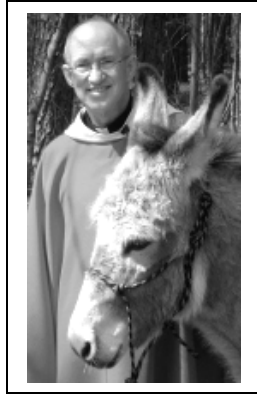


Pastor's Corner

My Dear Friends,

Happy Easter to you and those you love! Easter, the Feast of the Resurrection of Jesus, is the highest feast of the Church Year. In fact, it is so special that most Christians celebrate every Sunday as “The Lord’s Day” instead of celebrating the Sabbath (Saturday).



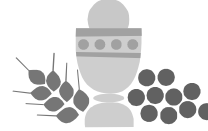
Easter is a time of new birth, a fresh beginning. In our part of the world, it is a time when the trees and bushes get new leaves and flowers bloom in profusion. This is a good time for reflecting on our lives and doing some “spring cleaning” of our souls. What do we need to discard? What do we need to freshen up? What do we need to add? All of us have plenty to keep us busy with this personal improvement project.

Congratulations to all the people who celebrated the Sacrament of Initiation at the Easter Vigil this weekend. They are: Paula Adams, Lisa Andree, Stephan Andree, Yaquelin Domínguez Aguillón, Manuel Ávila Rosales, Donna Boyle, Romeo Carreño Vásquez, Erin Devilin, Bertha Dennard, Jennifer Fanning, Carmen García Zúñiga, Salvador González García, Lacey Ann Grabowski, Carlo Grifantini, Nitzia Pinacho Gutiérrez, Elías Guzmán, Diana Hernández, Gisela Karina Hernández, Joseph Hovanski, Sharon Hovanski, Christopher Huckstep, Victoria Hudson, Steven Metzgar, Vanessa Metzgar, Nicole Mittman, Miguel Angel Osorio González, Travis Palmer, Lisa Pratt, Ervin Gabriel Rivera Escobar, Rosalba Rivera Martínez, Hilario Román Martínez, Jack Russ, Nancy Saldívar Macías, Francisco Sánchez Martínez, Jacqueline Sánchez Martínez, Luís Alberto Sánchez Martínez, Félix Santiago García, Heriberto Santiago García, Lisa Spane, Saúl Edmundo Urea A., Linda Willis, Lucio Zea Rojo, Jamie Zeman. We pray that the graces that these folks receive at the Easter Vigil will help them live their vocations to the best of their ability and helps them be excellent stewards of the gifts that God has given them. Special thanks go to the head of the RCIA Ministry, Sr. Isaac, and Macarena López, head of the Ministerio RICA.

Many thanks go to all of those who worked so hard to make Holy Week such a wonderful experience. I especially thank Clifton Lively, all of the Eucharist Ministers, Lectors, Altar Guild, Church Cleaners, Servers, Ushers, and all those in the Music Ministries of St. Mary’s. Special thanks go also to the Grupo de Jóvenes for their beautiful presentation of the Vía Crucis (Way of the Cross) on Good Friday.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
- *Father Bob*

Liturgies & Paraliturgies Including Mass Intentions



Saturday, April 11:

8:00 pm Easter Vigil – Mass for the Parishioners

Sunday, April 12 – East Sunday:

6:30 am Mass – In English

8:00 am Mass – † Rose Dibs

Offered by Walt Chmielenski

9:30 am Mass – 50th Wedding Anniversary Mass for Lois and Ralph Petrone

Offered by The Petrone Family

11:00 am Mass – † Deceased Members of the Metzgar Family

Offered by Maryann Metzgar

1:00 pm Mass – Thiong Hoang Ha

Offered by Joseph

Monday, April 13:

7:30 am Mass – † Henry Grant

Offered by Gene Doyle

Tuesday, April 14:

7:30 am Mass – Sr. Mary Elizabeth Albers

Offered by Ginger Winder

Wednesday, April 15:

7:30 am Communion Service

Thursday, April 16:

7:30 am Mass – John Whitehead and Family

Offered by Charles and Mary Dean

Friday, April 17:

8:30 am Mass - † Josephine Andola

Offered by Joyce Price

Saturday, April 18:

5:30 pm Mass - † Jayne Apollo Harkins

Offered by Terri Flemma

7:00 pm Mass - † Maria Lipovscek

Offered by Vera Lovell

Sunday, April 19:

8:00 am Mass – † Gail Bumett

Offered by Jeanne Laurain

9:30 am Mass – Robert and Eleanor Murphy

Offered by Maureen and Robert DeZuba

11:00 am Mass – † Camella DeBellis

Offered by Barbara and Dominique DeBellis

1:00 pm Mass – † Mr. Joseph Loughney

Offered by Father Bob and St. Mary Parishioners

Weekend Mass Schedule at a Glance

Saturday Mass in English – 5:30 pm

Saturday Mass in Spanish – 7:00 pm

Sunday Mass in English – 8:00 am, 9:30 am and 11:00 am

Sunday Mass in Spanish – 1:00 pm

To schedule a **Mass Intention**, to donate the **Altar Flowers** in memory of a loved one or special occasion, or for information on **Baptism**, please come to the Parish Office or call 762-5491.

Today's Readings

First Reading — Peter is an eyewitness: The Lord is risen (Acts 10:34a, 37-43).

Psalm — This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad (Psalm 118).

(1) Second Reading — All who are baptized, set your hearts in heaven (Colossians 3:1-4) *or*

(2) Second Reading — Christ our Passover is sacrificed; therefore let us celebrate (1 Corinthians 5:6b-8).

Gospel — Three witnesses, Mary, Peter, and John; each responds to the empty tomb (John 20:1-9) *or*
Mark 16:1-7 (*or, at an afternoon or evening Mass, Luke 24:13-35*).

Readings for the Week

Monday: Acts 2:14, 22-33; Mt 28:8-15

Tuesday: Acts 2:36-41; Jn 20:11-18

Wednesday: Acts 3:1-10; Lk 24:13-35

Thursday: Acts 3:11-26; Lk 24:35-48

Friday: Acts 4:1-12; Jn 21:1-14

Saturday: Acts 4:13-21; Mk 16:9-15

Next Sunday

Acts 4:32-35; Ps 118; 1 Jn 5:1-6; Jn 20:19-31

Readings for the week may be found on
www.thestmaryparish.org - Click on *Worship*

Camillus Ministers Needed

If you are interested in becoming a Camillus Minister, please call Frank Grant at 392-6084

The St Mary Parish Bookstore

Sunday 9am – 1pm

Tuesday thru Friday 10am – 3pm

St. Mary Altar Guild

Will meet on

April 20th at Noon

The Oceanic Restaurant

Wrightsville Beach

Any questions, call Nancy Desbach at
264-9480

Bishop's Annual Appeal Update

To date, The St. Mary Parish has pledged \$118,224.00 which exceeds our goal of \$111,303.00

The first pledge reminder should arrive in your mailboxes mid April.

Please use the envelope enclosed with your reminders to make your pledge payments

Thank you for making this campaign a success .

Eucharistic Ministers

If you would like to serve as a Eucharistic Minister, please contact Stephanie Watts at 799-7623 or ewatts1949@aol.com.

Please Pray for Our Sick

Shirley Ammons	Madeline Dowell	Elizabeth Militscher
Ashley Ashton	Shari George	Kathy Murphy
Robyn Bailly	Mildred Gibbons	Katherine Oxx
Charles Baird	Betty Glasenapp	John Pavolonis
Evelyn Baird	Louise Gordon	Laura Purin
Stephanie Barrows	Kristal Grant	Celia Rudd
Cheryl Bezek	Michael J. Gressman	Geraldine Saburn
Arenda Bingham	William Grundy	John Slaughenhoupt
Judy Brooks	Mary Haywood	Adell Suhoski
Lecia Burns	Dolores Hicks	John Leroy Trader
Patrick Caporale	Andrew Kegl	Felix Usewicz
Bob Carey	Josephine Kidney	Paula J. Veltz
C.J. Carroll	Nancy Lange	Catherine Veres
Clara Carter	Anna Lenortavage	Chris Watson, Jr.
Robert Cary	Francis Leonard	Jim Watters
Joyce Christine	Louise Leonard	Jeff Weeks
Roy Clifton	Patrick Leonard	Sheila Weeks
Jeanne Currier	Mary Eugenia Mazur	Jeff Wiener
Barbara DeBellis	Gary McDaniel	Anne Williams
Janet Dowell	Lindsav McDuffie	Sheila Wolfe

To add or remove a name, please contact: bulletin@thestmaryparish.org or 395-2063.

St. Mary Nursery News

The nursery is now open for 9:30 Sunday Mass!

We are always in need of volunteers - contact

Allen and Kelly Sanderson at nursery@thestmaryparish.org or you may stop by the nursery before and after the 9:30 Sunday mass.

English as a Second Language Classes

Classes are Sundays from 11:00 am – 12:30 pm in the Tileston Building.

Volunteer teachers as well as clerical help is needed.

No experience is necessary.

Please contact the Church office.

St. Mary Gospel Choir CDs are back!

The St. Mary Gospel Choir has restocked the St. Mary Parish Bookstore.

Please visit the Parish Bookstore if you need a copy of the CD.

2008 Contribution Statements

are available for pick up in the Parish Office

Monday – Friday 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

INVITATION TO MEN WITH SPIRITUAL HUNGER!

Come join Fr. Bob and a growing group of men who meet each Friday morning from 7:00 am - 7:45 am in the Tileston Building. We study and reflect on scripture and simply share what is on our hearts and minds.

Come join us as you are able. We welcome you!

Centering Prayer

An hour of contemplating prayer and the Centering practice

Wednesday afternoons in our Chapel in Tileston. From the

following web page, you can view a video, in three parts, about Centering Prayer. <http://www.centeringprayer.com/reachingout.htm>

When: Wednesday from 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

Place: Chapel - Tileston – 1st floor

More information: contact Joan Regan – 383-2804

Are you interested in reciting the Rosary after Daily Mass

Please join us after Monday, Tuesday,

Wednesday Communion Service, and Friday Masses,

All are welcome.



The Week Ahead In Our Parish



Saturday, April 11 (Easter Vigil):

Rehearsal for RCIA – 9:00 am in the Church

Blessing of the Easter food baskets – 10:00 am in the Church

Youth Gospel Choir Rehearsal* - 9:00 am in the Church

Gospel Choir Rehearsal* - 10:15 am in the Church

Easter Vigil Mass (Bilingual) – 8:00 pm – Reception to follow for new Catholic Christians and their guests.

Sunday, April 12 (Easter Sunday):

Regular Mass Schedule with the addition of 6:30 am Mass

Nursery* – Available at the 9:30 am Mass

No Faith Formation – 9:30 – 10:30 am – St. Mary School

Faith Sharing* - 9:45 am in Tileston

English as a Second Language Class* - 11:00 am – 12:30 pm in Tileston

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament* - 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm in the Church

Middle and High School Youth Group* - 6:00 pm – 7:15 pm in Tileston

Monday, April 13:

Rosary following Mass (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday)

Contemporary Choir Rehearsal* - 7:00 pm in the Church

Hispanic Young Adult Group (El grupo de jóvenes adultos)* - 7:30 pm in Tileston

Grupo De Alcohólicos Anónimos* - 8:00 – 9:30 pm en el gimnasio

Tuesday, April 14:

Divine Mercy Chaplet* – 12:30 pm in the Chapel at Tileston

Adult Education* – 6:00 pm in Tileston

Practica de la Banda Latina de Domingo* - 7:00 pm in Tileston

Wednesday, April 15:

Centering Prayer – 1:30 – 2:30 pm in the Tileston Chapel

Practica de la Banda Latina de Sabado* - 7:00 pm in Tileston

Thursday, April 16:

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament* - 8:00 am – 9:00 am in the Church

Renaissance Choir Rehearsal* - 7:30 pm in Tileston

First Communion Parent Meeting – 7:00 pm in Tileston
Parents only please

Friday, April 17:

Grupo De Alcohólicos Anónimos* - 8:00 – 9:30 pm en el gimnasio

Saturday, April 18:

Tricia DiFiore and Matthew Mullins Wedding – 2:00 pm in the Church

*denotes weekly activity

Knights of Columbus Council 1074



Come learn a little about your faith with Knights of Columbus Council 1074. On the first Wednesday of each month, we will study the Catechism of the Catholic Church. Our guide will be the Compendium of the Catechism and discussions by Bishop William E. Lori Supreme Chaplain of the Knights of Columbus. The sessions will start promptly at 7:30 pm in the Council Chambers in Tileston. All Parishioners are welcome to attend.

ANNUAL SPRING DANCE

Saturday, April 18th

7:00 pm

Tileston Building's Upper Room

Last chance to get your tickets for next Saturday's UPPER ROOM BIG BAND BLAST. Tickets (\$18.00) are still available in the parish office and bookstore. Any remaining tickets will be sold at the door for \$20.00. Call Jeanne Bua 799-0164 if you have any questions. See you there.

Being Prophetic Voices in Mission

North Carolina Maryknoll Affiliate Gathering

May 1 – May 2, 2009

Second annual Maryknoll Affiliates Gathering, which will be hosted at the lovely ocean front Christian Family Living Center on Topsail Beach.

This gathering will be hosted by the Father Price Affiliate Chapter her in Wilmington, CARE and community volunteers.

Come and relax with us as we grow deeper in our Maryknoll commitment and our commitment to one another.

Contact CARE for registration and information at 232-5324

The Wilmington Symphony Orchestra

Steve Errante, Conductor

Free Family Concert

Sunday, April 26th

4:00 pm

Union Missionary Baptist Church

2711 Princess Place Drive

Featuring the Wilmington Symphony Youth Orchestra

This Matinee is Free but seating is on a first-come-first-serve basis.

Sponsored by Wilmington Nephrology,

Wilmington Star News and WHQR 91.3

More information at wilmingtonsymphony.org

From the Office of Social Outreach

Palm Sunday

By: Sister Isaac

Blessed water replaces the desert sand in our fountains and beautiful flowers blossom in our Sanctuary where bare branches had greeted us during the six weeks of Lent. Everything around us speaks of new life.

Benedict Groeschel, C.F.R. writes about the fact of the divinity and humanity of Jesus in the following:

“Think about it. St. Augustine reminds us that we gave him through his Blessed Mother what as God he did not have: the capacity to die. And he gave us what we do not have as human beings: a capacity to live forever.”

That's what we are celebrating today, Easter Sunday – as adopted sons and daughters of God through our Baptism, we have eternal life. Our social ministry outreach here at St. Mary's is nothing more than our desire to bring this message to all we meet. Death that comes to each one of us in so many varied ways has been conquered and there is hope, despite the dyings. That is why our baptism requires us to serve each other, here and now in everyday happenings so that the Good News is shared. The women came to the empty tomb and believed and went out on a mission...proclaiming that Jesus is risen and now we have to carry out His mission of unconditional love. Happy Easter!

Special Need of the Week

We received the bikes we needed for the young men to go to Cape Fear Community College from parishioners, and a few more from Two Wheeler Dealer. We continue to try and get people off the floor by providing beds, and tables and chairs. Dozens have been helped, but dozens are also waiting. And thanks for helping us feed our guests and their families with your donations on Share Sunday, and the K of C food drives.

Adoration

Why not “watch and pray” an hour with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament? We have Adoration on First Friday from after the 8:30am Mass until 3:30.

Alumni National Awards Dinner

On April 25, 2009 Marquette University will honor and acknowledge alumni at the Alumni National Awards Dinner on the campus of Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Among this year's recipients is our own Sister Mary Isaac Koenig, S. U. Sister Isaac graduated from Marquette University in 1960. Sister Isaac was nominated and is being recognized for the *Alumni Service to The Community Award*.

Sister Isaac is “...part caseworker, part religious representative...Through her ministry, Tileston Social Outreach, she has provided food, financial assistance, shelter, clothing, comfort, a welcoming smile and a listening ear to North Carolina's working poor for nearly 25 years...” She has joyfully committed herself and inspired all of us to feed the hungry, to provide drink to the thirsty, to welcome the stranger, to clothe the naked, to take care of the sick, and to visit the imprisoned (Matthew 25).

Diocesan Events

Are you Celebrating 25, 50 or more years of Marriage?

Bishop Michael F. Burbidge invites all couples celebrating 25, 50 or more years of marriage to honor their vocation of marriage. The Wedding Anniversary Mass will take place on Sunday, May 17 at 3 pm at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, 2718 Overbrook Dr. Raleigh. Family Members are welcome to attend. Please register through your parish office by Friday, May 1.

Tileston Health Clinic Executive Director Job Announcement

Executive Director for the Tileston Health Clinic, a free clinic serving the poor and uninsured in this area. Requires successful experience in operations and management in the health care sector. Salary commensurate with education and experience. Benefits package. Email résumé or inquiries to tilesloxecdir@hotmail.com.

Please no phone calls.

Project Rachel Retreat for Healing After Abortion

Project Rachel weekend retreat on May 15-17, at the Short Journey Center in Smithfield. For more information or to register for the retreat, contact Project Rachel at (919) 852-1021 or projectrachel@nc.rr.com. The cost is \$95 for lodging, meals and all retreat materials.

Registration deadline is May 8.

FEELING ALONE IN YOUR GRIEF?

Come to the Comfort Gathering at St. Therese and join others who are grieving the loss of someone close to them.

Pray, share, or just listen with us.

A bereavement counselor from Lower Cape Fear Hospice will join us on Wednesday, April 22 at 10am

at the St. Therese Education Building
(building on the right side of the church).

Refreshments will be provided.

Sponsored by the St. Therese Ladies Guild.

Call 799-1346 for more information.

VOCES LATINAS PRESENTS

WHEN ICE KNOCKS AT YOUR DOOR

(IMMIGRATION AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT RIGHTS ---RESPONSIBILITIES---RESOURCES)

Hosted by Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church
South College Road
Wednesday, April 22
8:30 am – 4:30 pm

Featuring:

Attracta Kelly: Immigrant Rights Project, NC Justice Center:

Helen Jugovic: Immigration Attorney:

Jessie Rocha: Immigrant Rights Project, NC Justice

Kenneth Hatcher: Gangs, Their Effect on Community

Roselle Margolis: Battered Immigrant Project

Martha Barrera NHC DSS: What Happens to the Children

New Hanover and Pender County Sheriff and Police: Law Enforcement and Process

\$35.00 in Advance

\$40.00 day of workshop

Contact Silva Edwards at 762-1870 or voicelatinas@ec.rr.com

Catholics Confront Global Poverty

Recently the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) and Catholic Relief Services (CRS) launched the much-anticipated Catholics Confront Global Poverty initiative. Bishop Howard J. Hubbard, Chairman of the Committee on International Justice and Peace at the USCCB, announced the launch of the initiative and urged Catholics around the country to join the effort. The two-year nationwide effort, inspired by Pope Benedict XVI's 2009 World Day of Peace Message, "Fight Poverty to Build Peace," calls on one million Catholics to confront global poverty by learning about global poverty and taking action to defend the life and dignity of people living in poverty. The initiative focuses on seven issues that are key to confronting global poverty:

- increasing and improving international assistance
- strengthening international peacekeeping and peace building
- reforming U.S. trade and agricultural policies
- completing debt relief
- addressing global climate change
- supporting transparency, participation and consent of local communities in natural resource extraction, and
- addressing the root causes of migration

Catholic Family Retreats

The Christian Family Living Center
Topsail Island, NC
910-328-1584

May 8-10, 2009

Mother's Day Retreat – A Family Affair
June 19-21, 2009

Celebrate Father's Day Weekend

\$70 ages 2-7; \$100 ages 8-adult. Family max is \$490.

Office of Youth Ministry

John Walsh, DRE

762-5491 ext. 14

jwalsh@thestmaryparish.org

Registration for 2009 – 2010 Faith Formation Year

All children/youth that plan on attending faith formation for 2009 – 2010 must be registered in advance.

Confirmation for Adults

Confirmation classes for adult Catholics who have been baptized will begin in May. Please call Mr. John Walsh if you are interested in attending. Pre-registration is mandatory.

The classes will be held on Thursday evenings in May (beginning on May 7) at 7:00 p.m. in the Tileston building with Confirmation being celebrated on Pentecost Sunday (May 31). You will be required to have a baptism certificate on file with the religious education office.

Preparation classes for the Sacrament of Baptism of infants and young children (in English)

Beginning on **Monday May 4, 2009** the mandatory preparation class for the Baptism of infant and young children (in English) will be held on the first Monday of each month at 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. in the Amy Bradley Room located in the Tileston building. If the first Monday is a holiday then the class will be given on the next Monday that is not a holiday. The parish website and bulletin will be updated regularly with the latest schedule.

You must RSVP ahead of time with me to take the class. When you RSVP for the class I will discuss with you the necessary steps needed to be completed in order for the sacrament to be celebrated.



Baccalaureate Mass Graduating High School Seniors Sunday, June 7th 11:00 am

All graduating Seniors of St. Mary Parish are invited. You will be recognized for your hard work and will receive a special blessing from Father Bob. A Reception for all family and friends will follow in the St. Mary School Cafeteria. Please RSVP to John Walsh by May 31st. 762-5491, ext. 14

Faith Formation

With only three weeks left in our faith formation year I want to take this opportunity to pass along some much deserved thanks to all who helped to make this year such a wonderful success. Our program continues to grow and it is due to the hard work put in by all of our volunteers. I am quite sure that I will inadvertently neglect to recognize someone. So, if you volunteered to help our program and do not see your name mentioned here please know that you are very much appreciated and we value your service and it is solely due to my poor memory that you were not mentioned. Sorry!

First, to Mr. Lynn Lyle and Mrs. Carolyn Lyle, who have helped me tremendously this year by maintaining all of our records and keeping our hallways safe and organized. Their efforts in both areas will help to ensure a smooth transition into next year.

Second, to all of our volunteer teachers that so graciously give of their time each week to ensure that our children experience our faith in such a wonderful manner. Our parish is truly blessed to have such dynamic people to share and impart their knowledge and experiences onto our youth. They are: Cameron Walsh, Jacqueline Chandler, Margie and Kaitlyn Hobbs, Amber Armstrong, Hannah Mack, Donna Dallmer, Jackson Turbeville, Michelle Diffy, Bob Dudek, Rhonda Hager, Joe Lakatos, Caryn Walsh, and Phoebe Kott.

Finally, to the Stumph family (Eric, Marichris, Angela and William) who generously setup and provide all of the wonderful refreshments that we enjoy each week.

Thank you to all, it is certainly my pleasure to work with each and every one of you!



April 11 (Easter Vigil)

Rehearsal for RCIA – 9:00 am

Blessing of the Easter food baskets – 10:00 am

No 5:30 pm or 7:00 pm Masses

Easter Vigil Mass (Bilingual) begins with Blessing of the New Fire 8:00 pm

April 12 (Easter Sunday)

Regular Mass schedule with an addition of 6:30 am Mass (in English)

**Celebrations
Will return next week**

**Remembering 9/11
Lee Ielpi**

**Firefighter, Father, Rescue Worker
April 23rd at 7:00 pm
Tileston Auditorium**

Lee Ielpi, a highly decorated, retired New York City Firefighter and 9/11 rescue worker will be visiting Wilmington to give a first-hand account of the rescue and recovery efforts after the September 11th attack on the World Trade Center.

This presentation is sponsored by the Tribute Center (tributewtc.org)
Admission is free, but a \$10.00 donation is suggested.

**Liturgical Minister's Schedule
Weekend of April 18 – April 19**

For Masses in English
Second Sunday of Easter

-Schedule does not show substitutions-

	Saturday 5:30 p.m.	Sunday 8:00 a.m.	Sunday 9:30 a.m.	Sunday 11:00 a.m.
Eucharistic Minister	D. Bryant A. Doran D. Harris K. Hartung P. Lachance M. McCormick D. Paparozzi	C. Bost J. Bua F. Bua L. Newton L. Parker S. Parker Don Thompson	L. Dezio P. Gross R. Jackson L. Johnson B. Murtagh J. Murtagh L. Vacek	T. Bruhn T. Crossland A. Edwards G. Hill J. O'Keefe D. Paul J. Turbevillie
Lectors	N. Burrell J. Marchese	N. McDonald E. Stumph	J. Glenn F. Militscher	A. Maglione F. Bailey
Altar Servers	E. Harris S. Hutko C. Lachance	A. Hudson A. Stumph S. Young	H. O'Leary C. Penegre J. Schnitzler	D. Caldopoli L. Gerbe O. Gerbe



DIocese of RALEIGH Office of the Bishop
715 Newark Street • Raleigh, North Carolina 27606-2187 • (919) 833-9782 • Fax: (919) 821-9759

Easter, 2009

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

On the solemn feast of Easter, we join together in singing the great acclamation of praise, "Alleluia." We rejoice in the midst of the darkness of this world, the suffering in our lives, the turmoil of our economy, and even while mourning the death of those we love. We rejoice in the sure and certain hope that Jesus Christ, though without sin, has been tested in every way we have and has proven victorious. He conquered forever the power of darkness, sin, suffering and even death itself. We who are baptized in Him share His victory and very life both now and forever!

At Easter Mass, you will be asked to renew your baptismal promises. In entering into this grace-filled moment, you join all the faithful around you in proclaiming your belief in the power of Jesus Christ to heal you and to save you. This renewal of your baptismal promises not only makes a statement of your faith in the risen Christ but also demonstrates your commitment to go forth as a witness to the Lord and to share with others, especially those in most need, His compassionate love.

In the Reading from Saint Paul's Letter to the Colossians for Mass on Easter morning we hear, "Think of what is above, not of what is on earth... When Christ your life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory." Throughout this Easter season and always, ask for God's grace so that you are not consumed by worldly concerns. As you live out your vocation with renewed faith and integrity, remember your ultimate goal is to live with God forever. Keep your eyes fixed on Him through consistent participation in the Sacred Liturgy, the frequent celebration of the Sacrament of Penance, and daily prayer and selfless service, especially through the parish and Diocesan programs that provide spiritual and pastoral care to those in need of our assistance. As you seek what is above, you will come to know and live that glory of God both now and forever.

Please join me in praying for all those to be baptized and confirmed in our Catholic faith this Easter and know also of my continued prayers for you and your family. On Easter and always, may the Risen Lord abundantly bless you with the peace only He can give.

Sincerely in Christ,
Michael F. Burbidge
Most Reverend Michael F. Burbidge
Bishop of Raleigh

Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, and Altar Servers
Please contact Stephanie Watts at
799-7623 or ewatts1949@aol.com with your email address
so the monthly schedules can be sent electronically.

Grand Strand Byzantine Catholic Fellowship
The next Byzantine Catholic Mass will be held at
Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church
on Tuesday, April 14, 2009 at 5:30 p.m.
The church is located on Hwy. 17 at 8th Avenue N.
in North Myrtle Beach.
Fr. Conan Timoney will be the celebrant.
All are welcome.

Support our Advertisers
Our Sunday bulletin is a primary way we use to communicate with you. Through our arrangement with the J. S. Paluch Company, the parish does not pay for the bulletin printing, which saves us thousands of dollars every year. Our bulletin is supported through the generosity of the advertisers - many of whom are our own parish members. Most are members of our local community. During these difficult economic times, I urge you to support our advertisers with your patronage. Tell the business owner that you appreciate their support of our parish through their advertising in the bulletin. This is one small way we can work within our own community to weather these challenging times. *A strong and vibrant parish is good for our community and a strong business community is good for our parish.*

Stewardship of Treasure

"For everything is from you and we only give you what we have received from you."
---- 1 Chronicles 29:14-16

March 29, 2009

Envelopes Mailed: 1230 Children's' Envelopes Received: 0
Envelopes Returned: 395 Total Children's Offertory: \$ 0.00

	OFFERTORY	BUDGET	EDUCATION
03/29/2009	\$ 13,247.09	\$ 13,000.00	\$ 40.00
07/01/08 to present	\$ 611,630.56	\$ 600,900.00	\$ 22393.33

Thank you for generously supporting the Church with your time, talent and treasure.



Bulletin Editor
Sandy O'Leary

bulletin@thesmaryparish.org or call 395-2063.



From the Desk of Joyce Price, Principal

Thank you so much to Mrs. Suzanne Smith and her committee who organized our Health Expo. St. Mary students were provided with a full day of activities which were to encourage healthy habits for exercise and eating. We are grateful to all of the presenters who gave their time to enrich our students.

Last week, the children were given pretzels by their teachers as a symbol of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit...three parts, together as one. The word pretzel is derived from the Latin meaning "little arms". It reminds us to pray. Salt is the traditional symbol of purification and preservation. The pretzel's shape is that of a heart – the Sacred Heart of Jesus giving us the idea that God keeps all of us in his heart. The main ingredients of the pretzel (flour and water) are the same as those in bread – symbolizing the Body of Christ and the mixing and kneading of the dough when making pretzels symbolizes our "coming together as one" with Christ – unity.

During the weeks of Lent our teachers and students have shared the meaningful experience of Stations of the Cross with the 4th -8th graders leading us each Wednesday morning. We all brought our Rice Bowl boxes as our special Lenten offering to the poor.

Our church windows and Stations tell so much of Jesus' story and they give us a focus of the stories which unfold in Christian churches all over the world.

Earlier in the year I reported that one third of our current 7th grade class qualified for the Duke Talent Search. The seven students who qualified all took the SAT. Three of those students have qualified to attend a state recognition ceremony. To qualify for a ceremony is a significant achievement as the pool is very competitive and many 7th graders earn scores that high school students aspire to achieve. Our students who qualified for state recognition are: John Andrews, Savannah Hutko, and MaryAnne Szymeczek. Congratulations to you all!

St. Mary School Sports News

Spring training for the volleyball team - Wednesdays immediately after school. Please report dressed to play with knee pads and a drink. Practice will run until 4:45 pm.

All athletes should check the website weekly for updates on practice and games. Click on weekly events link.

Thursday Basketball

Come and join a group of St. Mary parents who get together every Thursday from 7:00 -9:00 pm for pick-up basketball in the Tileston Gym. Middle school students are welcome, accompanied by a parent.

Dates to Remember

April 13 – Classes Resume (Snow Make-up Day)
 April 23 – Middle School Assembly, Mr. Ielpi, 9/11 Fireman
 Whole school assembly, Wilmington Symphony Artist in Residence performance
 April 20 – 27 – Scholastic Book Fair
 April 22 – Spaghetti Dinner
 April 24 – Field Day (Hugh McRae Park)
 April 24 – 25 - NC Science Olympiad State Competition – Raleigh
 April 30 – Sr. Sophy and Raje Assembly, Auxilium School in India

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ST. MARY
Catholic School

Community Events



Spring Break Surf Camp
 April 20 – 24
 12 – 2 pm Monday through Friday
 Oceanic Pier
 910-274-3565 or indojaxsurfschool.com
 St. Mary School Teachers:
 Jack Viorel (1) and Kevin Murphy (5)



New Beginning Fencing Class Starting

3:30 -4:30 pm
 Two days per week until school ends
 Mon. or Tue. & Wed. or Thurs.
 M-W, M-Th, Tu-W, Tu-Th
 Beginning April 13th or 14th
 All equipment provided
 \$50
 2nd grade and up
 No experience necessary
 Basement of the Tileston Gym on St. Mary campus
 For more info contact Greg Spahr
 799-8642 or gregoryspahr@yahoo.com

**Viva St. Mary!!!
 Vegas Casino Night**



High Rollers and Tacky Tourists Welcome!

Save the Date
May 9th, 2009
7 - 11 pm

Tileston Auditorium
 Great Food, Great Fun!!!

Live and Silent Auctions
 \$25.00 per person
 Price includes heavy hors d'oeuvres
 Cash Bar

It is casual and all about fun!
 All proceeds benefit our teacher's wish list!
 "Helping our teachers make our children's dreams come true!"

The St. Mary School Spring Gala committee "Viva St. Mary" Casino Night is looking for auctions items for this event. If have any auctions items or talents to donate, please contact Christy Kramer at 910-52-4616.