

upcoming events

the bridge

news and views for the Our Lady of Charity community

volume 36, number 4

April 2018

April 10, 2018

*Holy Family Hall
Parish Council 7:00 pm
Holy Name Society,
7:00 pm Maguire Hall*

April 11, 2018

*St. Ambrose
St. Vincent de Paul
Society, 6:30 pm*

April 14, 2018

*St. Ambrose
Diocesan Virtus Training
9:00 am*

April 15, 2018

*Holy Family
Spaghetti Dinner 12:30*

April 16, 2018

*St. Ambrose
Discipleship Program
for Grades 1-8 & Adults,
6:15 pm*

April 17, 2018

*Holy Family
Rosary Altar Society,
11:00 am*

April 21, 2018

*Holy Name Society
Spring Fling, 6:00 pm*

April 24, 2018

*Buildings & Grounds
6:00 pm, Parish Office*

April 25, 2018

*Summerfest Meeting,
7:00 pm, Community Rm*

April 27, 2018

*Holy Family
Anointing of the Sick
following 8:00 am Mass*

The View from a Pew

By Steve Banko

Throughout Lent season, special prayer and denial regimens were undertaken for two purposes. The first was to prepare us spiritually for miracle of Easter. The second, at least for me, was to remind us of our humanity. We deviated from our normalcy to endure a few pangs of hunger and to take time to expand our prayer life. Christ took human form for the same reason. He wanted us to both hear His words and to heed them. He wanted us to know what real piety looked like. He wanted to show us that we could live moral lives in the human world without too much sacrifice. Finally, He wanted to show us that even as the most horrible of deaths was inflicted on Him, His divinity allowed Him to face it with acceptance.

But just as Jesus shared our humanity, Easter invites us to share in His divinity. The miracle of the Resurrection is a reminder that our lives on earth can lead us to spirituality and joy that extends beyond life as we know it. That miracle is repeated when we receive the Eucharist; when we are filled with the grace and goodness of Christ. We are imbued with the kernel of God's love when we are blessed in Baptism. In theory, that seed is nurtured, fertilized and fortified every minute of our lives as we honor the gift of God's love. Humanity is sometimes a rocky road to travel. That's why Jesus chose that path. He wanted us to know how to handle the trials and tribulations that we encounter. Sometimes those trials can knock us off the path and we can wander around spiritually lost. But the life of Jesus and the teachings of His church give us signposts to follow to find our way back. We are only truly lost when we stop looking for the path. The prayer and denial of Lent help us to understand and appreciate how strong we are and how much stronger we can become in the all-embracing love of God.

In the glory of the resurrection, we should again know and understand our own share of that triumph. Just as new life in nature is about to spring up, our new life in grace is upon us. The triumph of Jesus was our victory as well. Jesus needed no purification but He knew we did. In order to achieve that cleansing, Jesus did not merely die and come back to life. He died in the cruelest, bloodiest, most demeaning manner possible only to shed the misery and defeat of death. Jesus gave us a share in His divinity by showing us we had nothing to fear in death. We spent forty days being reminded of the imperfections of our humanness. Let's take at least forty minutes to celebrate our share in Christ's divinity.

There is a commercial we see a lot on television these days featuring an artist named "Common." The ad reminds us of the extraordinary advancements in technology that have accrued to the current generation. It talks about the progress of AI – artificial intelligence – which empowers us to not only see the world in which we live but to envision ways we can make that world better. Common concludes the message by asking now that you have all these tools "what will you do with it?"

Let's pose that question to ourselves in the glory of this season. We have been given faith and know the power of God's love. We know we have a piece of shared divinity from Jesus. Now, what will you do with it?

Our Lady of Charity Plans Corpus Christi Procession

by Elisa Church-Goupil

Our Lady of Charity parish is planning a traditional Corpus Christi procession this year. The procession will begin at the St. Ambrose worship site and wind through the streets of South Buffalo to the Holy Family worship site.

The feast of Corpus Christi, Latin for "The Body of Christ," celebrates the real presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist -- called transubstantiation. Historically, the Solemnity of Corpus Christi took place near the beginning of summer. In some Catholic countries, it is liturgically celebrated on the Thursday after Trinity Sunday. In the United States, Corpus Christi takes place the second Sunday after Pentecost. This year, Corpus Christi, or "the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ," falls on June 3.

While the Church celebrates the institution of the Eucharist on Holy Thursday (also known as Maundy Thursday), the liturgy that day is crowded with other major events: the institution of the priesthood, Christ washing the disciples' feet, and Christ's agony in the Garden of Gethsemane. This day during Holy Week has a solemn tone and foreshadows the passion and crucifixion of Jesus Christ on Good Friday.

Corpus Christi was conceived as a day in which the Eucharist could be joyously celebrated without Lenten restraints. The feast was created due to the visions of Juliana de Cornillon. Born around 1191 in Liege, Belgium, the girl was orphaned at age five. Juliana and her sister went to live with the Augustinian nuns of Mont-Cornillon. There, Juliana cultivated a special reverence for the Blessed Sacrament. In 1208, she had a vision of Christ, who asked her to plead for the creation of a Corpus Christi feast day.

The vision replayed over the next twenty years,

until Juliana relayed the message to her confessor, who told the bishop. Juliana petitioned Bishop Robert de Thorete of Liege, who in 1246, ordered the annual celebration of Corpus Christi in his diocese. From there, Corpus Christi was slowly adopted by other Catholic communities, until it became a universal feast day under Pope Clement V.

During a Corpus Christi procession, a processional cross leads the way, followed by altar servers with candles and incense. The priest lifts the host in a monstrance and is followed by deacons. Often, a canopy protects the monstrance and marks the front of the procession. The faithful follow, and may include: religious associations, carrying their own banners; members of the religious; First Communicants wearing their finery and scattering flower petals.

The procession stops at outdoor altars. Typically, there are one or four, each decorated with a white cloth, crucifix, and candles or flowers. At each stop, the monstrance is placed upon the altar and revered with incense. There is a gospel reading, songs, and prayers. At the final stop, the priest gives a blessing to the four corners of the world, and the Blessed Sacrament is returned to the tabernacle. Closing the procession is a song of thanksgiving.

Our Lady of Charity looks forward to planning this Eucharistic celebration. With your help, we hope to make it a parish tradition. We plan on beginning this year's journey at the 10am mass at the St. Ambrose worship site. We will then process down South Park, stopping at four pre-determined altars, and end at the Holy Family worship site. Anyone not processing can join us at Holy Family for the 11:30am mass. Afterwards, we hope to celebrate the day's joy by sharing some light refreshments.

If you are interested in helping with Our Lady of Charity's first Corpus Christi procession, we are forming a planning committee. As always, feel free to contact Fr. Bryan or the rectory with any questions.

Wayside

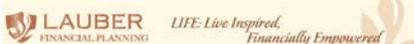
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Quarterly Report Hunger Bowl

9/1/17 thru 11/30/17

Amount Still Remaining in Hunger Bowl as of:

9/1/2017 \$108.00

Receipts

Deposit	\$1,596.25
Deposit	\$1,609.00
Deposit	\$ 787.00
Total Deposit	\$3992.25

Expenses

Amount sent out from Hunger Bowl

Consolata Missionaries	\$400.00
Miss. Oblates of Mary Imm.	\$200.00
Jesuit Intern. Missions	\$400.00
Mercy Mission	\$200.00
Rev. David Farrell (CofHC)	\$400.00
Sisters of Mercy	\$200.00
Sr. Marian Baumler	\$400.00
Los Ninos- Via International	\$400.00
Timau Missions - Kenya E. Africa	\$400.00
Family Promise	\$200.00
	\$(3,200.00)

Amount Remaining in Hunger Bowl as of 11/30/2017

\$900.25

Amount collected from December 1976 - Nov. 2017

\$515,606.78

**Quarterly Report
Renovation Fund**

*For Keeping Our Parish Buildings Beautiful
Sept. 1, 2017-Nov. 30, 2017*

Our Parish Building and Grounds Committee has prioritized some capital expenditures that we need to plan for. Donations to the Renovation Fund will help us to plan for:

Holy Family:

1. Organ console

St. Ambrose:

1. Boiler
2. Office move/renovation

Opening Balance In Account As Of 9/1/2017

\$31,449.84

Deposits \$8,766.00

Withdrawals* \$13,730.00

Balance In Renovation Account As Of

11/30/2017 \$22,683.84

*Recent improvements that have been done and paid for through our Renovation: Keep Our Buildings Beautiful Fund.

- Replace St. Ambrose gym doors and paint gym and lunchroom
- Repair Masonry work at Holy Family

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Friendship Corner

by Audrey Kunz

“It is only the farmer who faithfully plants seeds in the Spring, who reaps a harvest in the Autumn.”

– B. C. Forbes

“We must learn to live together as brothers or perish together as fools.”

– Martin Luther King, Jr.

“...just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life.”

– Romans 6:4 (Easter)

“Try to be a rainbow in someone’s cloud.”

– Maya Angelou

“The environment is where we all meet; where all have a mutual interest; it is the one thing all of us share.”

– Lady Bird Johnson (Earth Day)

“Do not become a disciple of one who praises himself, in case you learn pride instead of humility.”

– St. Mark, Evangelist (Feast Day-April 25th)

“By reading the scriptures I am so renewed that all nature seems renewed around me and with me. The sky seems to be a pure a cooler blue, the trees a deeper green. The whole world is charged with the glory of God and I feel fire and music under my feet.”

– Thomas Merton

We welcome into our parish family: New Parishioners

Philip O’Brien
Laurie J. Beyers
Ryan Tomporowski
Jonathan Lake
Aaron Stewart
William Lambert
Eugene & Mary Schuta

Monthly Money Minutes

By Amy Jo Lauber

Certified Financial Planner™ Professional and president of
Lauber Financial Planning

*Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters;
and you who have no money, come, buy and eat!*

*Come, buy wine and milk without money and
without cost. Isaiah 55:1*

I contrast this with St. Paul’s message from 2 Thessalonians 3:10 “For even when we were with you, we gave you this rule: ‘The one who is unwilling to work shall not eat.’” Whose message resonates more with you? Do both, depending on the situation?

The prophet Isaiah is inviting people to life with God, for which you need no money to experience abundance. St. Paul’s message is against idleness, for as Christian philosopher Dallas Willard writes, “Grace is opposed to earning, not to effort.”



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