

DIOCESAN LENTEN APPEAL 2012

During this Holy Season of Lent, through the Diocesan Lenten Appeal, we are called to reflect and take actions that will bring us closer to God. Our gifts help us spread the Good News to do Christ's work. By serving others we are serving Christ. Our almsgiving and our prayers will be a testimony of our love as we walk together on our Lenten journey.

Our Diocesan Lenten Appeal will begin next Sunday, February 26th on the First Sunday of Lent. Last year, because of your generosity, we raised \$74,185.00 with 56.1% participation. Even though we did not exceed our parish goal of \$85,000.00, your support to this appeal demonstrates your generosity as we prepare ourselves to celebrate the death and resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- ▶ **FEBRUARY 16 – *The Catholic Accent* featured this year's Diocesan Lenten Appeal.**
- ▶ **FEBRUARY 25/26 – Father John will speak at all Masses concerning this year's appeal.**
- ▶ **WEEK OF FEBRUARY 27 – Parishioners will receive DLA information, brochures and pledge cards from Bishop Brandt through the mail.**
- ▶ **MARCH 3/4 – Mr. Anthony Turchetta, Chairperson for DLA, will speak at all Masses concerning this year's appeal. Parishioners are invited to Edwardian Hall after Mass to make their gift or pledge. Refreshments will be made available.**
- ▶ **MARCH 10/11 – Parishioners are invited to make their gift or pledge in the church vestibule.**
- ▶ **WEEK OF MARCH 18 – Volunteer Worker's begin calls and follow up visits to parishioner's homes.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED . . .

TAKE ACTION TODAY! – Included in the bulletin this weekend is a flier from the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference concerning steps that you can take to address the HHS mandate's assault on conscience rights and religious liberty. This past week's issue of *The Catholic Accent* (February 16) included the addresses and telephone numbers for all the members of Congress representing parts of the Diocese of Greensburg. **Please act today!**

HAVE YOU BEEN CONFIRMED? - Practicing Catholics who are in 5th Grade and older (this includes adults) who have been baptized and received First Communion but have not received the Sacrament of Confirmation may do so in the Spring, 2012. Bishop Brandt will administer the Sacrament of Confirmation at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral on Sunday, May 20th at 3pm. Please call the Faith Formation Office to register by February 27th at 724-446-5381.

PLEASE NOTE: VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL WEEK! - This year our Vacation Bible School will be held the week of June 18 - 22. Please mark your calendar!

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CEMETERY - All Christmas decorations must be removed by March 4th. Any decorations left after that date will be discarded.

JOIN THE GREENSBURG DIOCESAN CHOIR! - Do you enjoy singing? Singers from around the Diocese are invited to join the Diocesan Choir which sings for special Diocesan liturgies. Rehearsals for the Rite of Election will be held on Monday, February 20th and Tuesday, February 21st at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral at 7:30pm. More information by calling Director, Christopher Pardini at 724-834-3710.

VETERANS APPRECIATION & INFORMATION DAY EVENT – In conjunction with President's Day, a Veterans Appreciation & Information Day will be held at the Herminie Senior Center on Tuesday, February 21st at 11:30am. Guest speaker will be Colleen Bratkovich, Esquire, who is an Elder Law Attorney specializing in Veterans' Benefits. Additional informational resources will also be available. For more information or to RSVP, please call 877-878-2244, Ext. 2873.

SCOUTER DEVELOPMENT TRAINING COURSE - The Greensburg Diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting will offer a special training course to those 18 years of age and older. This course is designed to help Scouters come to a better understanding of the role of religious faith in their lives and to use Scouting as a form of youth ministry. (This popular course is offered each year in September at the Diocesan Catholic Retreatoree). The course will be held at Our Lady of Grace Church in Greensburg on Saturday, March 10 from 9:00 - 3:00pm in the upper hall. (Please park in the lower lot). The cost is \$10 which includes materials, continental breakfast and lunch. Registration by calling Glenda in the parish office at 724-446-5197.

SPRING TRIP TO LANCASTER! - Production of "Jonah" on Wednesday, April 18th. Cost of \$132 includes Motorcoach, dinner at Hershey Farm Restaurant, visit to The Outhouse, and Production of "Jonah". Call Dee at 724-446-7772 for information. Full payment due by March 5th.

GIRL SCOUT SPIRIT DAY - The Diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting for Girls will host a "Mary, Queen of the Living Rosary" Spirit Day for all Girl Scouts in grades 2-12 on March 24th at Mount St. Macrina in Uniontown. The day begins with registration at 8:30am and concludes with the celebration of Mass at 4:00pm (fulfills the Sunday obligation). The program includes Continental breakfast, Lunch, Crafts, Program and Patch. Learn about Mary and the Rosary. Learn how to make a rosary. Participate in a Living Rosary as well as other activities on the Rosary. Early Bird registration fee is \$18 through March 2nd. Cost is \$20 after March 2nd. Although this is a Catholic program, non-Catholics and non-Scouts may also participate. Registration forms are available by calling Glenda in the parish office at 724-446-5197. Registration deadline is March 16th.

SISTERS OF CHARITY SPRING CASH RAFFLE – Tickets are available to win from \$100 to \$1500 during the month of April for a donation of \$10. Please call 724-836-0406 ext. 647.

GCC "BLACK & GOLD" AUCTION GALA – The 16th annual "Making a Bid for Our Future" will be held on Saturday, March 31st from 6:30pm – 10:30pm in the Greensburg Central Catholic Auxiliary Gym. Tickets in advance are \$30 each and will be \$35 at the door. Evening includes Live & Silent Auctions, Live Entertainment, Wine & Beer, "Pittsburgh Favorites" Menu, Autographed Memorabilia, and more, Tickets by calling 724-834-0310 ext. 214.

CERTIFICATE IN PASTORAL MINISTRY – The Diocese of Greensburg and Seton Hill University are now accepting applications for admission to the Fall program. Classes begin with a retreat on August 18th. This program prepares those called to lay ministry to serve in various ecclesial settings with theological competence, pastoral sensitivity and spiritual depth. More information is available by calling Marsha Kable at 724-837-0901.

EASTERN EUROPE TOUR - Msgr. Larry Kiniry is planning an exciting 14 day tour of Eastern Europe from September 2-16. Visit Warsaw, Budapest, Vienna, Prague and more! Contact Nancy at 724-837-4600 ext. 101 for more details.

PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY & SWITZERLAND – Father Dan Mahoney, pastor of Holy Family Church in Latrobe, will be the Chaplain on a pilgrimage to Rome, Capri, Sorrento, Florence, Venice, Lake Como, Milan, Lugano and other sites from September 15-27. Cost is \$3999 Airfare and all included. Please call 1-855-842-8001 or visit www.proximotravel.com.

NEW YORK CITY BUS TRIP - A trip to New York City to benefit the GCC Cheerleaders will take place April 20-21. Depart from New Stanton at 11:30pm on Friday, April 20th and enjoy all day Saturday in NYC and depart at 8pm on Saturday evening. Visitor guides will be provided to plan your day sightseeing, shopping, seeing a show, or whatever you choose. Cost is \$80 per person due by March 10th. Persons under 21 must be accompanied by their parents. Reserve now by calling Amy at 724-864-5687.

MAINTENANCE POSITION AVAILABLE – St. Regis Parish in Trafford has a maintenance position available. 40 hours a week, daytime. Ability to do minor carpentry, plumbing and electrical work. Familiar with AC systems. Custodial work included. Send resume to: St. Regis Church, 517 Homewood Ave., Trafford, PA 15085 or call 412-372-4577.