

Pastor's Corner

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I would like to take this opportunity to report to you few things that we have accomplished for our Church:

First, the lighting system for the Tridentine Mass: is already in place with the cost around \$3,000.00.

Second, the chandeliers: once again, thanks to an anonymous parishioner who contributed his labor and time for free to make our chandeliers brighter and more beautiful. The cost for all the parts was about \$1,500.00.

Finally, the sound system of our Church sounds better. The total cost for it was around \$1,500.00.

Hopefully, in May/June, we will do the painting of the interior of our Church; then the carpeting. So far, the net income of our Building Fund is about \$39,000.00: we do have enough funds for the painting and the carpeting.

The last important item that the Pastoral Council already discussed and decided: **The Memorial Mass for Fr. Johnson** will be held on Saturday, May 31, at 10:00 a.m. (there will be no 8:00 a.m. Mass on this day). After the Mass, the courtyard at the side of the grotto with the plaque "In Loving Memory of Fr. Johnson" will be dedicated. A reception will then follow. As one parish/family, I strongly encourage all of you to come for this very important event!

May God bless all of you!

Your servant/brother in Christ,

Fr. Martin

April Showers

Our **Pro-Life Committee** has been collecting for "*April Showers*" all this month. This is the last week you will be asked to donate baby gifts and items which will be given to homes for unwed mothers. They especially need baby gowns, receiving blankets and regular size bath towels. You may leave your donations on the "*April Showers*" table in the Family Room or bring them to the Office anytime between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday-Friday.

Catholic Home Missions Appeal

Today's special collection is the Catholic Home Missions Appeal. This Appeal supports missions here in the United States and offers Catholics across our country a wonderful opportunity to help fellow Catholics practice their faith in such rugged areas as Alaska, Appalachia, the Deep South, the Rocky Mountain states, the dusty Southwest, Puerto Rico and island dioceses in the Pacific and Caribbean.

The Appeal is a concrete way for our parish to share its faith and resources with the Mission Church here at home. Over 95 cents of every dollar donated to the Appeal goes directly to the missions to keep church doors open, to support pastors in their priestly ministry and to provide basic pastoral services like religious education for children.

Please give generously today to assist fellow Catholics here in America. It's one practical way that our parish community can be good stewards of God's gifts and make a difference.

Pancake Breakfast - TODAY

Our Parish Pancake Breakfast is **today** (Sunday). Delicious buttermilk pancakes, sausage links, orange juice and fresh coffee will be served **after the 7:30, 9:00 and 10:30 a.m. Masses**. Plan to treat the family. The price is right – only \$2.00 per person and \$8.00 per family.

Finance Council Meeting

There will be a meeting for members of the Finance Council this **Wednesday, April 30th at 7:00 p.m.** in the Conference Room.

St. Vincent de Paul

Donations 4/20\$372.00

The St. Vincent de Paul Society will be **packing food boxes** for the needy this **Saturday, May 3rd**. If you would like to help, please meet in the church parking lot **after the 8 a.m. Mass**.

Altar Guild

Donations 4/20 \$85.00

The Altar Guild will receive Holy Communion together at the **9:00 a.m. Mass** next **Sunday, May 4th**. Their meeting will take place **May 5th**, at **noon** in the Family Room.

Altar Servers Meeting

There is a mandatory meeting for all current Altar Boys **Thursday, April 1st**, at **7:00 p.m.**, followed by Benediction in the Church. If there are any boys who are interested in serving Mass here at St. Mary's, please feel free to attend this meeting.

Paper Drive

This **Saturday, April 3rd**, is the monthly paper drive. Please bring your newspapers to the parking lot between **9:00 – 11:00 a.m.**

Grace for All

At **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**, Our Lord is exposed on the altar in a monstrance so that people can visit and spend time with Him in private prayer and meditation.

This **Friday, May 2nd**, St. Mary's will be having 24-hr. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament beginning after the 8 a.m. Mass on Friday and continuing until just before the 8 a.m. Mass on Saturday.

Thank you to all the volunteers who have committed to attending the same hour each month. Without you, we could not have 24-hr. adoration. If you do not remember your hour, please check the poster in the vestibule.

PSA Update

Congratulations to our generous parishioners! Our PSA goal of \$30,500 has been reached! A total of **91 pledges** have been made totaling **\$34,156**.

All money pledged now will be returned to St. Mary's in the form of rebates for projects here in the parish. To encourage more participation from our families, the Diocese has set up an incentive program whereby we can receive additional funds by increasing the number of pledges made. For 2008, if we can raise the number of our total pledges to **171**, we would receive an additional award of **\$1,000**. And don't forget about the added incentive we are offering to our parishioners... everyone who pledges (and pays) **\$200 or more**, will receive a free Diocesan 30th anniversary commemorative book (a **\$25 value**). Anyone who has already qualified can stop by the office Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and pick up their book. You may also contact the office if you need to make other arrangements.

So, if you haven't as yet made your pledge, please carefully consider doing so today. There are special envelopes in the pews or you can make your donation online. Just go to **rcbo.org**, click the link on the left-hand side that says, "**Online PSA Donations**" and **follow the prompts**. It's that easy! And St. Mary's will receive a **\$10 bonus** for each family that pledges online!

Mission Statement

Jesus comes "to serve, not to be served"
(Mt. 20, 28)

St. Mary's by the Sea is a Catholic/Christian community of faith, hope, and love, journeying together in the spirit of hospitality, stewardship, respect, unity and charity, welcoming and serving all brothers and sisters in Christ, under the mantle of Our Lady.

Total Consecration to Jesus through Mary

April 28th is the **Feast Day of St. Louis Marie de Montfort**. St. Mary's by the Sea will have a Mass for those who wish to participate in this devotion on **December 8th**, the **Feast Day of the Immaculate Conception**. Sign-ups will begin this Sunday at the Pancake Breakfast.

Look for additional details in the coming weeks. If you would like information now, you may go to www.fisheaters.com/totalconsecrationmontfort.html.

**St. Mary's by the Sea
Mother's Day Basket Raffle**
On display in the Family Room

**Tickets (On Sale after Mass): \$1.00 each or 6/\$5.00
Take a chance and win this beautiful basket
valued at \$500.00*

*All proceeds benefit Little Flowers Club
For more information, please call the Church office
*The winning ticket will be drawn
the week of May 5th. The winner will be called
and can pick up their basket from the office or on
Mother's Day Sunday.*

Jest Kidding

A mother was preparing pancakes for her sons, Kevin, 5, Ryan, 3. The boys began to argue over who would get the first pancake. Their mother saw the opportunity for a moral lesson. "If Jesus were sitting here, He would say 'Let my brother have the first pancake, I can wait.'" Kevin then turned to his younger brother and said, "Ryan, you be Jesus!"

Thank You
April 20, 2008

Specials	\$300.74
Building Fund	\$120.00
Regular Collection	\$5,041.00