

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS #10307 would like to congratulate the following students who each received one of its \$500 scholarships:

Alyssa Albert, Jennifer Badylak-Reals,

James Haskell, Richard Manzi, and Caitlin Swanson.

Through a generous donation from the Bristol Council of the Knights of Columbus, each scholarship was increased \$200. *Thank you, Bristol Knights!*

FRIDAY LENTEN MEALS

The Bristol Confirmation Class will be hosting meatless dinners on Friday evenings during Lent in Simard Hall (lower level of Our Lady of Grace). The cost will be \$5.00 per person/\$20.00 per family. The money raised will go toward those who will be attending Steubenville East at the University of RI this summer. The meals will be open to the public from 5:30PM to 7:00PM. You can stop in at any time. We ask that you please support these youth in their fundraising efforts while enjoying a delicious Lenten meal! On February 19th we will be serving spaghetti w/sauce, bread, salad and drink. We hope to see you there.



SOUPER BOWL RESULTS!

Our Confirmation students participated in a national movement to transform Super Bowl weekend into the nation's largest youth-led weekend of giving and serving through the Souper Bowl of Caring.

On Super Bowl Weekend they collected donations in large soup pots and donated 100% of their collection to local food pantries. Bristol students collected \$520.50 for Bristol Community Services. Plymouth/Ashland students collected \$934.92 for Plymouth Area Community Council. These students should be congratulated for what they did to help others! Thank you to all who contributed!

SURVEY ACTION COMMITTEE

The next meeting of the Survey Action Committee will take place on Monday, February 22, at 7:00 PM in Marian Hall, located in the lower level of St. Timothy Church, Bristol. This will involve the Pastoral and Finance Councils.

NEWFOUND AREA CHURCHES Lenten Prayer Services are held each Wednesday during Lent.

12 PM 2/17 Our Lady of Grace RC Chapel
12 PM 2/24 Hebron Union Congregational Church
12 PM 3/3 Bristol United Church of Christ
12 PM 3/10 New Hampton Community Church
12 PM 3/17 Alexandria United Methodist Church
6 PM 3/24 Bristol Baptist Church

Services will be followed by a light lunch. The March 24 service at Bristol Baptist Church will be preceded by a light supper.

THE NEW HAMPSHIRE DIOCESAN COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN cordially invites the women of the diocese to a Lenten Prayer Breakfast, "Do Small Things with Great Love," on Saturday, March 20, 8:30 AM, at St. Raphael Parish in Manchester. This breakfast will begin with Mass in the church followed by a hot breakfast in the parish hall, and guest speaker, Sr. Maureen Sullivan, OP. Further details are available on the flyer posted on the parish bulletin board.



The Rite of Election for those in the RCIA Program will be celebrated next Sunday, February 21, 2010 at 1:00 PM at St. Joseph Cathedral, Manchester.

NEW HAMPSHIRE CATHOLICS GIVE MORE THAN \$260,000 IN HAITI AID

Catholics throughout New Hampshire have donated \$264,873 to support Catholic Relief Services' continuing work in Haiti. Diocesan parishes took a second collection on January 23-24, 2010; eleven days after the earthquake struck the country. All contributions are being sent directly to Catholic Relief Services (CRS), which continues to provide emergency medical aid, food and clean water for Haitians affected by the earthquake. To date, CRS has provided food to more than 100,000 people in Port-au-Prince, many of whom are gathered at the city's largest camp run by CRS.

SAVE THE DATES

Holy Trinity Parish is very excited to announce that it will be hosting a Life in the Spirit Seminar (LSS), April 23-25, 2010. An LSS consists of a series of talks designed to help people realize the power of the Holy Spirit that is available for every aspect of their lives. More information to come!

CAMPUS MINISTRY NEWS

MARDI GRAS! On Tuesday, Feb. 16, we'll hold our annual potluck for students, at 6:30 pm. This year, we'll have a game night. Bring your favorite comfort food and a friend! To sign up and get directions to the on-campus location, contact Kathy Tardif (kmtardif@plymouth.edu or 535-2673).

ASH WEDNESDAY: Start Lent off right. If you can't make the Ash Wednesday Masses listed elsewhere in the bulletin, ashes will be distributed on campus 11am - 1 pm and 2:30-4:30pm in the HUB Tower Room on Wednesday, February 17..

STUDENTS: REALLY BUSY BUT WANT A SPIRITUAL PRACTICE FOR LENT? The Busy Person's Retreat takes only one hour for each of three weeks and will enhance your relationship with the Lord. You reflect on a Scripture reading and some related thoughts in your room/home for 30 minutes and then meet for 30 minutes for private spiritual direction. Begins the week of February 22. Contact Kathy Tardif (kmtardif@plymouth.edu or 535-2673) to sign up and for details.

MONTHLY PRAYER SERVICES & SUPPERS: Mark your calendar for Sundays, Feb. 28 and March 7, both at 6 pm, for the first two monthly prayer services and suppers for students, hosted by Fr. Leo. Parishioners interested in providing a dish for these monthly suppers should call Karen McCloud 536-2288.



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESKTOP

LENT 2010: BECOMING DISCIPLES!

As we begin Lent with Jesus' forceful announcement of turning away from sin and being faithful to the Gospel, we are challenged to conversion. Conversion is a primary focus of the Season and, some might say, of our entire Christian life. For Christians Lent is almost another "new year" of reinstating Christ at the center of our lives.

In line with our Lenten Disciples in Mission program this year, the Lenten theme "BECOMING DISCIPLES" reminds us to link up with Jesus and to cast our lot with Him.

May the 40 days of Lent serve us well to once more set us on the path which leads to a closer walk with the Lord and to Easter joy.

Fr. Leo

DISCIPLES IN MISSION

As we are on the verge of Lent and the start of the Disciples in Mission program, we will be praying at each Mass the special prayer found in the front cover of your missals.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

How do you embrace a way of being poor for the sake of those who are poor not by choice?

BULLETIN CONNECTION

For Christians, Valentine's Day is so much more than roses and chocolates. The feast is named after a Roman priest who was martyred because of his faith in Christ. It is God that is the origin of all love, and the depth of that love was revealed through God's Son, who came to live among us. As St. Paul relates in the second reading, Christ is also raised from the dead.

We will begin Lent on Wednesday, a season in which Christians have the opportunity to show the depth of their love for God and for others. By deepening our prayer life, we can draw closer to God and increase our love for him. As we fast, we free up resources to share with others. This sharing, our almsgiving, helps us grow in love for our neighbors who have less than us. In one sense, all of Lent can be our Valentine.



Ash Wednesday

Following the example of early Christians who did penance in sackcloth and ashes, our foreheads are marked with ashes to humble our hearts and remind us that life passes away on Earth.

Ashes are a symbol of penance made sacramental by the blessing of the Church, and they help us develop a spirit of humility and sacrifice.

The distribution of ashes comes from a ceremony of ages past. Christians who had committed grave faults performed public penance. On Ash Wednesday, the Bishop blessed the hair shirts which they were to wear during the forty days of penance, and sprinkled over them ashes made from the palms from the previous year. The penitents did not enter the church again until Maundy Thursday after having won reconciliation by the toil of forty days' penance and sacramental absolution. Later, all Christians, whether public or secret penitents, came to receive ashes out of devotion.

LENTEN REGULATIONS FOR FAST & ABSTINENCE

Ash Wednesday, February 17, 2010, and **Good Friday**, April 2, 2010, are days of fast and abstinence.

Fridays of Lent are also days of abstinence.

Fasting is to be observed by all 18 years of age and older, who have not yet celebrated their 59th birthday. On a fast day, one full meal is allowed. Two other meals, sufficient to maintain strength, may be taken according to each one's needs, but together they should not equal another full meal. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids, including milk and juices, are allowed.

Abstinence is observed by all 14 years of age and older. On days of abstinence, no meat is allowed. Note that when health or ability to work would be seriously affected, the law does not oblige. When in doubt concerning fast and abstinence, the parish priest should be consulted. Fasting, almsgiving, and prayer are the three traditional disciplines of Lent. The faithful and catechumens should undertake these practices seriously in a spirit of penance and of preparation for baptism or of renewal of baptism at Easter.

Ash Wednesday, February 17

Mass will be celebrated with the distribution of ashes:

- 8 AM St. Agnes
- 8 AM Our Lady of Grace

- 12 PM St. Matthew
- 12 PM Our Lady of Grace (Newfound Area Churches Prayer Service & distribution of Ashes - NO MASS)

- 7 PM St. Matthew
- 7 PM Our Lady of Grace

Plan to jump start your Lent by your presence!

OPERATION RICE BOWL



As part of our community's observance of Lent, we ask all families to participate in Catholic Relief Services' Operation Rice Bowl, a program of prayer, fasting, learning, and giving. Please be sure to take home a Rice Bowl packet and

follow this simple yet powerful Lenten practice.

THE WORD AMONG US magazine will dramatically change your Lenten experience. Copies are provided by the parish and are located at the church entrance. Please pick one up for your family.