

# + Divine Mercy Parish Bulletin+

*Jesus, I Trust in You!*

**Divine Mercy Rectory, 2267 Main St., (413) 283-6030**

**Sts. Peter & Paul Parish Hall, (413) 283-4320**

**Three Rivers, Mass.**

**Rev. Stefan Niemczyk, pastor**

**Pastoral Staff:**

Parish Council president: John Yurkunas

Religious Education director: Jean Brigham

Organists: Mark Narreau, Mary Besko

Secretary: Lydia McKee

Sacristans/bulletin: Michael Wostena, Maryann Wostena

Custodian: John Dziedzic

Office hours: Mon. & Fri., 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Email address: [stspeterpaulanne@gmail.com](mailto:stspeterpaulanne@gmail.com)

Website: [www.churchofdivinemercury.org](http://www.churchofdivinemercury.org)

**Confessions:** Sat, 3:00 p.m. (also before daily Mass)

**Baptisms & Marriages:** Please contact the rectory to make arrangements

**Schedule of Holy Masses:**

**The Lord's Day ---**

Vigil on Sat., 4:00, 5:15 p.m.

Sun., 8:00 a.m. (Polish), 9:30 a.m.

**Daily** (except Tues.), 7:00 a.m.

Tues., 5:30 p.m. Miraculous Medal Novena

**Holydays:** as announced

**Eucharistic Adoration:**

Wed., 7:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Thurs. & Fri., 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Sat., 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**Sick calls:** anytime

*New, But Rich in Tradition:*

*A Brief Overview of Divine Mercy Parish*

**Sts. Peter & Paul Parish** was founded in 1905 to serve the needs of Polish immigrants. **St. Adalbert Parish**, Bondsville, began as a mission of Sts. Peter & Paul in 1910, was erected a parish in its own right in 1917, and closed in 2004. **St. Anne Parish** was founded in 1882 to serve the needs of French Canadian immigrants. By a decree of the Bishop of Springfield issued on Nov. 23, 2009, Sts. Peter & Paul and St. Anne were merged to form **Divine Mercy Parish**. With its combination of a typical New England exterior and a beautiful Baroque interior, Sts. Peter & Paul Church is the designated worship place for Divine Mercy.

**February 8, 2015**

*Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time* (Roman Rite, ordinary form)

*Sexagesima Sunday* (Roman Rite, extraordinary form)

**Divine Mercy Parish Bulletin ~ Vol. 2 No. 6 / Feb. 8, 2015**

Telephone Numbers: RECTORY (283-6030) Mark Narreau (583-8541) Jean Brigham (283-4232)  
The **Parish Bulletin** is currently in transition. Some issues, or parts, may not be available online until further notice. *Thank you for your understanding.* Items should be submitted **two weeks** before publication in the bulletin (e.g., items for Dec. 21 should be submitted by Dec. 7). *Thank you!* All submitted items are subject to editorial discretion and may or may not be used.

**The Most Blessed Sacrament ~ ~ ~**

The Most Blessed Sacrament is reserved in our church, located in the tabernacle on the High Altar, beneath the statues of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul. We ask that you maintain a respectful silence when you are in the church. This is especially important before and after the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Your reverent attitude is not only an example for all, but is respectful of those who are praying. *Thank you!*

**Parish Events This Week in February**

**Sun., Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>**

Religious Education classes, grades 6-10 – 10:30 a.m., parish hall.

Chalice of Strength Prayers for Priests & Vocations, 4:00 p.m., church

**Mon., Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>**

Rosary for World Peace, 4:00 p.m., church.

**Wed., Feb. 11<sup>th</sup>**

Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes: **WORLD DAY of PRAYER for the SICK.**

Sts. Peter & Paul Men's Guild meeting, 6:30 p.m., parish hall.

Alcoholics Anonymous, 7:00 p.m., St. Maximilian Kolbe room.

**Sat., Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>**

Religious Education classes, grades K-5, 9:00 a.m., parish hall.

Confessions, 3:00 p.m., church

**Mother of Mary Prayer Force**

If anyone would like their intentions prayed for by a dedicated group of parishioners, please email them to [jmjdrsr2007@yahoo.com](mailto:jmjdrsr2007@yahoo.com) . We have a network of prayer warriors who will pray for you.

**Apostles of Prayer**

If you're requesting prayers for anyone or you'd like to join the Prayer Line, please call Cindy Leveillee @ 283-7836.

**Palmer Food Share**

Please continue to assist with your donations to the Food Share program. You may drop off donations in the baskets located in the church. *Thank you for your generosity!*

**NEW PARISHIONERS**

If you have questions, or are considering joining our parish, *you are most welcome!* Please see Father after Mass or contact the rectory during regular office hours.

## Masses & Devotions This Week

*Praised be Jesus Christ! Niech będzie pochwalony Jezus Chrystus!*  
*Laudetur Iesus Christus!*

### ***Vigil of Sunday***

4:00 p.m. for the parishioners / za parafian

5:15 p.m. +Adrian & Beatrice Paquette – int. of their family  
+Elayne Frank – int. of Irwin & Lydia Tanne

### **Feb. 8. Sunday ~ Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time; Sexagesima Sunday**

8:00 a.m. za d.sp. Zofia i Piotr Kielbowski; Stanisława i Aleksander,  
Stanisław i Helena Czarnczy od Barbary Prusik

9:30 a.m. +Hedy Workum – int. of Cindy Leveillee

### **9. Monday ~ feria**

7:00 a.m. +Joseph Pisarski – int. of his family

### **10. Tuesday ~ St. Scholastica, virgin**

5:30 p.m. Novena & Mass: +Jozef Sucharski – int. of his wife & family

### **11. Wednesday ~ Our Lady of Lourdes**

7:00 a.m. +Stefan & Sallie Rosinski – int. of Michael & Sandra Ozahowski

### **12. Thursday ~ feria**

7:00 a.m. +Catherine Giza – int. of her family

### **13. Friday ~ feria**

7:00 a.m. +Jan Bojko – int. of his family

### **14. Saturday ~ Sts. Cyril, monk & Methodius, bishop**

7:00 a.m. +Helen Drega – int. of her family

### ***Vigil of Sunday***

4:00 p.m. +Edward Marhelewicz – int. of his family

+deceased members of the Opielowski family – int. of Carl & Irene

5:15 p.m. for the parishioners / za parafian

### **Feb. 15. Sunday ~ Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time; Quinquagesima Sunday**

8:00 a.m. za d.sp. Jan i Irena Pryga – od syn Waclaw z zone Janiny

9:30 a.m. +Louise Church – int. of Diane & Sandy Rudnick  
+Stephen Lebida – int. of his wife Sophie & family

**PRAY FOR PRIESTS/DEACONS** ~ Each day of the month is set aside to pray for a specific priest or deacon. *Please remember those listed below in your prayers this week.*

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>
<b>Fr. Dariusz Wudarski</b>	<b>Fr. D. Calle-Cruz</b>	<b>Fr. A. Corigliano, CSS</b>	<b>Fr. Adolf Busobozi</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	
<b>Fr. Geoffrey Deeker, CSS</b>	<b>Fr. Thomas Champigny</b>	<b>Fr. Richard Bondi</b>	

## Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament

*Please refer to the front cover for the hours of Adoration.*

Since 1996, our parish has been **blessed to have the Blessed Sacrament exposed for the Adoration of the faithful**. However, **the Blessed Sacrament cannot be exposed in the monstrance on the altar unless one is willing to sacrifice one (1) hour. *Will you be that person?? Time spent with God is never time wasted!*** If you would like to substitute or commit to a specific hour in this important ministry of prayer, **please contact Diana Roth @ 283-8709. We need your help. *God is never outdone in generosity!***

## School of Religious Education *NEWS*

**Regular classes meet each Saturday and Sunday morning.** Details on page 2.

➤ **CORRECTION** ~ PLEASE NOTE:

Please disregard the error on page 2 regarding CCD classes on Feb. 14. There will be **NO RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES next weekend, Sat., Feb. 14 & 15.** (*We aren't regularly notified about classes, and if the yearly calendar isn't referred to, errors can occur. **We apologize for any confusion.*** Ed.)

**CANCELLATION REMINDER:** Please check WWLP, Channel 22 or [www.wwlp.com](http://www.wwlp.com) for announcements in case of winter weather cancellation of CCD classes.

## RECITATION OF THE ROSARY ON MONDAYS

The **Sts. Peter & Paul Rosary Sodality** continues to pray the **Rosary on each Monday at 4:00 p.m.** in church (until further notice). Please come and pray for world peace and the protection for our citizens and nation. ***All are welcome! Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, pray for us!***

**Sign of Peace** This is an *optional* gesture at every Mass. The Congregation for Divine Worship has recently called for the congregation to act with simplicity and more restraint when exchanging peace. For example, *a handshake is not obligatory.* In these cold months, it's also more practical **to prevent the spread of cold and other germs** with a simple and sufficient nod of the head, a smile or a whispered "peace to you."

## MASSES, ANNOUNCEMENTS/NEWS ITEMS FOR BULLETIN

As we prepare for more transitions with our weekly *Parish Bulletin*, we ask that any items for publication be submitted **TWO WEEKS before the desired Sunday date.** (e.g., an item desired to appear in a Jan. 25<sup>th</sup> issue, should be submitted no later than Jan. 11<sup>th</sup>). Likewise for **Mass intentions: *Please be considerate and plan the date you would like a Mass offered well in advance. Your understanding is greatly appreciated!***

### **STS. PETER & PAUL MEN'S GUILD NEWS**

**Men's Guild meeting this Wed., Feb. 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.** in the parish hall. All members are urged to attend, and any prospective members are welcome. Membership is open to all men of the parish, including young men. *Come and be a part of this vibrant and uplifting organization!*

### **Lector Schedules**

For **Lectors at the 4:00 p.m. & 5:15 p.m. Saturday Vigil Masses:** A new schedule is available in the sacristy (unless it was emailed to you).

### **Protecting Our Children**

The Diocese of Springfield's **Office of Counseling, Prevention & Victim Services** was established to fulfill the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops commitment to victims, survivors and family members of those who have suffered from sexual abuse by clergy or anyone working in the Catholic Church. Our promise and pledge to protect and heal includes measures to insure accountability, promote healing and reconciliation, and prevent future acts of abuse. To report any abuse or for more information, call the Diocesan Office @ (413) 452-0624 or the confidential hotline @ (800) 842-9055. State laws require that abuse and/or neglect of a minor be reported to the Mass. Dept. of Social Services @ (800) 792-5200 or through the local police (i.e., Palmer Police Dept., 283-8792). Our parish advocate is Jean Brigham and she may be reached @ 283-4232. Anti-bullying internet resources for children and caring adults: [www.stopbullyingnow.hrsa.gov/kids](http://www.stopbullyingnow.hrsa.gov/kids) / [www.thatnotcool.com](http://www.thatnotcool.com) / [www.childlureprevention.com](http://www.childlureprevention.com) / [www.bullie2bullies.com](http://www.bullie2bullies.com)

## **OUR AMAZING CHILDREN!**

**Teacher:** Why are you late?

**Student:** Because class started before I got here.

**Teacher:** What did Mahatma Gandhi and Genghis Khan have in common?

**Student:** Unusual names.

**Teacher:** What is a nitrate?

**Student:** A much cheaper rate than a day rate.

**Teacher:** What was Sir Walter Raleigh famous for?

**Student:** He is a noted figure in history because he invented cigarettes and started a craze for bicycles.

## Donations to the Parish

*The Parish gratefully acknowledges the following donations: Bog Zaplac!*

**In loving memory of +Blanche A. Wostena ~~~**

### **To the General Fund –**

\$100 from beloved sister Irene Guzik and her family /

\$50 from Michael Wojnilowicz / \$25 each from: Linda & Alan Chretien; Mary Conant;

Mr. & Mrs. Walter Topor; Eileen “Ellie” Wostena; Mary Omartian /

\$25 each from: Richard “Red” & Joanne Dernoga; the Roberts family

\$20 from Ruth Jamrog; Charlie & Genie Bates; Lucy Obrzut

\$10 each from: Pat Godek / Gloria Nowak /

**To the Seminarian Fund – \$25 from June Slozak**

## (((((((( “EVENTS/NOTICES AROUND TOWN” ))))))))

### **St. Valentine Fundraiser 2015**

**Christ the King Church Rosary Sodality, Ludlow** is having a **St. Valentine Baked Goods & Gift Sale** and raffle in the parish center on Warsaw Ave., Ludlow **this Sun., Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> after the morning Masses and the 6:30 p.m. evening Mass.** There will be delicious baked goods, homemade chocolates, Valentine gifts, and raffle tickets with a chance to win a Romantic Dinner for 2 worth \$120 at the Salem Cross Inn; a handmade afghan of hearts; a Valentine basket of cheer; a gift & lottery card wreath and many other items. Stop in for a free cup of coffee or tea and shop for some special treats for your Valentine!

### **Palmer United Booster Club**

Palmer United Booster Club is having its 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Mohegan Sun Casino Bus Trip on **Sat., March 28<sup>th</sup>** departing Palmer High School at approx. 2:30 p.m.; return to PHS at 11:30 p.m. At the casino from 4 to 10 p.m. Cost: \$30 per person, inc. bus trip with \$15 food voucher & \$15 betting voucher provided upon arrival at the casino. Food & beverages allowed on the bus. You must be 21 and over to attend.

Contact Kris Methe @ (413) 537-4240 to reserve a seat early. Check payable to: Palmer United Boosters Club (or PUB Club); mail: Kris Methe, 65 Shearer St., Palmer, MA 01069.

### **Pro-Life News**

Lianna Rebolledo, 35, was recently interviewed by LifeSite News. She was brutally raped when she was 12 and conceived a child. Her doctor told her she had a “right” to abortion, but it would not help her forget the rape or ease her pain. Looking back, Lianna now realizes that her daughter (now 23) saved her life and helped give her the healing she desperately needed. Lianna lives in Los Angeles where she runs **Loving Life**, a non-profit organization to help raped and pregnant women. She also is a pro-life speaker with the message that ***every life, no matter how it began, is lovable.***

## **The Sexual Revolution and the Breakdown of Marriage**

By Russell Shaw  
March 20, 2014

**M**UCH HAS BEEN MADE OF CATHOLICS' NEGATIVISM TOWARD CHURCH TEACHING AND PRACTICE ON MARRIAGE as it was reflected in survey results released by several European bishops' conferences and some U.S. dioceses. The mostly self-selected respondents predictably disagreed with the Church about many things, leading progressive Catholic media to claim this showed the need for change.

The surveys were part of the runup to the "extraordinary" assembly of the world Synod of Bishops [in Oct. 2014]. A second, "ordinary" assembly is scheduled [in Oct. 2015] to develop recommendations. Final decisions---probably a year after that---will be up to the Pope. As reactions to the survey results made clear, the lobbying is already intense.

That many Catholics, especially in Europe and North America, disagree with the Church on issues like birth control and remarriage after divorce is hardly news. What needs to be recognized, and usually isn't, is that this disagreement has a context: the ongoing breakdown of marriage in Western society that affects Catholics along with everyone else.

The nature of the crisis can be glimpsed in two sets of U.S. figures.

Between 1960 and 2012 the percentage of Americans who are married fell from 67.6% to 53% while the birth rate per thousand dropped from 23.7 to 12.6, a new record low. In the same time period, the percentage of births of unmarried women spiraled from 5% in 1960 to 41% in 2011---29% for whites, 53% for Hispanics, and 72% for African Americans.

And Catholics? Catholic marriages in the U.S. plummeted from 317,000 in 1993 to 241,000 in 2003 to 164,000 in 2013. In other words, Catholic marriages performed in a year fell by nearly half. The picture is similar for receptions into the Church---for the most part, infant baptisms. They dropped from 1,142,000 in 1993 to 877,000 in 2013, a decline of 265,000 a year or nearly one fourth.

This didn't come about overnight. In his pastoral letter *Go Forth With Hearts on Fire*, Bishop Paul Loverde of Arlington, Va. makes the point that "the results of the sexual revolution" and the spread of contraception brought on the epidemic of marriage-related pathologies and created a major obstacle to evangelization.

# BASICS of OUR CATHOLIC FAITH ~ 2

from: COMPENDIUM of the Catechism of the Catholic Church

## 7. What are the first stages of God's Revelation?

From the very beginning, God manifested Himself to our first parents, Adam and Eve, and invited them to intimate communion with Himself. **After their fall, He did not cease His revelation to them but promised salvation for all their descendants.** After the flood, He made a covenant with Noah, a covenant between Himself and all living beings.

## 8. What are the next stages of God's Revelation?

God chose Abram, calling him out of his country, making him "the father of a multitude of nations" (Genesis 17:5), and promising to bless in him "all the families of the earth" (Genesis 12:3). **The people descended from Abraham would be the trustee of the divine promise made to the patriarchs. God formed Israel as His chosen people,** freeing them from slavery in Egypt, establishing with them the covenant of Mount Sinai, and, through Moses, giving them His law. The prophets proclaimed a radical redemption of the people and a salvation which would include all nations in a new and everlasting covenant. **From the people of Israel and from the house of King David, would be born the Messiah, Jesus.**

## 9. What is the full and definitive stage of God's Revelation?

The full and definitive stage of God's revelation is accomplished in His Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, the mediator and fullness of Revelation. He, being the only-begotten Son of God made man, is the perfect and definitive Word of the Father. **In the sending of the Son and the gift of the Holy Spirit, Revelation is now fully complete,** although the faith of the Church must gradually grasp its full significance over the course of centuries.

*"In giving us His Son, His only and definitive Word, God spoke everything to us at once in this sole Word, and He has not more to say." (Saint John of the Cross)*

## 10. What is the value of private revelation?

While not belonging to the deposit of faith, private revelations may help a person to live the faith as long as they lead us to Christ. The Magisterium of the Church, which has the duty of evaluating such private revelations, cannot accept those which claim to surpass or correct that definitive Revelation which is Christ.



# **BASICS of OUR CATHOLIC FAITH ~ 3**

*from: The COMPENDIUM of the Catechism of the Catholic Church*

## The Transmission of Divine Revelation

### **11. Why and in what way is divine revelation transmitted?**

**God “desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth”** (I Timothy 2:4), that is, of Jesus Christ. For this reason, Christ must be proclaimed to all according to His own command, “Go forth and teach all nations” (Matthew 28:19). And this is brought about by Apostolic Tradition.

### **12. What is Apostolic Tradition?**

**Apostolic Tradition is the transmission of the message of Christ, brought about from the very beginnings of Christianity** by means of preaching, bearing witness, institutions, worship, and inspired writings. The Apostles transmitted all they received from Christ and learned from the Holy Spirit to their successors, the bishops, and through them to all generations until the end of the world.

### **13. In what ways does Apostolic Tradition occur?**

**Apostolic Tradition occurs in two ways: through the living transmission of the word of God (also simply called Tradition) and through Sacred Scripture** which is the same proclamation of salvation in written form.

### **14. What is the relationship between Tradition and Sacred Scripture?**

**Tradition and Sacred Scripture** are bound closely together and communicate one with the other. Each of them makes present and fruitful in the Church the mystery of Christ. They flow out of the same divine well-spring and **together make up one sacred deposit of faith** from which the Church derives her certainty about revelation.

### **15. To whom is the deposit of faith entrusted?**

**The Apostles entrusted the deposit of faith to the whole of the Church.** Thanks to her supernatural sense of faith the people of God as a whole, assisted by the Holy Spirit and guided by the Magisterium of the Church, never ceases to welcome, to perpetuate more deeply and to live more fully from the gift of divine revelation.

### **16. To whom is given the task of authentically interpreting the deposit of faith?**

**The task of giving an authentic interpretation of the deposit of faith has been entrusted to the living teaching office of the Church alone, that is, to the successor of Peter, the Bishop of Rome, and to the bishops in communion with him.** To this Magisterium, which in the service of the Word of God enjoys the certain charism of truth, belongs also the task of defining dogmas which are formulations of the truths contained in divine Revelation. This authority of the Magisterium also extends to those truths necessarily connected with Revelation.

## **Fasting and Abstinence ~ Regulations for the Season of Lent**

The Church has specified certain forms of penance, both to ensure that the Catholic will do something, as required by divine law, while making it easy for Catholics to fulfill the obligation. Thus, the 1983 Code of Canon Law specifies the obligations of Latin Rite Catholics [Eastern Rite Catholics have their own penitential practices as specified by the Code of Canons for the Eastern Churches].

- Canon 1250 ~ All Fridays through the year and the time of Lent are penitential days and times throughout the entire Church.
- Canon 1251 ~ Abstinence from eating meat or another food according to the prescriptions of the conferences of bishops is to be observed on Fridays throughout the year unless they are solemnities; abstinence and fast are to be observed on Ash Wednesday and on the Friday of the Passion and Death of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Abstinence** – The law of abstinence requires **a Catholic, 14 years of age until death, to abstain from eating meat on Fridays** in honor of the Passion of Jesus on Good Friday. **All the Fridays of Lent are obligatory days of abstinence** as decreed by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops [Meat is considered to be the flesh and organs of mammals and fowl. Also forbidden are soups or gravies made from them. Salt and freshwater species of fish, amphibians, reptiles and shellfish are permitted, as are animal derived products such as margarine and gelatin which do not have any meat taste.]

**Fasting** – The law of fasting requires **a Catholic from the 18<sup>th</sup> birthday (Canon 97) to the 59<sup>th</sup> birthday** (i.e., the beginning of the 60<sup>th</sup> year), a year which will be completed on the 60<sup>th</sup> birthday) to **reduce the amount of food eaten from normal. The Church defines this as one meal a day, and two smaller meals** which if added together would not exceed the main meal in quantity. Such **fasting is obligatory on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday**. [The fast is broken by eating meals and by drinks which could be considered food (milk shakes, but not milk). Alcoholic beverages do not break the fast; however, they seem to be contrary to the spirit of doing penance.]

Aside from these minimum penitential requirements, **Catholics are encouraged to impose some personal penance on themselves at other times**. It could be modeled after abstinence and fasting. A person could, for example, multiply the number of days they abstain. Some people give up meat entirely. Similarly, one could multiply the number of days that one fasted. Also, freely chosen fasting could consist in giving up something one enjoys, e.g., candy, soft drinks, smoking, video games, constant use of the internet or texting, etc.

**Those who are excused from fast or abstinence** besides those outside the age limits, include those of unsound mind, the sick, the frail, pregnant or nursing women according to need for meat or nourishment, manual laborers according to need. When in doubt, check with your confessor.

## Random Thoughts as We Age

Wouldn't it be great if we could put ourselves in the dryer for ten minutes, come out wrinkle-free and three size smaller?

Last year I joined a support group for procrastinators. We haven't met yet....

I don't trip over things, I do random gravity checks!

Old age is coming at a really bad time!

When I was a child I thought nap time was a punishment. Now as a grown-up, it just feels like a small vacation!

The biggest lie I tell myself: *"I don't need to write that down; I'll remember it."*

I don't have gray hair. I have "wisdom highlights"; I'm just very wise.

My people skills are just fine. It's my tolerance to idiots that needs work.

If God wanted me to touch my toes, he would have put them on my knees.

The kids text me "PLZ" which is short for "please." I text back "NO" which is shorter than "YES."

Why do I have to press "one for English" when I'm just going to be transferred to someone who whom I can't understand anyway?"

Of course I talk to myself: sometimes I need expert advice.

Chocolate comes from cocoa, which is a tree. That makes it a plant, which means that chocolate is salad!

To be continued....

Use this for Feb. 15, 2015.....

## Catholic Witness

***“It is imperative that the entire Catholic community in the United States come to realize the grave threats to the Church’s public moral witness presented by a radical secularism which finds increasing expression in the political and cultural spheres.”***

Pope Benedict XVI, visit to Washington, D.C., April 2008

## Casino Night

A **Casino Night bus trip** will take place on **Sat., Feb. 28, 2015** to Mohegan Sun in Connecticut. Cost: \$35 (for each passenger over age 21; players club card needed for package – sign up for one on arrival, if needed), includes \$15 meal coupon and \$15 in free bets at the Big 6 wheel! Departure: 3:00 p.m. from Holyoke Catholic High School (HCHS), Springfield St., Chicopee. Arrive at casino, 4:30 p.m. Depart from casino, 10:30 p.m. Arrive at HCHS: 11:55 p.m. **Check made payable to HCHS Booster Club** and mailed to Liz Cassidy, P.O. Box 860, Belchertown, MA 01007.

## The YEAR of CONSECRATED LIFE

Following the customs of his predecessors, most recently **Pope Benedict XVI** who declared the *Year of St. Paul*, the *Year for Priests*, and the *Year of Faith* during his pontificate, **Pope Francis** has declared a *Year of Consecrated Life*. This special time, running **from Nov. 29, 2014 to Feb. 2, 2016**, will occur mostly in 2015, which is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of the Second Vatican Council. The *Year of Consecrated Life* celebrates the contributions made to the Church and the world by the various men’s and

women's religious Orders, congregations, and institutes throughout the world. Although religious life among older, established communities is on the decline, there are signs of renewal with the birth of newer communities and *authentic* renewal among some "senior" congregations (e.g., Sisters of Life, Dominicans Sisters of Mary, Mother of the Eucharist, Franciscan Friars of the Renewal, Nashville Dominicans, Redemptorists), proving that consecrated life will always have a place in the Church. Consecrated life is a sign for all God's faithful of the life of the world to come in eternity.

For Jan. 25, Feb. 1 & 8

### *Protecting Our Children*

The Diocese of Springfield's Office of Counseling, Prevention & Victim Services was established to fulfill the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops commitment to victims, survivors and family members of those who have suffered from sexual abuse by clergy or anyone working in the Catholic Church. Our promise and pledge to protect and heal includes measures to insure accountability, promote healing and reconciliation, and prevent future acts of abuse. To report any abuse or for more information, call the Diocesan Office @ (413) 452-0624 or the confidential hotline @ (800) 842-9055. State laws require that abuse and/or neglect of a minor be reported to the Mass. Dept. of Social Services @ (800) 792-5200 or through the local police (i.e., Palmer Police Dept., 283-8792). Our parish advocate is Jean Brigham and she may be reached @ 283-4232. Anti-bullying internet resources for children and caring adults: [www.stopbullyingnow.hrsa.gov/kids/](http://www.stopbullyingnow.hrsa.gov/kids/) / [www.thatsnotcool.com/](http://www.thatsnotcool.com/) / [www.childabuseprevention.com/](http://www.childabuseprevention.com/) / [www.bullie2bullies.com](http://www.bullie2bullies.com)

### **Pro-Life News for January 18<sup>th</sup>**

Please open your Bible to the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians (6:13c-15a) (Second Reading for the Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year B)~~~

*"Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you...." Do we respect, protect, feed or dress it as such?*

### **Irish Cultural Center**

**Irish language classes from the Irish Cultural Center and Elms College start the week of Jan. 19**, including a brand new beginner's class with no prior study required. Also offered are second semester introduction and intermediate classes, as well as a Novice class for credit. For class times, cost & more information on enrolling, call Ellen Gallivan @ (413) 265-2537 or visit [www.ElmsIrishCenter.org](http://www.ElmsIrishCenter.org)

### **Bishop Rozanski's Tour to *World Youth Day* 2016**

Accompanied by Fr. Piotr Calik, Bishop Rozanski will lead a tour to World Youth Day departing on **July 22, 2016** and returning on Aug. 3. The tour will include visits to Czestochowa, Auschwitz and Zakopane....several sites that were important in the life of Pope Saint John Paul II. An information session will be held on **Wed., Feb. 11, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.** at the Bishop Marshall Center, Springfield. For more details, call Stacy Dibbern @ (413) 452-0670 or email [stacy.dibbern@diospringfield.org](mailto:stacy.dibbern@diospringfield.org)