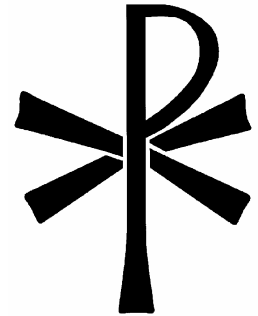




June 28, 2008 – June 29, 2009
YEAR OF ST. PAUL
The Great Evangelizer
Martyr for the Love of Christ

MARCH 29, 2009**5th SUNDAY IN LENT**

Dear Friends,

Like those apostles sitting in the room at the first Pentecost (Acts 2), you could feel the presence of the Holy Spirit last Sunday as forty-nine 7th & 8th graders from our faith community received the Sacrament of Confirmation. The entire celebration was a grace-filled experience for all who were present. Bishop Blair commented favorably on the collaboration that took place, not only between St. Joseph & St. Alphonsus but also with St. Mary, Norwalk & St. Anthony, Milan, during preparation for the sacrament.

Sacraments are visible signs of God's love for us. These visible signs appeal to our senses. As one entered the front door of St. Joseph's, you could smell the purple hyacinths that elegantly adorned the altar. You saw the pageantry of the Knights of Columbus 4th degree escorting the bishop's procession. The combined choirs of St Alphonsus & St. Joseph made beautiful music to the ear. One could touch and taste the bread & wine that were the Body & Blood of our Lord. There were other sights, sounds & smells as well. But most of all, those confirmed knew they had received God's grace as they were signed with the Sacred Chrism.

It took the efforts of many people to make this day such a memorable experience. Thank you for your witness of faith.

So what does the pastor do on Sunday afternoon after everyone has gone home and the church has been locked up? I had a choice: I could sweep all of the dirt that winter had accumulated in my garage *or* I could just plant grass seed. While, I swept out the garage, I was thinking that this was an external metaphor for an internal spirituality. Receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation during this Lenten springtime, helps us prepare to joyfully receive the sacraments at Easter. Next Sunday afternoon our Norwalk area Penance Service will be held at St. Mary Parish at 3:00 PM. During Holy Week there will be opportunities for individual confession. I encourage you to take advantage.

In the second to last line of his homily, Bishop Blair asked the students, "What would be the biggest opportunity to miss in one's lifetime?"

Answering his own question, "It would be terribly sad to miss the opportunity to live the life of a saint. We are all called to live the life of a saint."

Fr. Ken Lill

PASTORAL STAFF

PASTOR- Fr. Kenneth Lill
 DEACON-George Stepanic (663-5155)
 PASTORAL ASSOCIATE-
 Sr. Nancy Ferguson, OSF (465-2000)
 ST. ALPHONSUS PARISH MANAGER
 Catherine Raftery (668-5030)
 PRINCIPAL-Jim Francis
 SCHOOL SECRETARY-Krista Martin
 BOOKKEEPER-Elaine Finch
 (Office Hours: 8-3:30, Monday-Friday)

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SJ HALL 465-4226

SA HALL 668-6004

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WEBSITES

www.stjosephmonroeville.org
www.stalphonsusperu.org

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

CALL THE RECTORY

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

AT LEAST 6 MONTH NOTICE AND
 ATTENDANCE AT ENGAGED
 COUPLES CONFERENCE

COMMUNION TO THE SICK

CALL THE RECTORY AT 465-4142

CONFESSIONS

SATURDAY AT 4 PM AT
 ST. JOSEPH

FINANCE COMMITTEES

BOB SUNDERMAN (SA) 663-8740
 TOM HEDRICK (SJ) 465-4532

SCHOOL ADVISORY (SJ)

GERI MYERS 465-2185

PASTORAL COUNCIL

CHARLENE BAUER 668-9636
 BOB CRIST 668-8803

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat., March 28

5:00 PM (SJ) Bob & Theresa Graham

Sun., March 29 – 5th Sunday of Lent

8:30 AM (SA) Alfred & Adeline Kluding

10:30 AM (SJ) Richard, Alvin & Edna Fritz

Mon., March 30

NO MASS

Tues., March 31

7:00 PM (SA) James Smith

Wed., April 1

8:15 AM (SJ) Edna Martin

Thurs., April 2 – St. Francis of Paola

8:15 AM (SJ) Clifford Wilhelm

Fri., April 3

8:15 AM (SJ) Dennis Didion

Sat., April 4

5:00 PM (SJ) Pete Schafer

Sun., April 5 – Palm Sunday

8:30 AM (SA) Pat Ramsey

10:30 AM (SJ) Margaret & Walter Schlachter

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

SUN-Jer. 31:31-34/Heb. 5:7-9/Jn. 12:20-33

MON-Dn. 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62/Jn. 8:1-11

TUE-Nm. 21:4-9/Jn. 8:21-30

WED-Dn. 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Jn. 8:31-42

THU-Gn. 17:3-9/Jn. 8:51-59

FRI-Jer. 20:10-13/Jn. 10:31-42

SAT-Ez. 37:21-28/Jn. 11:45-56

CONTRIBUTIONS – MAR. 22

St. Joseph-Sunday-3,505, (117 envelopes) Loose-433, St. VdeP-40, 50/50-40, Bldg Fund-10, Fuel-45, Children-20, School Support-70, Flowers-280, Catholic Relief-97.

St. Alphonsus-Sunday-2,660, (83 envelopes) Loose-80, Holy Day-10, Children-7, Vigil Lights-12, Catholic Relief-343, Flowers-25.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Saturday, Apr. 4– 5:00 p.m. – St. Joseph

L Adam Mastroianni, Krista Smith

U **Kevin or Kyle Fries**, Paul Stang, Jeff Clark

EM **John Miller**, Jane Kramer, Sheila Meikle, Betty Schafer, Ellen Wensink

S Andrew Haughawout, Logan Shinski, Victoria Smith

Sunday, Apr. 5– 8:30 a.m. – St. Alphonsus

L Dan Ryan, Marty Long

U Tom Ott, Jim Schindley, Jim Pheiffer, Dave Barman

EM Diane Schafer, David & Jackie Reed, Robin Welsh, Ron & Barb Chase, Beverly Hipp, Sue Schindley, Ken Wangler

S Ann Vanderpool, Macie & Lauren Ott

G Sue Moore, Jeanette Ott

Sunday, Apr. 5 – 10:30 a.m. – St. Joseph

L Angie Roth, Lynn Drown

U **Joe Brown**, Zachary Schafer, Dan Stieber

EM **Jennifer Meagrow**, Geri Myers, Richard Palmer, Chris Raftery, Carol Stieber, James Workley

S Cooper Pierce, Hallie Swanson

COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS

APR 5 – Sheila Meikle

COUNTERS – MAR. 30

Linda Hales, Catherine Raftery, Nancy Wilson, Sheila Stang

BINGO – MAR. 30

CREW #1: Mike Kluding, Jackie Schafer, Deb Smith, Mindy Gies, Marie Burson, Dan or Michelle Stieber

FOOD: Tom and Kirsten Schafer

KITCHEN: Joe & Pam Caizo

BAKERS: Becky Gies, Pat Dahm, Betty Myers

SET UP: Becky Gies

WINDOW: Julie Landoll

BIRTHDAYS

MAR 30-Ricky Heck, Linda Laux, Amy Ruffing, Laura Schlachter **MAR 31**-Patricia Anderson, Kaden Burson, Andrew Koch, Ron Schafer, Holly Schafer, Jane Schreiner, Owen Wadsworth **APR 1**-Dennis Downing, Brenden Legg, John Smith, Joseph Smith, Megan Sparks, Holly Stang, Carl Stieber, Suzanne Winebarger **APR 2**-Linda Hohler, Ryan Watt **APR 3**-Tyler Haughawout **APR 4**-Haley Dresser, Stacy Gerke, Elise Horner, Patricia Kamann, Barbara Mesnard, Larry Mesnard, Avery Millis, Ronald Myers, Jill Mynarsky, Brooke Ruffing, Sandra Wilhelm **APR 5**-Kyle Gray, Thomas Ott, Levi Scheid, Jeriel Smith



PARISH CALENDAR

BINGO Monday night in the Social Center. Doors open at 5; Bingo starts at 6:45.

ECUMENICAL LENTEN SERVICE Wednesday at Trinity Lutheran.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS Thursday at 7 p.m. at St. Alphonsus. No Stations this week at St. Joseph.

PSR next Sunday at 9 a.m. at St. Joseph and at 9:30 at St. Alphonsus.

AREA PENANCE SERVICE next Sunday at 3:00 p.m. at St. Mary Norwalk. Several priests will be available.

AREA EVENTS

LENTEN CONCERT, "Jesus Alone in the Garden" today at 3 p.m. at St. Mary, Norwalk.

ALL-U-CAN EAT FISH FRY at St. Boniface Church, Oak Harbor on Fridays during Lent. Adults \$8, Children \$4.

BREAKFAST BUFFET April 5 at St. Francis Xavier, Willard. Bacon, Eggs, Pancakes, Hash Brown, Sausage Gravy & Biscuits, Cereal and Beverages. Adults: \$6; Children: \$3.



LENTEN SERVICES

This Wednesday the last Lenten Service of the year will be held at Trinity Lutheran. A soup supper will be held at 6 p.m. followed by a prayer service at 7.

Please bring one of the following items for the Non-food bank – dish soap, shampoo, multi-purpose cleaner.

CEMETERY CLEAN-UP

Spring has sprung!! It's time to take down the winter decorations and make the cemetery ready for mowing. Please remove all items by April 1.

THANK YOU

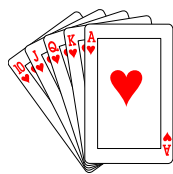
The Holy Name Society would like to thank Mr. Francis and the St. Joseph students who helped with the Pancake Breakfast on March 8. Thank you also to all who patronized the breakfast. We had a nice crowd and delicious food and fellowship was enjoyed by all.

MONROEVILLE K of C 200 CLUB WINNERS

Mar 24 -\$50: Dorothy Doughty

\$25: Jeff Moehle, Darlene Tyler

LAS VEGAS NIGHT



The 6th Annual St. Joseph Parish Las Vegas Night will be Saturday, April 4 from 6 p.m. to 12 a.m. at the Bronson-Norwalk Conservation Club. Texas Hold 'Em, Black Jack, Roulette, 50/50, Big Money Wheel, Raffles and more! A \$10 cover charge will include food and refreshments.

THE MONROEVILLE COMMUNITY PLAYERS

will present their 12th production, *Hospital Hijinx* April 3, 4 & 5. The dinner shows on Friday, April 3 and Saturday, April 4 will start with appetizers at 7 p.m. followed by dinner and show at 7:30. Cost is still \$20.00. The Sunday, April 5th production starts at 3:00 and includes dessert. Come join us for laughs and good food!

Tickets are available at the Beauty Vault or from Sandy Lonz at 419-465-2320.

NORWALK KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Super Cash Bonanza tickets are available until May 15. Tickets sold for \$5 each are available from any K of C member or by contacting council ticket chairmen Joe Lesch or Tom Daugherty (419- 660-1277).

A **Euchre Tournament** will be held on Friday, April 3 at 7 p.m. at the K of C hall. Call Steve Schumm (419-668-8994) if you need a partner.

TOLEDO ART MUSEUM PRESENTATION

Sunday, March 29, at the Toledo Art Museum there will be a special presentation on the "Life, Mission and Writings of St. Paul." The presentation is done as we walk through the Art Museum viewing many of the paintings of St. Paul. Fr. Kent Kaufman, pastor at All Saints Rossford, will be our guide. The presentation will last approximately an hour and a half beginning at 4:00pm. We will meet in the Classic Court (guards can direct you to that area). Parking is \$5.00.

The US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is inviting public comment on a proposal to rescind an important December 2008 federal regulation that protects the conscience rights of health care providers. Help protect the rights of our Catholic health care professionals and institutions. Please visit www.usccb.org/conscienceprotection to access links to make a comment and to find out more information. Comments must be posted by April 9, 2009.

AJ's Tidbits

Welcome to our new column. "AJ" stands for "Alphonsus Joseph". Has a nice ring, don't you think? We'll try to answer questions or provide tidbits of information, useful or not, in this column. For instance, did you know that the average person spends two weeks of his life waiting for the traffic light to change. Or that the following people are members of the St. Joseph School Advisory Board: Geri Myers, Julie Landoll, Annette Schafer, Mindy Gies, Anthony Ruffing, and John Lambert.

LADIES OF ST. ALPHONSUS

Hostesses: Erin Lendrum & Ann Ryan. Committee: Darlene Berry, Susan Carlisle, Jacqueline Cloud, Paula Cramer, Kelly Duncan, Lynn Espvik, Cyndi Gfell, Mindy Kamann, Lisa Lesch, Mary Kay Lesch, Connie Miller, Ruth Ott, Denise Reilly, Jill Roberts, Sara Schreiner, Denise Stang.

LADIES OF ST. JOSEPH

April Chairladies: Carol Stieber, Sandy Wilhelm, Bonnie Tyler. Committee: All Ladies whose birthdays are in April.