

His kingdom. As stewards of our time, talents, possessions, and faith, we are called to put our lives in proper focus and to live in accord with one another giving love and caring support; to accept Christ's challenge as related in the Gospels – to serve one another.



We will have our **Lenten Fish Fry's** on March 14th, 21st, 28th; April 4th and 11th. We will offer all you can eat. The price this year will be \$12 for adults; \$4 for those under 12; and for those 5 and under Free. We will serve dinners from 3:30 – 6:30 pm.

This important parish fundraiser requires the help of many volunteers. Make your commitment to help when you can by signing up on the list in the back of the church.

We served 413 adults and 11 children at our 1st Fish Fry of 2014!



We will be having our Annual **Pancake & Sausage Breakfasts** on Sundays, March 23rd and 30th and April 6th from 10 am – 1 pm. As usual the breakfasts will feature buckwheat cakes and pancakes, whole hog sausage, pure maple syrup, applesauce, coffee and orange drink. All you can eat! Adults: \$7; 12 and Under: \$3.50; and 4 and Under: Free.

The 2014 Annual Catholic Appeal will begin in a few weeks. All contributions received over our parish goal of \$16,022 will remain here at the parish. Please review Bishop Mark's invitation to participate when it arrives and return your gift card on March 23rd. Thank you for supporting your parish!



It is time to think about your theme for your theme basket for our church's annual 4th of July Picnic Theme Basket Booth. This is our 5th year for the Theme Basket Booth. It has been a great success because of your participation in making a basket, buying tickets, selling tickets, and praying for the success of our annual picnic. Hopefully, more of you will be interested in making a basket for St. John's. The sign-up sheet for your convenience is in the back of the church. Baskets need to be a minimum of \$25.

We will be taking up a second collection next weekend, March 23rd for the Catholic Register. Please participate in this collection if you haven't already used your Catholic Register offertory envelope. All donations will be used to pay our Catholic Register Assessment of \$1,288.

Why Be Catholic? A Lenten Mission Journey of Faith

Presented by Dr. Marcellino D'Ambrosio

Sunday, March 16-18, 2014; 7 pm - St. Benedict Parish, Bedford Street, Johnstown

Admission is free, good will offering will be taken – All are welcome

Check the bulletin board for more information



Box Tops for Education® is one of the nation's largest school fundraising loyalty programs. With over 240 participating products, it's an easy way for schools to earn cash for the things they need. We have been asked to collect Box Tops for St. Peter's School. So there is a collection bin in the rear of the Church for anyone wishing to support this program. Thank you!

Notes from Fr. Rich

- The Diocesan Annual Catholic Appeal for 2014 is kicking off this week-end; you should have received a letter in the mail this past week or during the coming week from Bishop Mark Bartchak asking for your support. Any additional money over our diocesan goal this year of **\$16,022** will be returned 100% to the parish for our ongoing needs. Last year exactly 40% of our parishioners gave to the ACA – I would like to see that number go up - if everybody gave something we will get a nice return. I am counting on your generosity for the good of our Diocese and Parish. Thanks for all your help.
- If you haven't paid for your annual subscription to the Catholic Register yet, we are going to take up a second collection next weekend for this; please use the envelope in your packet. The parish is charged \$8 for each subscription, so please help offset this cost.
- Thanks to all who helped with the second fish fry of Lent - both the workers and the patrons. Please continue to come to our Lenten Friday fish fries and encourage others to do so. We also can always use more volunteers to help with set-up, the dinner, and clean-up. The sign-up sheet is in the back of the Church.
- The stations we are using on Friday night's at 7 pm are the special **Divine Mercy Stations of the Cross**. Please come to enter more fully into the mystery of the Lord's Passion for our salvation. Also remember the additional time for the Sacrament of Reconciliation before Stations from 6:00 - 6:45 pm.
- A very nice Lenten devotion, if you want to check it out, is from the Marian Fathers tying in the Divine Mercy devotion and Lent - you can sign up for the free daily devotion to come to your email or smart phone at: www.flocknote.com/lent.
- Check out our Parish lending library in the Church basement for some good books and videos to read and watch during the Lenten season. Please mark the sign-out notebook on the desk if you check anything out. Thanks.
- Take one of the new EWTN program guides on the bulletin table to see the schedule of good Lent programming they have on the Catholic channel; you can also check it out at www.ewtn.com. A good Lenten practice is to watch or listen to one show a day to help us grow in our love for our Catholic faith.
- Thoughts from the saints – on the gift of Jesus's Divine Mercy, in the words of Jesus to St. Faustina: "Tell [all people], My Daughter, that I am Love and Mercy itself. When a soul

approaches Me with trust, I fill it with such an abundance of graces that it cannot contain them within itself, but radiates them to other souls.” (from St. Faustina’s Diary: Divine Mercy in My Soul, 1074). Have a blessed week. 😊