

MASSES FOR THE WEEK OF April 06, 2025 Fifth Sunday Of Lent

Please note that all daily masses will be held in the chapel unless otherwise noted. In the event of a funeral mass there will be no (8:00 AM) daily mass.

Monday 8:00AM: Francis LP Kelly (Anniv) *By: Suzanne Heller*

Tuesday 7:00 PM: Robert Murphy (Anniv) *By: Bonnie & Family*

Wednesday 8:00 AM: Ken Wambaugh (Anniv) *By: Anna Lee, Kim, Dayna Wambaugh*

Thursday 8:00 AM: Alvin R. Brown Jr. *By: Mary Jane Spadin*

Thursday 6:30 PM to 9:30 PM: Confessions In The Church

Friday 8:00 AM: Anne Tedley (B'day) *By: Wayne & Frances Tedley & Daughters*

Friday 7:00 PM: Stations Of The Cross

Palm Sunday Of The Passion Of The Lord:

Saturday 6:00 PM: Claudine Plush *By: The Plush Family*

Sunday 8:00 AM: For The People

Sunday 10:30 AM: Connie Kay Fochtman *By: Doris & Family*

Sanctuary Candle: For Peace

St. Peregrine Candle: Loretta Fochtman *By: The Family*

Mass Readings for the Week:

Monday: Optional Memorial Of St. John Baptist De La Salle, Priest
Daniel 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62/PS Psalm 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6
John 8:12-20

Tuesday: Saint Julie Billiart
Numbers 21:4-9/PS Psalm 102:2-3, 16-18, 19-21/John 8:21-30

Wednesday: Saint Casilda
Daniel 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/PS Psalm Daniel 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/John 8:31-42

Thursday: Saint Magdalene of Canossa
Genesis 17:3-9/PS Psalm 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/John 8:51-59

Friday: Optional Memorial Of St. Stanislaus, Bishop And Martyr
Jeremiah 20:10-13/PS Psalm 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7 (R/cf.7)/John 10:31-42

Saturday: Saint Teresa of Los Andes
Ezekiel 37:21-28/PS Psalm Jeremiah 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13 (R/cf.10d)/John 11:45-56

Sunday: Palm Sunday Of The Passion Of The Lord
Luke 19:28-40/Psalm 24 (23) or Psalm 47 (46)/ Isaiah 50:4-7/
PS Psalm 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24 (R.2a)/Philippians 2:6-11/Luke 22:14-23:56 or
Luke 23:1-49

St John The Baptist Catholic Church

Box 10 New Baltimore, PA 15553 Phone: 733-2210 Hall: 733-4113

Email: dwambaugh@dioceseaj.org Website: <https://newbaltimorecatholic.com/>

Fr. Mark Paddock, OFMcap Pastor **Sacramental Emergencies:** 724-272-5474
Fr. Roman Kozacheson, OFMcap- In residence
Fr. Stephen Shin, OFMcap In residence-Pastor of Ss. Philip & James, Meyersdale & St. Gregory, MacDonaldton
Br. Stephen Wright OFMcap In Residence

Mass Schedule:

Mon: 8:00 AM **Tues:** 7:00 PM **Wed - Fri:** 8:00 AM **Sat:** 6:00 PM (Vigil) **Sun:** 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

Secretary Office Hours:

Mon :8:00 AM-1:00PM **Wed :**8:00 AM-1:00PM **Thurs :**8:00 AM-3:00 PM **Fri :**8:00AM –1:00 PM

Baptism: Arrange in advance for pre-baptismal instructions.

Confessions: Saturday 5:00 – 5:45 PM

Holy Communion:

Low Gluten hosts will be available for anyone with a low gluten tolerance. If you have a low gluten tolerance, please tell the priest before mass so a low gluten host can be placed in a pyx for you.

Matrimony: Arrange nine months in advance. Couples expected to participate in pre-marriage preparation program

Rosary: Saturday Evenings beginning at 5:25 PM

Parish Mission Statement

St. John the Baptist Parish is a Catholic Christian Community centered in rural New Baltimore, Pennsylvania. As members of the Body of Christ, we seek to live as entrusted stewards using God's gifts responsibly, intelligently, prudently, and gratefully to bring about 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.



St. John's News & Upcoming Events:

Fifth Sunday Of Lent



We'll Leave The Light On:

We'll Leave The Light On For You this **Thursday April 10th from 6:30 to 9:30 PM in the Church**. There will be **two confessors at this time**. Please encourage your family to come for the **healing Sacrament of Reconciliation**.

Extended Confessions:

Will take place on **Tuesday evenings from 6:15 PM to 6:45 PM** (Retreat Center Entrance near the Chapel) and also on **Saturday evening from 5:00 PM to 5:45 PM in the Chapel with Fr Roman and in the Confessional with Fr. Mark**.



Stations of the Cross:

Bring the family to pray the **Stations of the Cross at 7:00 PM** on Friday evenings and be strengthened during this time of lent in walking in the footprints of Jesus Christ.



Easter Flowers:

There is an envelope in your offertory box to remember loved ones with a donation towards the Easter Flowers. Please clearly write the names on the back of the envelope so that we can publish those names in the bulletin. Only the names submitted by **April 13th** will appear in the bulletin.



Easter Egg Hunt and Breakfast:

There will be an Easter Egg Hunt and Breakfast on **Saturday April 12th at 9:00 AM** at the parish hall. There is a **signup sheet in the back of the Church** for those attending. The event is being coordinated by our Christian Mothers Organization.

Upcoming Meetings:

Maintenance Committee Meeting will be on **Thursday April 24th @ 6:30 PM in the Church basement**.

Women At The Well:

There is a Women At The Well group forming here at St. John's. Come and learn how to pray Lectio Divina – praying with that Sunday's Gospel. We meet after Monday morning 8:00 AM mass in the Chapel. For more information please contact Lindsay Hankinson at (814) 233-8786. We would love to have you join us.

Volunteer to take up the Offertory At Mass: During Mass, there's a little moment that often goes unnoticed. After the collection baskets are passed, there is a very meaningful part of the Mass: members of our parish carry the gifts of bread, wine and the offertory to the priest. **The entire congregation is represented by those who bear the gifts. Through this act, we return to God a small part of the many blessings that He has given to us. What a wonderful way to express thanks and joy to God by bearing these gifts! There is a sign-up sheet in the back of church for the month of February and March for families to sign up to carry the offertory gifts up at mass.**

St. Padre Pio Trip:

If anyone would be interested in taking a trip to the St Padre Pio Center in Barto, PA, there is a sign-up sheet at the rear of the Church. Please provide your name, phone number and best day for you to travel. Any questions can be directed to Suzanne Heller at (814) 442-5781. Thank you for your potential interest.

PRAYER LIST

John Andzelik, Abby Barnes, Lori Barnes, Debbie Brady, Dennis Brant, Cindy (Miller) Bearer, Jane Beyer, Theresa Beyer, Lisa Bischof, Tonya Brown, Mark Bruck, Carol Burcaw, Macy Burke, Doug Burkett, Larry Clarr, Randy Clites, Denis Crum, Lee Crum, Andrew Davenport, Sara Davenport, Michael Davis, Velma Davis, Larry DeArmitt, Alice Deitz, Donna Dennison, Tracy Dickey, Nancy Diehl, Dorothy Dittmer, Joyce Dively, Tara Dively, Travis Dull, Lisa Easter, Chris Edes, Ray Engleka, George Faidley III, Debbie Fisher, Tabitha Flick, Bradley Fochtman, Harry Fochtman, Loretta Fochtman, Mike Fochtman, Teresa Ann Fochtman, Myrna Fries, Becky Foor, Dave Foor, Debbie Foor, Carol Ann Gallagher, Brian Gardill, Jarrett Gowatty, Paisley Goetzl, Helen Greenway, Kelsey Grove, Grayson Gumbert, Pam Habinyak, Sam Hall, Ron Hagens, Nellie Hall, Eugene Hankinson, Owen Hankinson Phyllis Harris, Mary Jo Harrington, Aaron Hay, Paisley Hay, Bob Jenkins, Elizabeth, Ken & Kennaley Heider, Sandra Herzing, Dale Hickey, Ida Mae Hillegass, Lisa Hillegass, Missy Hillegass, Tara Hillegass, Todd Hillegass, Amy Jo Hoffman, Phyllis Hoppert, Tina Hoover, Ernest Imgrund, Pete Innis, Mary Janachovski, Martha (Lewis) Kalbach, Matt Karns, Marie Kickler, Jason Kinzer, David Krieie, Fr. Robert Kaylor, Todd Kline, Eric Knott, Virginia Lambert, Eli Lankey, Kelly Legarski, Bruce Leonard, Carol Leppert, Gordon Leppert, Brenda Leister, Chase Lester, Lillian Lewis, Barry Leydig, Barlow Luhn, John Lynch, Toots Maddy, Ron Makarun, Martha Marker, Justin Martin, Tim Martin, George Maser, Brooks May, Janet Michael, Tony and Janet Miele, Linda McCahan, Shirley McVicker, Betty Meslovich, Terry Metevier, Mary Meyers, Erica Miller, Ray & June Miller, Tara Miller, Mike Montreal, Gary Moore, Reed Morgan, Tracey Mowry, Carol Murphy, Kai Musselman, John Myers, Ashley Nail, Dr. Cyril Nathaniel, Eugene Nickelow, Elissa Nunamaker, Rick Otto, Michael Price, Sabina Restly, Tara Ritchey, Cindy Robb, Katherine Rosenbaum, Mary Lou Rosborough, Arnold Sarver, Fr. Lamonte Sayers, Teri Schreiber, Nancy Schrock, Roberta Sontus, Barb Sarver, Shirley Sechler, Greg Seeley, Richard Seese Jr., Jordon Seville, Lorraine Shaddock, Sandra Shaffer, Terry Shaffer, Harold Shannon, Clyde Shippy, Tom Shippy, Daniel Smith, Eddie Smith, Marie Smith, Shaun Smith, Oscar Speicher, Pat Stoe, Linda Stiffler, Rosalie Swingle, Carol Taylor, Mary Jane Thomas, Leroy Turner, Janet Valentine, Michael Valentine, Gail Wade, Anna Lee Wambaugh, Tom Warren, Jr., Staci Weaver, Aaron Weiss, Bonnie Welsh, Dee Werline, John & Doris Werner, Christina Whetstone, Logan Weyand, Alyssa Will, Charlotte Will, Jan Will, Pat Will, Tracy Williams, Larry & Alice Winegardner, Nicholas Winegardner, Lucy Wright, Angie Wolfhope, Ron Wolfhope, Steve Wolfhope, Shirley Varchetti, Roger Yarnell

If you added a person's name to the prayer list and they have since recovered, please call to remove their name from our prayer list.

OFFERTORY

Sunday Loose:	\$398.00	Sunday Adults:	\$2495.00	Total Sunday:	\$2893 .00
Catholic Relief Services:	\$508.10	Heating Oil Fund:	\$300.00	Easter Flowers:	\$1140.00
Holy Thursday:	\$10.00	Good Friday:	\$10.00	Easter:	\$10.00

We're always collecting non-perishable food items for our local foodbanks. Items can be placed in the bins in the back of church.

Fifth Sunday Of Lent - A Family Perspective by Bud Ozar:

Stoning is not just an ancient act of violence. Each day in our homes we throw stones of ridicule, criticism, name-calling and put-downs. All of it is deadly. Hear Jesus in today's gospel: "Whoever is without sin can throw the first stone." Rid your home of violence. Stop verbal stoning!

The Pope's Prayer Intention For April

For the use of the new technologies

Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.



WE LOVE HAVING YOU AS PART OF OUR FLOCK. Keep in touch with us via email and text. Just simply Text **BALTIMORE to 84576** Or Connect with Us Online At: newbaltimorecath.flocknote.com

Diocesan News & Upcoming Events:

St. Aloysius Parish, Cresson PA:

St. Aloysius Church is offering “The 2nd Greatest Story Ever Told” through the Divine Mercy Video Series. The videos will be presented on Tuesdays during Lent, on **April 8 and 15, from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm in the Faith Education Center** at St. Aloysius Church, Cresson. This program will end right before the Divine Mercy Novena. This is a great addition to your 2025 Lenten journey. Hope to see you there!

NUT ROLLS, POPPY SEED ROLLS, AND BREAD: St. Clare of Assisi Parish is taking orders for Nut Rolls and Poppy Seed Rolls. The cost is \$15.00 per roll. The cost of the Bread is \$5.00. Orders can be placed by contacting the St Clare Parish Office, (814)-535-1133. **Pick-up will be Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, April 10,11 and 12 from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM in the St. Clare of Assisi School Hall. **The pick-up for Bread is Saturday, April 12th, 10:00AM to 6:00PM only.**

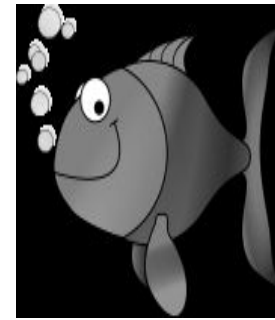
DIVINE MERCY JUBILEE CELEBRATION ON SUNDAY, APRIL 27, 2025 AT OUR LADY OF THE ALLEGHENIES PARISH IN LILLY: Divine Mercy Sunday is April 27, 2025 and you are invited to celebrate this devotion at one of the Diocese's Jubilee Pilgrim sites with Sunday Mass beginning at 2:00pm followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and the praying of the Divine Mercy Chaplet at 3:00pm. Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament will conclude this devotion, but we will have 2 opportunities for the Sacrament of Confession at 1:15pm to 1:45pm and again after the Devotion is concluded. All are welcome! If you are a pilgrim, you may bring your Pilgrim Passports to be stamped at the end of the day's prayers.

Stewardship Reflection April 06, 2025: –Fifth Sunday Of Lent:

Once again this week we are reminded of what a loving and merciful God we serve. Consider these key verses from each of our readings on this fifth Sunday of Lent. First from Isaiah, “Remember not the events of the past, the things of long ago consider not; see, I am doing something new! Now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?” Next from St Paul, “Forgetting what lies behind but straining forward to what lies ahead, I continue my pursuit toward the goal, the prize of God’s upward calling, in Christ Jesus.” Then the verse before the Gospel, “Even now, says the Lord, return to me with your whole heart; for I am gracious and merciful.” And finally, from the Gospel, these words from Christ to the woman caught in adultery, “Neither do I condemn you. Go, and from now on do not sin anymore.” A clear theme emerges from these verses – when we turn to God for forgiveness, He is indeed gracious and merciful. So much so, that not only will He forgive our sins without condemnation, He will make us completely new creations in Christ. Indeed, it seems our heavenly Father delights in doing this for His children. What gratitude we owe to Him! If ever you feel unworthy to be called His disciple – to serve in a ministry or to tell others about your faith – because of your past or because of a vexing sin you can’t seem to overcome, take heart! Seek out God’s forgiveness in the healing sacrament of Confession. Then, forget what is behind you, be filled with gratitude that He has made you brand new – and go! He’s counting on you to share His good news through your witness and through your service to those around you.

True and Perfect Joy- From the writings of St. Francis of Assisi:

The same (Brother Leonard) related in the same place that one day at Saint Mary’s, blessed Francis called Brother Leo and said: “Brother Leo, write.” He responded: “Look, I’m ready!” “Write”, he said “what true joy is.” “A messenger arrives and says that all the Masters of Paris have entered the Order. Write: this isn’t true joy! Or, that all the prelates, archbishops and bishops beyond the mountains, as well as the King of France and the King of England (have entered the Order). Write: this isn’t true joy! Again, that my brothers have gone to the non-believers and converted all of them to the faith; again, that I have so much grace from God that I heal the sick and perform many miracles. I tell you true joy doesn’t consist in any of these things.” Then what is true joy? I return from Perugia and arrive here in the dead of night. It’s winter time, muddy, and so cold that icicles have formed on the edges of my habit and keep striking my legs and blood flows from such wounds. Freezing, covered with mud and ice, I’ve come to the gate and, after I’ve knocked and called for some time, a brother comes and asks: ‘Who are you?’ Brother Francis, I answer. ‘Go away!’ he says. ‘This is not a decent hour to be wandering about! You may not come in! When I insist he replies: ‘Go away! You are simple and stupid! Don’t come back to us again! There are many of us here like you-we don’t need you!’ I stand again at the door and say: ‘For the love of God, take me in tonight!’ And he replies: ‘I will not! Go to the Crosiers’ place and ask there!’ “I tell you this: If I had patience and did not become upset, true joy, as well as true virtue and the salvation of my soul, would consist in this.



LENTEN FISH FRIES IN NEW BALTIMORE:
Our Final Lenten Fish Fry’s for 2025 will be on April 11th from 3:30-6:30pm with the option of EAT-IN or TAKE-OUT. There will also be the option to Pre-Order Your Take-Out Dinner by calling (814) 733-2210 before **NOON** on Friday The menu includes choice of 2: Baked Cod, or Yuengling Beer Battered Haddock, or fried shrimp, broccoli and cheese soup, clam chowder, scalloped potatoes, stewed tomatoes, green beans, huluski, cole slaw, with the choice of pudding or cake for dessert and Beverage. Please note **THIS WILL NOT BE ALL YOU CAN EAT. One Time Through the Line Only!** The cost is **Adults: \$16; Under12: \$6; Under 5: Free**

We served 435 Meals (415 Adults and 20 Children) at our fourth fish fry!

PRE-ORDER TAKE OUT ORDER SHEET

PLEASE CIRCLE MENU ITEMS OF YOUR CHOICE

Choice of 2 Fish (Beer Battered or Baked or Fried Shrimp)

ADULTS: \$16.00 Children 6 to 12: \$6.00 Under 5: FREE

FISH	SOUP	SCALLOPED POTATOES	VEGETABLE	COLE SLAW	DESSERT
Yuengling Beer Battered Haddock	BROCCOLI	YES	STEWED TOMATOES	YES	PUDDING
BAKED	CLAM CHOWDER	NO	GREEN BEANS	NO	CAKE
FRIED SHRIMP			HALUSHKI		

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

OF ADULT MEALS: _____

PICKUP TIME: _____

OF CHILDREN MEALS: _____



In preparation for the Lenten Fish Fry, Help is **ESPECIALLY NEEDED on Friday’s from 3:00 PM and Beyond for Floor Help and Clean Up.** This is an excellent opportunity for our young people in the religious education program to obtain service hours. There is a worker sign-up sheet for each week on the table in the back of the Church.

Cake Donations:

There is a sign-up sheet for each week on the table in the back of the church for cake donations for the Fish Fry Dinners on April 11th 2025. Please deliver your cake(s) to the parish hall by **Noon on Friday. Please place your cakes in disposable pans as any whole cakes at the end of the last fish fry will be sold.**



Jubilee 2025 “Pilgrims of Hope”:

The Holy Father has announced that the 2025 Church Year will be a jubilee year, something which happens every 25 years. The theme for this upcoming Jubilee year is “Pilgrims of Hope” and it will be a year of hope for a world of suffering the impacts of war, the lasting effects of the Covid- 19 pandemic and the climate crisis.

Pilgrims’ Passport:

All are invited to use the **Pilgrims Passport from December 29, 2024 to September 8 2025. These passports along with the jubilee prayer card can be found on the back table next to the jubilee banner.** Pilgrims’ Passport is a booklet, modeled after a Passport, includes 13 Holy Site Churches named by Bishop Mark as well as **EVERY** Church in our diocese. All special prayers are included. A special incentive for individuals and families to win two overnight packages and special gift cards are part of the *Pilgrim’s Passport*. QR codes are printed in the booklet for easy access to information for directons, Mass and Confession schedules. Please encourage your people to “get on the road” during the upcoming months and enjoy the beauty, warmth and strength of rich history of our diocese. All the information is on the inside cover. **Holy Site Churches will be given additional booklets and stampers**

The Jubilee Of the Sick and Healthcare Workers:

The Holy See has designated a number of Jubilee Days throughout 2025 to recognize and celebrate different groups of people and various ministries in the Church. To be a sign of hope for the sick, the Church is celebrating the **Jubilee of the Sick and Health Care Workers on April 5, 2025 to April 6, 2025.** Signs of hope should also be shown to the sick, at home or in hospital. Their sufferings can be allayed by the closeness and affection of those who visit them. Works of mercy are also works of hope that give rise to immense gratitude. Gratitude should likewise be shown to all those healthcare workers who, often in precarious conditions, carry out their mission with constant care and concern for the sick and for those who are most vulnerable. Inclusive attention should also be given to all those in particularly difficult situations, who experience their own weaknesses and limitations, especially those affected by illnesses or disabilities that severely restrict their personal independence and freedom. Care given to them is a hymn to human dignity, a song of hope that calls for the choral participation of society as a whole.

A Prayer For the Caregiver:

May you know the presence, the strength, and the love of God as you care. Caregiving has so many challenges and demands. It also has a deep knowing that caring, strength, and patience beyond our normal ability shows up when needed. In the midst of caregiving, we acknowledge that we cannot do this on our own. A Source greater than ourselves makes us greater, more responsive. This is the transformation, the sacred encounter we have with God and with the one for whom we care. Prayer is the anchor. God, our Faithful One, is with us always and in all ways. God’s presence surrounds us, in quiet moments and in the most demanding circumstances. Breathe in the love, the patience, the strength of God that is yours. May gratitude fill your being for a job well done. Amen.

The Jubilee Prayer:

Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom. May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally. May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, *Pilgrims of Hope*, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise forever. Amen.

The Bedford County Chapter of Citizens Concerned for Human Pro- Life Dinner:

The Bedford County Chapter of Citizens Concerned for Human Life will be having their 21st Annual Pro-Life Dinner at Everett Church of God, 11152 Lincoln Highway, Everett on **Friday April 25, 2025. The dinner is at 6:00 p.m. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. Adults \$20 - Students \$15 – 4 & under free. To reserve, make your check payable to Bedford County CCHL and send your check to: Pam Lucas; 262 Zion Rd; Everett, PA 15537. Any questions? Call Doug 814-623-6887.**

Liturgical Reflection:

Jesus tells the woman caught in adultery “Neither do I condemn you. Go and from now on do not sin anymore.” (Jn 8:11) Jesus teaches us that God wants us to repent and live, not die. Perhaps Jesus chose not to condemn the woman accused of adultery because he knew her heart and saw she was sorry for her sins. We too are forgiven when we express remorse for our sins.

IMPORTANT PLEASE READ -SERVICE GUIDELINES FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS (Grades 9, 10, and 11)

“Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am there also will my servant be. The Father will honor whoever serves me.” John 12:26

Our baptism into the Catholic community not only welcomes us into God’s family, but calls us to build up the body of Christ by following in his footsteps and devoting our lives to the service of others.

Individual Service:

The Christian Service component of the Confirmation process provides students with the opportunity to witness their commitment to Christian values through service to the wider community. Youth are encouraged to search out and perform a service that has a meaning to them. It can be performed in the parish, school or civic community. Students are required to complete a minimum of **15 Hours of service during each of their three years of formation (9th, 10th and 11th grade).** Service performed as a requirement in their Catholic or public high school can be accepted as long as the required reflection paper and verification form are submitted. Reflection papers are a necessary requirement because it will help the youth understand, integrate and learn from the experience instead of viewing it as just a requirement. The reflection process includes scripture and questions that relate to their service.

Group Service:

As members of a Confirmation class, candidates are expected to perform as a group, The youth should participate in deciding what types of service they would like to do. A discussion with some suggestions can be appropriate, but let them be creative too! A total of 10 hours of service to their parish or community which includes a reflection period afterward. Five (5) hours can be completed in the Fall and Five (5) hours can be in the Spring. All service projects should begin with a short prayer to allow everyone to enter into the spirit of service. After the service has been performed, the group is brought together to pray, reflect and discuss the project (s) they performed and what it meant to them. Light snacks should always be provided! **This is a great opportunity to involve students in the life of the parish.**

SUGGESTIONS FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE:

In order to achieve the ultimate of forming disciples for apostolic witness and mission, it is essential that any community service be planned, with and by Candidate input and collaboration. It should be understood that the projects chosen, planned, implemented and completed be appropriate for the maturity and faith level of the candidates. No monetary offerings are to be personally accepted as a result of the service.

Efforts should be justice oriented and contain basic and simple catechesis that service is not only about charity but education and empowerment as well.

Parish: (group and/or individual) visit with homebound and possibly help with cleaning and yard work, communicate with and share talents such as music to homebound and residents of nursing homes, assisted living and military facilities; assist with parish socials and community service outreach (food and clothing drives, partner parishes – Mandeville, Haiti etc.), assist with Catholic School and parish religious education programs and special events, parish council committee assistance, parish liturgical ministry, Holy Childhood and Catholic Relief Service collections, Pro-life events and groups: annual national March for Life, Rosary for Life, Life Chain, Birthright; write letters to civic leaders for teen and other age group concerns,

Community: (group and/or individual) local assistance with seasonal and on-going projects – Catholic Social Service, St Vincent DePaul, Mandeville Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, Teen Shelter, and other appropriate organization chosen approved by pastor such as Special Olympics, Relay for Life, American Red Cross, Diabetes Foundation, American Lung Association, etc.

National and International: (group and/or individual) Holy Childhood Missions, Catholic Relief Services, Heifer International, Food for the Poor, UNICEF, and/or service efforts begun by youth. Google: International Youth Organizations for pages of examples and sites