

The Lord doesn't care where you come from, or what your background is. He doesn't care what awards and trophies you have. As a matter of fact, the Lord has chosen those who were nothing in order to make them something! Today we meditate on the modest roots of our faith and of the apostles on whom our faith is founded. God truly has chosen the foolish of this world in order to confound the wisdom of the wise.

Holy Hour today, 5:00—6:00 PM.

14TH ANNUAL BAZAAR ~ MEETING

*Our kick-off meeting for our Parish Bazaar, 2008, will be held on TUESDAY, JANUARY 29, at 7:00 PM in the Church office. Come and hear our **NEW IDEAS for 2008!** Our Bazaar will be held on **Thursday, June 19, Friday, June 20 and Saturday, June 21.***

"SOUPER" BOWL OF CARING 2008

Our 8th grade Confirmation class will participate in this effort to glorify God and care for "the least of our brothers and sisters". We ask that everyone give ONE DOLLAR as you leave the Church on **February 3-Super Bowl Sunday**. All proceeds will go directly to a charity of our choice.



CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT THIS WEEKEND

We know how hard it is to stay ahead in these difficult economic times, so you can understand the struggle for the 33 million Americans that live in poverty. Join our parish community in support of the Catholic campaign for Human Development, January 26-27. Please be generous today.

GATE OF HEAVEN CHURCH

is sponsoring a

BLOOD DRIVE FOR BABIES.

TODAY, Sunday, January 27,

from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

WE NEED YOUR HELP...

Our Blood Drive will also be in honor of all the men and women

servicing in the armed forces

and in memory of

First Lieutenant Michael Cleary.

Please be a donor!

MISSION STATEMENT

Gate of Heaven Parish is a faithful and holy community of Catholic believers who are baptized, and in union with the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church. We worship God — Father, Son and Holy Spirit — through the celebration of the Mass and reception of the Church's Sacraments. We serve our community and the risen Lord by living the Gospel message and being Christ to others. As a welcoming community, we invite all to come and share their gifts with us and receive God's blessings.

ENERGY COLLECTION

SECOND COLLECTION~WEEKEND FEB. 9-10

Our fuel bills are a huge expense. We are asking that everyone please be generous enough to help us this winter with a \$25.00 or more donation towards our heat and energy bills. There is an envelope in your February packet. Many thanks for your continued support to our parish.



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

—LIGHT THE WAY~~OPEN HOUSE

Gate of Heaven School **Open House** — Sunday, January 27, 1:00 to 2:30 PM. Visit the classrooms. Meet the teachers, administrators and staff. Tour the school's campus. Pre K thru 8. All parents and friends are welcome.

HONORING THE SANCTITY OF HUMAN LIFE

"You formed my inmost being; you knit me in my mother's womb." (Psalm 139) Each human life is precious and is a gift from our Creator. Christian tradition teaches respect for all life, from conception to natural death. Yet, there are new assaults on innocent human life everyday. As a faithful Christian, what can you do to help?

- ◆ Pray everyday for an end to abortion
- ◆ Learn about the fight-to-life issues by visiting the Pennsylvania's Pro-Life Federation's website at www.pa.prolife.org. Together, we can help preserve and protect life in all of its stages.

URGENT! DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL NOTICE

Last week, I received a letter from Bishop Martino pointing out that our parish had reached only 77% of our goal for this year's Annual Appeal. \$45,350 has been pledged against a goal of \$58,789. In fact, the Diocese is \$800,000 short of what is needed to meet their goal. If this goal is not met, "serious curtailments in Diocesan activities and programs will be necessary." On Friday, the Diocese mailed a follow-up letter to those who have not as yet contributed to this year's Appeal. I ask that you make a serious and generous effort to help us reach our goal. Envelopes for the Diocesan Annual Appeal will be available in the pews the weekend of February 2 and 3. Please make a sincere effort to support these programs and activities of the Diocese by making your donation toward our parish goal. Thank you and God Bless.

Father Kevin

LENTEN SOUP SUPPER

Gate of Heaven Parish will hold a Lenten Soup Supper on **Saturday, March 1**, following the evening Mass.



Ladies of the parish are asked to prepare their favorite soup to share (8 to 10 people) and bring it to the cafeteria on Saturday, March 1, between 2:00 and 4:00 PM. Grilled cheese or p.b.& j. sandwiches will be available too. Please call the office, 675-2121, and let us know what kind of soup you can share. If you can bring your soup in a CROCK POT, we'd appreciate it.

NOTICE REGARDING SEXUAL ABUSE OF A PERSON UNDER EIGHTEEN YEARS OF AGE BY ORDAINED OR LAY PERSONNEL OF THE DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

Such an act should be reported to the Diocese by calling the Victim Assistance Coordinator (570-344-5216) or the Chancellor (570-207-2216) or the Diocesan Secretary for Priests (570-207-2269). Upon receiving a report of this kind, the Diocese of Scranton is committed to assisting victims or survivors of sexual abuse in their pursuit of emotional and spiritual well-being.



THE LITTLE BLACK BOOK FOR LENT

Again this year, the Little Black Books are available for our parishioners during Lent. **SIX-MINUTE meditations on the Passion according to John.** Six minutes a day with this little book is what you are asked to give beginning the Sunday before Ash Wednesday (Feb. 3) and through Easter Sunday (March 23).

People are often surprised how easy it is to pray this way. Please — only one book per family.

END OF YEAR STATEMENT

2007 Contribution

I would like an end of year tax letter noting my 2007 contributions.

Name _____

Address _____

You may also email us at goh@epix.net

LENTEN REGULATIONS

Ash Wednesday, February 6, and Good Friday, March 21, are days of fast and abstinence. The Fridays in Lent are days of abstinence (no meat). All the faithful from ages 18 to the beginning of their 60th birthday year are obligated by the law of fast. On a day of fast, those obligated by this law may eat only one full meal and two partial meals unless dispensed or excused.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross will be prayed on Fridays during Lent at 7:00 PM.

OPERATION RICE BOWL

Again this Lent, our community is participating in Operation Rice Bowl, a Lenten program of Catholic Relief Services. Operation Rice Bowl helps us to pray, fast, learn and give. Proceeds will help less fortunate brothers and sisters in our diocese and around the world.

Remembering...

Monday	Jan. 28	7:30 AM	Communion Service	
		7:00 PM	William Shedlock	Jerry/Rose Schmid
Tuesday	Jan. 29	7:30 AM	Frances Spencer	Family
Wednesday	Jan. 30	7:30 AM	Paul Piatkowski	Judy Young
		9:00 AM	Margaret Herman	C. Evans/J. Lyons
Thursday	Jan. 31	7:30 AM	Communion Service	
Friday	Feb. 1	7:30 AM	Kurt Pollard	Susan Rukstalis
Saturday	Feb. 2	7:30 AM	Communion Service	
		5:00 PM	Francis Baluh	Ed/Marilyn Baluh
Sunday	Feb. 3	7:00 AM	Priest's Intention	
		9:00 AM	Irene Gorda	Paul/Helen Kamont
		11:30 AM	Agnes Giuliani	Morenko Family

**Liturgical
Ministers**
Feb. 2-3

**Altar
Servers**

Lectors

Ministers of Holy Communion

5:00 PM	A.J. Limongelli Michael Pace	N. Rowlands	Ruth Farris, Karla Haydam M. J. Kozick, Judy Wallace, <i>Deacon Tom</i>
7:00 AM	C. Cawley	M. Lamoreux	Bette/John Gillespie, Derek Heppding Dorothy Kolankiewicz, <i>Deacon Tom</i>
9:00 AM	L. Benedetti Melissa Tucker	Marilyn Baluh	Marie Belasco, Renee Benedetti J. Gilbertson, M.T. Yurko, <i>Deacon Tom</i>
11:30 AM	Anne Yanik Robbie Yanik	Glenn Yanik	Joe/Peg Canfield, Arlene Murphy Marianne Yanik, <i>Deacon Tom</i>

**The
Sanctuary
Light
this week
was given
in
Thanksgiving
by the
McAndrew
Family.**

**The
Altar Flowers
this week
were given in
memory of
Andrew Bazil
from Steve &
Pat
Ubal dini.**

UPDATE ON PENNSYLVANIA MARRIAGE PROTECTION ANNOUNCEMENT

Senator Mike Brubaker, R-Lancaster, is circulating a co-sponsorship letter for Pennsylvania Marriage Protection Amendment. The proposed Amendment defines marriage as the union between one man and one woman and prevents the creation of functionally equivalent relationships, such as civil unions. Contact Senator Baker and ask her to co-sponsor Senator Brubaker's proposal. For more information go to www.pacatholic.org.

**REMINDER:
SOCKS FOR THE
HOME-
LESS....Please
bring in your new
socks before Mar.**

Last Sunday's Sacrificial Offering

301 families used their SUNDAY envelopes and offered \$6248.00 in last Sunday's Collection.

Children's Sunday—\$32.35

Please encourage your children to use their offertory envelopes. It is a wonderful way to teach stewardship to them. Thank you for your generosity.

Who is a Christian Steward?

One who receives God's gifts gratefully, cherishes and tends them in a responsible and accountable manner, shares them in justice and love with others, and returns them with increase to the Lord.

Two percent of our Second Sunday of the month Collection is given to a charity.