

# Canaanite

St. Callistus Catholic Church, Quarterly Newsletter



## Special points of interest:

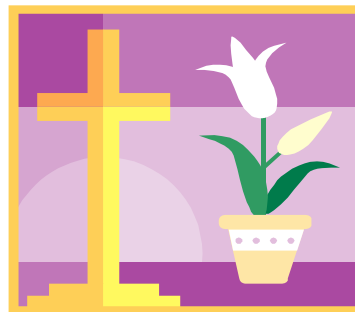
- \* Bishop Trautman celebrates 25 years as a bishop on April 16. He also has been the Bishop of Erie for 20 years on July 16th.
- \* The Erie Diocese raised \$479,532 for Catholic Relief Services to use for Haiti Relief. St. Callistus Parish gave \$5,218 towards this relief effort!
- \* 25% of this year's Operation Rice Bowl donations will go to Kane Area Food Pantry and Catholic Rural Ministry Ministries.
- \* Confirmation is scheduled for November 7, 2010 at the 10:30AM Mass.
- \* First Communion is April 18, 2010.

## The Glory of these Forty Days

These Lenten days are time for renewal. These days are time for us to reawaken knowledge of ourselves. On Ash Wednesday Jesus gave us practical advice about three spiritual practices: prayer, fasting and works of charity and justice. Jesus wants us to be sincere in all three.

Prayer is traditionally known as the raising of one's heart and mind to God. There are a varieties of types of praying. Use of one that fits you is what will open your heart and ears in a new way to God in your life. Fasting means consuming less or sometimes nothing. It is a way to discipline our bodies to rely less on the things of this world, in order to create within us a clear-headed dependence on God. Fasting is a removal of distractions that keep us

from the presence of God. Perhaps you made a Lenten resolution on Ash Wednesday. Perhaps you met limited success. Just start over. Or you might just ask yourself what has been the challenge? Remember you are not alone. All Christians are working together during this holy season. We are on journey together. You are a child of God. God loves you as you are and invites you to be more.



Remember that Lent is a good time to celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation, the church's proclamation of God's forgiveness of our sins. Make this sacrament a must before Easter, for it will offer a chance for renewal.

During Lent it has been an ancient tradition in the church to finalize the preparations of those interested in becoming baptized or in full communion with the church. Judy Rolick will become a full member of the Church at the Easter Vigil. She was baptized and now will be completing her formation in the Catholic Ways. Congratulations to Judy! Be sure to welcome her to the parish community. Remember to invite your friends or relatives to be a part of our parish.

## Easter Thoughts

Fully human and fully divine, Christ felt the joys and sorrows of the world that He may identify with us. At no time is this more evident than during Holy Week. In turn, we must work to identify with Christ. As Easter approaches and Lent draws to an end, let us never

forget that we must take up our cross and die daily as Christ did so that we may rejoice with Him in the promise of Eternal Life. Be sure to check the Holy Week scheduled in this newsletter and plan on attending so to enter more fully into the saving work of Christ.

This Easter, let us follow the steps of our Lord so we may one day share in His glory. May the peace of Christ be in your hearts!

*Fr. Phil*

## First Reconciliation Class

On Saturday, March 20th the members of the second grade class received the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time. The children participated in a morning retreat, followed of the Sacrament. Afterwards the families were treated to a pizza party to celebrate God's goodness and mercy. Students receiving the Sacrament that day were: Raeann Asel, Rachel Buhl, Mason Feikls, Cassandra Hepler, Hunter Hoag, Caleb Holt, Aaron Hottel, Ainsley Saf, Brennan Smith, Joseph Walters, Benjamin Westerburg. Congratulations!

## Holy Week Schedule

Holy commences with Palm Sunday on March 28th. The usual weekend Mass schedule will be observed but all of these Masses will start in the Gathering Space to hear the first Gospel and commemorate the triumphal entry of Jesus in to Jerusalem.

The end of the week starts the most significant days of the Christian calendar, the Triduum, meaning three days. These days are one festival, our Passover, our Easter. On Holy Thursday, April 1st the evening Mass of the Lord Supper will begin at 7:00PM. Here we will wash feet and "stay with the Lord"

through the evening. In humility we remember how Jesus served and calls us to imitate Him.

Good Friday, April 2nd the main service of the day will be at 1:00PM. We listen to the Passion of Jesus from the Gospel of St. John and venerate the instrument of our salvation. This day is a day of silence and reflection, a day unique in all the year for us.

On Holy Saturday, we gather for morning prayer at 9AM and continue our waiting and preparing. At 1:00PM Food Baskets will be blessed in

church, the food blessed will be the food used to break our fasts and celebrate Easter joy. At sunset we begin the most solemn and important Liturgy of the year, the Easter Vigil. We begin our celebration at 8:30PM around the fire remembering our darkness is dispelled by the resurrection and our slaughtered Lamb rises to become our Good Shepherd.

Easter Sunday we continue to celebrate with water and Alleluias and song. Masses will be 8AM and 10:30AM on April 4th.

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**"Creation. Fidelity.  
Salvation.  
Covenant.**

**Events at the  
Easter Vigil on April  
3, 2010 at 8:30PM.  
We remember so to  
be united in Christ."**

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## One Heart and Mind

Images can do a great deal to evoke emotion and encourage us to give. You could be sent pictures of many people who benefit from ministries supported by the Catholic Services Appeal; ministries that help the parish help local parishioners, like financial services, ministries like Catholic Charities that minister to poor, hun-

gry, grieving people in our region, or ministries that form leaders in our parishes, priests, deacons, and religious educators. The thing the Catholic Services Appeal does are things that need to be done day after day, year after year. That is why the parishes of our Diocese are asked annually to support this Appeal.

If you haven't given to this year's CSA, won't you please consider helping this year. Gifts also help St. Callistus do projects here too. The work of a parish never ends and there are hopes and dreams to do some wonderful things in the near future. Call or write the Rectory office to make a gift or pledge to the CSA.

## Searching for Something?

What if St Callistus Church earned a donation every time you searched the Internet? Or how about if a percentage of every purchase you made online went to support our mission? Well, now it can! GoodSearch.com is a new Yahoo-powered search engine that donates half its advertising revenue, about a penny per search, to the charities its users designate. Use it just as you would any

search engine, get quality search results from Yahoo, and watch the donations add up! Plus, GoodShop.com is a new online shopping mall which donates up to 30 percent of each purchase to your favorite cause! Hundreds of great stores including Amazon, Target, Gap, Best Buy, ebay, Macy's and Barnes & Noble have teamed up with GoodShop and every time you place an order,



you'll be supporting

your parish. And if you download the GoodSearch - St Callistus Church toolbar, our parish will earn money every time you shop and search online - even if you forget to go to GoodShop or GoodSearch first! Add the St Callistus Church toolbar at <http://www.goodsearch.com/>

## Checking Under the Hood

"Have you checked under the hood lately?"

It was an honest, unassuming question. Still, I winced. And it seemed that I could almost hear my father's voice, once again telling me: "Son, if you'll only keep the oil changed and the belts tightened, a car ought to last you just about forever."

Okay, I should have listened to him, but I hadn't. And here I was now, spending the afternoon in a repair shop. As a middle-aged adult and a priest, I was about to spend a big bucks to acquire a lesion I should have learned for free when I was much younger. Call it

"penance?" You betcha.

Somewhat like an automobile, our spiritual lives require routine maintenance. And, it that way, is what the season of Lent is all about. Although we should always be concerned with assessing our moral and spiritual sensibilities, Lent is a time during each year when we take a really hard, close look "under the hood" of our lives. But unlike the experience with the car, Lent should NOT be a terrifying process nor an overwhelming burden. Instead, it is an



opportunity for our Savior to renew within us His saving work of grace. Prayer especially helps to keep all our spiritual "parts," well oiled and running.

Although far beyond our complete comprehension, through Lenten penance we may more fully identify with the sacrificial love our Savior proved at Calvary.

Confessions are offering every Saturday starting at 4PM ending at 4:45PM or by appointment. Every Lent there is a parish communal Penance Service, this year scheduled for March 23, at 7:00PM.

## Close of a Chapter in Parish History

February, 2010 the demolition of the old St. Callistus School building began. The building corner stone was dated 1893. The building was part of our parish history for 117 years. The building, used as an eight grade Catholic school for most of those years, was closed in 1972 because of low enrollment. Afterwards, the school's basement was still used for many parish social events, like communion breakfasts, and funeral luncheons. Until 2002 the building was also used for Religious Education of the youth of the parish. For many years the main floor was used by two units of Headstart pre-school. Heating bills and inefficient classroom space made parish leadership believe that new space need to be developed for the Religious Education Programs. After new space was created along side the church, the pastoral council agreed that the old school had served its purpose. The new build was dedicated

in 2002 and contains classroom and meeting space. This was accomplished thanks to the successful "Celebrating Yesterday, Creating Tomorrow, Capital Campaign." In many ways the demolition of the old school building is a creating of a new tomorrow. While it is always sad to let go of the past, the space left behind will be used to create green space for use by Religious Education students, parking and a memorial in testimony to those who sacrificed much to establish a school in Kane. A cross from the structure was saved as well as the corner stone. While there are no completed plans at the moment, it is



**St. Callistus School built 1893, closed as a school 1972.**

hoped that these items would be able to be used in creating a beautiful area for devotion and multi-use. The old school building served our parish well, that is, to teach the Gospel of Jesus Christ. That Gospel work continues and we are sure our ancestors would be happy that mission goes on in new spaces and in new ways so all may know Jesus and build His Kingdom.

*There are many kinds of alms the giving of which helps us to obtain pardon for our sins; but none is greater than that by which we forgive from our heart a sin that someone has committed against us.*  
—Saint Augustine of Hippo (354-430)

## Valentine Dinner

On Valentine's Day St. Callistus sponsored a Married Couple dinner to honor the couple's and their efforts in living the Sacrament of Marriage. Twenty-seven couples participated. The initiative to do this came from the Erie Marriage Encounter group who host these dinners throughout the years in many parishes of our Diocese. Sister Frances Therese and Michelle Smith organized the evening. Bob Cartwright and Mary Sewell also played an important role the night of the event. Pictured to the right are members of the Confirmation Class who served and waiters and waitresses all evening. Couples of all ages attended the dinner. It proved to be a

wonderful time to affirm those faithfully living the Sacrament of Marriage. We thank them for their example of dedication and faithfulness to their families and our entire parish! Look for a similar event next year!



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**A Eucharistic Community of  
Christ's disciples.**

We're on the web at:  
[www.saintcallistus.org](http://www.saintcallistus.org)

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