Breidenbach; John Wilhelm; Dorothy Tiell; All Serving in the Military; James Frank Anna Smothers; Ed & Pauline Boehler Family; Taylor-Ruffing Families; Robert Price & Jackie Workman; Carolyn Perna; Ed Wonderly; Ed & Nora Schwab



* *Tenebrae*; (Latin for "shadows") recreates the emotional aspects of the passion story through scripture readings, prayer, incense, light and music; the betrayal, abandonment and the agony that Jesus experienced. The service is left unfinished, because the story isn't over until Easter Day!



BINGO WORKERS for today, April 4: Coordinator, Scott Swartz; Gate, Scott Swartz, Dick Gaietto; Instants, Art Gaietto, Dan Scherger, Pete Reinhart; Floor, Chris Casale, Harold Bickley, Jim Buchman; Concessions, Jim Weaver.

CONFESSION SCHEDULE FOR HOLY WEEK:

Monday: 11:00 AM-2:00 PM; 4:00-5:00 PM; 7:00-8:00 PM

Tuesday: 4:00-5:00 PM; 7:00-8:00 PM

Wednesday: 11:00 AM-2:00 PM; 4:00-5:00 PM

JUNE FEST' 2004 FESTIVAL TICKETS: General Raffle tickets, Ewalds, Deckers, Phillips Electric, 50/50 Drawing, Chest Freezer, & Quarter of Beef tickets are available at Church exits and the parish office. We are still in need of help in the Pie Room to cut pies for the dinners. If you are interested, please contact Amy or Dan Traxler, 443-1266.

CALVERT ANNUAL TREASURE HUNT: Saturday, May 8, 6:30 PM. Cost per car, \$75; six people per car; limit 50 cars. Proceeds benefit the Athletic Boosters. For information call 443-1235, 443-8781, or 448-7342. First prize, \$225.

CHARISMATIC MASS AND HEALING SERVICE: Hosted by the St. Wendelin Prayer Group, April 19, 7:30 PM. All who seek healing in any way please come!

FAMILY PERSPECTIVE: At each Mass, the words, "This is my body which is given for you" challenge married couples to renew their vows of selfless giving (our body and blood) for each other. The generosity of Christ at the Last Supper continues today when couples daily lay down their lives for one another.

DIVORCE: Someone you know is hurting. Beginning Apr 18, a Divorce/Care seminar/support group will meet Sundays from 6:30-8:30 PM at Sacred Heart Church, 550 Smith Rd. in Fremont. For more information call Sr. Dean, 332-7339.

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP: Thursday, Apr 8, in the multi-purpose room of St. Francis Home. Discussions will be on DNR (Do Not Resuscitate) orders. Meetings are open to the public. There will be time to socialize and visit with others who are dealing with similar issues. For information call Lisa Ochier, RN, Chiara Center Unit Manager, at 447-2723.

ALUMINUM CAN COLLECTION in the parking lot before all Masses on Easter Sunday. Do your good deed and help the Boy Scouts raise funds for their various activities and to purchase outdoor camping equipment.

COMMUNITY EASTER EGG HUNT: Wednesday, Apr 7, 4:00 PM at Tiffin University's Legacy Courtyard. Photos with the Easter Bunny, \$1.00. Open to the public. For information call 448-3354.

Sacrificial Giving — March 14, 2004		
Description	Amt.	Env.
Amt. Needed Each Sunday	\$ 13,000.00	
Sunday Offering	\$ 10,345.55	464
(Includes loose money & checks (\$945.20))		
Difference	\$ 2,654.45	
Easter	20.00	1
Repair & Maintenance	35.00	3
Deposit	\$ 10,400.55	
Bishop's Overseas Aid	\$ 26.00	4
Tuition Assistance	\$ 110.00	3
High School Offering	\$ 18.00	18
Children's Offering	\$ 52.66	65
Total Sunday	\$ 10,607.21	

"52" Club Winners

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. M/M Robert J. Warnement | 4. Mrs. John L. Eichhorn |
| 2. Trinity Lescallett | 5. Dave Amann |
| 3. Warren Cummings | |

GOD SQUAD YOUTH GROUP:

All high school age youth are welcome to attend the general meetings to learn about what is happening in the God Squad, interact in directed group discussions about important issues involving teen faith life and meet others through an organized social activity. Meetings are usually in St. Mary's school cafeteria.

Coming events:

General Meeting: Sun., April 4, 7:00, in the cafeteria, followed by the Holy Hour at 8:00 PM. Come for either or come for both.

Walk for Life from Frenchtown; Fri., Apr. 9, leave St. Mary at 9:00 AM; bring a sack lunch.

TIFFIN K OF C FISH FRY: all you can eat, Good Friday, April 9, 5:00-7:30 PM. Carryouts are available.

EASTER BREAK: School will be closed April 8 through April 13. Parish offices will be closed Easter Monday, April 12.

TO OUR ADVERTISERS: If you find a mistake in your ad, please call the office at 447-2087, ext. 12, by Tuesday of this week, so we can make the proper corrections.

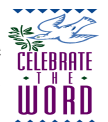
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*Thank you
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 Our Sponsor
 Of the
 Week!*

"THE PASSION IN THE 21ST CENTURY": Rev. John Halstead, Chaplain at Mercy Hospital of Tiffin, will present this program on Wednesday, Apr. 7, from 6:30-7:30 PM, at the Mercy Community Service Center. During the presentation, film clips from the movie will be shown and Rev. Halstead will discuss ways in which the movie has impacted our world. It will conclude with a question & answer period.

BASILICA AND NATIONAL SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF CONSOLATION, Carey, OH: The Franciscan Friars invite you to make a pilgrimage to the Basilica for a place of quiet prayer and devotion on your journey of faith, hope, and healing. For information on bringing a group or for personal visits, call 419-396-7107 or visit the website www.olcshrine.com.

ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM: St. Michael-East, Findlay, will be offering an education series for the ongoing formation of adults. Next session will be Apr. 5, 7-9 PM, Activity Center, "Triduum"; 419-422-2646.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: to sweep/clean the balcony; please call the parish office and ask for Mickey, 447-2087.

FRIENDS OF ST. MARY LIBRARY: dues, \$5.00 per school year; volunteers needed during class time. Can you help? Call the school office, 447-5202.

ST. MARY SCHOOL BOOSTER CLUB
Sunday Night BINGO
 ...in the Recreation Room of St. Mary School
 Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Early birds at 6:30 p.m.
 Two Specials Two Jackpots
Handicapped Accessible * Snacks Available