

Cor ad cor loquitur . . .
(A heart-to-heart dialogue . . .)

Dear Friends,

I am so delighted to share with you information about upcoming rites at Mass with our RCIA catechumens and candidate during February. Lisa Milli, Jeff Berkow and Jenna Komar have been a part of the RCIA process for a year and a half. Neither of them has been baptized. They have faithfully come to the sessions, worshipped at Mass, and participated in parish life. On Sunday, February 26 at the 10:00 Mass, they will be presented at the Rite of Sending. It is a beautiful affirmation by the RCIA team, their godparents, and the parish of their faith and desire to become Catholic. That afternoon at Sacred Heart Basilica in Newark, we shall go to the Rite of Election. At this ceremony, Archbishop Myers will pray for them and for all the catechumens, those unbaptized, from Bergen, Hudson, Union and Essex counties. Lisa, Jeff and Jenna will sign the "Book of the Elect" in the presence of the Archbishop. "Elect" means chosen. These catechumens have been chosen by God to live a life of faith in Jesus Christ and called to be his followers. At the Rite of Sending and at the Rite of Election, their godparents will attest to their readiness to be fully initiated members of the Catholic Church. Lisa, Jeff and Jenna will then be known as the "elect" until they are baptized, confirmed and receive Eucharist at the Easter Vigil on Saturday, April 7th.

Theresa Graziano is a baptized adult Catholic who wishes to complete her initiation by receiving Confirmation. Theresa has also been part of the RCIA process. She will participate in the Rite of Sending on Sunday, February 19 at the noon Mass. It will be an affirmation from her sponsor and the parish to send her to Sacred Heart Basilica on Saturday, February 25th. Theresa and her sponsor will participate in the "Call to Continuing Conversion" with all the other candidates from the Archdiocese of Newark. At this prayer service with Archbishop Myers, her sponsor will attest to her deeper appreciation of her baptism, her reflection on the tradition of the Church, and her life of love and service. Theresa will receive Confirmation during the Easter season. Fr. Stephen, after receiving special delegation from the regional bishop, Bishop Flesey, will confirm her.

I would like to thank all those on the RCIA team who have faithfully facilitated the weekly sessions over the years. They are: Collete and Paul Brooks, Mary Ann Mastrangelo, Lisa Sereno, Barbara La Porte, Angie Girardin and Terry Doyle.

We as a parish are encouraged to pray for Lisa, Jeff, Jenna and Theresa as they reach a milestone on their faith journey. If anyone would like to send cards encouraging and congratulating them, please drop them in the parish mailbox or collection box c/o Sr. Joanne.

If you know anyone who would like to become Catholic or is a Catholic adult who wishes to complete initiation, please contact me at 201-387-0080, and choose 4 on the menu, or e-mail me at shpahaw@aol.com

Peace,
Sr. Joanne

HIS WORD TODAY
by Rev. William J. Reilly
Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Preaching the gospel is not the subject of a boast; I am under compulsion and have no choice. I am ruined if I do not preach it! If I do it willingly, I have my recompense; if unwillingly, I am nonetheless entrusted with a charge" ... "Rising early the next morning, he went off to a lonely place in the desert; there he was absorbed in prayer. Simon and his companions managed to track him down; and when they found him, they told him, 'Everybody is looking for you.'"

It is not difficult for us to describe the role of a preacher. A television evangelist, a deacon or priest in a pulpit easily fit the image. We locate them in a certain place, perhaps vested in a particular way, and can imitate or echo their style. What is most important as we draw this picture is to 'hear' the message they convey.

Paul knew his role and the urgency of his message. He did all he did 'for the sake of the gospel'. Jesus, the itinerant preacher, went from prayer in solitude to respond to those who were looking for Him. He moved on to neighboring villages to proclaim His message, the kingdom is at hand.

Today 'everybody' consists of those who are alive with the message of Christ. Today the 'everybody' are those seeking help from sorrow, poverty, hopelessness. Today 'everybody' are those working to build peace, welcome those from across borders, bringing love, kindness and compassion to those in need. Today 'everybody' are the families seeking the peace and presence of Christ in their homes.

Today, I too am a preacher, bringing the good news, voluntarily, because 'everybody' is looking for Him.

Mass Intentions

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6TH

8:30 Shirley Fox

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7TH

8:30 William Fletcher

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH

8:30 Joseph McInerney

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH

8:30 Thomas Madera

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH

8:30 James Hart

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11TH

5:00 Pat Holden

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12TH

8:00 Shirley Fox

10:00 Gloria Herold

12:00 Bernadette Cozzi

6:30 Agnes Zanone

This weeks readings

Sunday

Jb 7:1-4, 6-7; 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23; Mk 1:29-39

Monday

1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13; Mk 6:53-56

Tuesday

1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30; Mk 7:1-13

Wednesday

1 Kgs 10:1-10; Mk 7:14-23

Thursday

1 Kgs 11:4-13; Mk 7:24-30

Friday

1 Kgs 11:29-32, 12:19; Mk 7:31-37

Saturday

1 Kgs 12:26-32, 13:33-34; Mk 8:1-10

Archbishop's Annual Appeal

This is the "Kick-Off Weekend" for the 2012 Archbishop's Annual Appeal. There are pledge envelopes in the parish hall and displayed with the bulletin in the lobby. Please make a pledge and be as generous as possible. Thank you for supporting the Archbishop's Annual Appeal.

Franciscan Sisters of Peace - Raffle

On the weekend of February 11 - 12, Sr. Joanne will be selling raffle tickets for her community, the Franciscan Sisters of Peace. They are \$10.00 a chance to win money prizes from \$100.00 to \$1,000.00 during the month of April. The Franciscans are grateful for any help you can give.

FREE

Military Download of the Month Club from Lighthouse Catholic Media

Presentations from the best Catholic speakers in the world for all military personnel, their spouses and children, and veterans!

How It Works

A nine-month FREE SUBSCRIPTION is available to all military personnel, their families, and veterans who subscribe. A download of a new talk is provided every month for nine months. Log on to:

<https://www.lighthousecatholicmedia.org/military>

Knights of Columbus -Legendary Fish Fry - February 24

Our Knights of Columbus Council 9021 announces their 16th annual **Lenten Fish Fry** for Friday, February 24, 2012 from 6-8 PM at the former Holy Family Catholic Academy. The menu features fresh fish, homemade mac and cheese, French fries, beer, soda, and wine. All proceeds from this event benefit **seminarians** and local families in our own parishes. The cost for the dinner will remain the same this year at \$12.50 for adults and \$2.50 for kids. Tickets will be on sale after Masses on Feb 11-12, and 18-19. Reservations are strongly encouraged and can be made at fishfry@weneva.com or you can also call the event Chairman for tickets, Greg Evanella at 201-784-5752

Save the Date

COME, FOLLOW ME!

Catholic Men's Conference - 3-10-2012

Seton Hall University