

THE HEART BEAT

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HAPPY NEW YEAR!

I would like to wish each and every one of you a very Blessed, Healthy and Prosperous 2010. I would also like to invite all of our youth who have been away from youth group to come back and be an active part of what has become an inspiring and just an overall great group of young Catholics.

~Fr. Glenn Parker, C.Ss.R.

God is Good! ~ All The Time! ~ God is Good!

See You On The Stage!

What's in a Name?

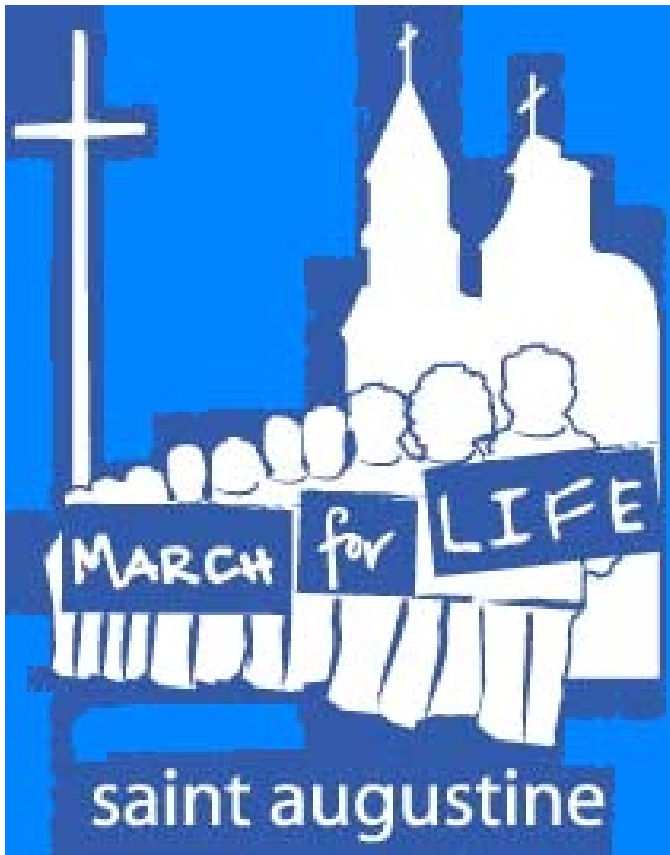
For the past several months now all Religious Education programs and offices throughout the diocese of Orlando have been beginning the process of strategic planning in an effort to make sure all of our programs are a) professional and b) teaching according to the curriculum handed down to us by our bishops. The first part of this process was to recognize that all of us are called by our universal church to continued conversion/formation in the faith. We have thus changed the name of our programs to fit what we are called to do, thus the Office of Religious Education is now the Office of Faith Formation and Youth Ministry opening our arms to parishioners of all ages who wish to be formed in the faith, not just our children in pre-k through 12th grade. The second part was to form a parish faith formation mission statement and I share that with you below. The third part of this will be the implementation of a parish plan of formation and the addition of adult faith formation. I will keep you posted and will ask that some of you help in this planning process as we go along. So, with a New Year I welcome you to a welcome to a New Office, the Office of Faith Formation and Youth Ministry!

Mission Statement

The formation programs at Sacred Heart Catholic Church foster a personal relationship with our Triune God, a true growth in faith for all parishioners through an understanding and experience of the Catholic faith and moral life, a living out of the sacramental and apostolic life of the Church and inviting all to deepen their experience of prayer and worship in the Roman Catholic Tradition.

SPRING CARNIVAL RETURNS!

After nearly 25 years, the Spring Carnival is coming back to Sacred Heart! Thanks to the efforts of the school PTO the spring carnival complete with carnival rides, food and games will return to the north field February 4, 5, 6 & 7th. Mark your calendars now! We will need help and there will be a lot of parish activities, growth and fun.



MARCH FOR LIFE SAINT AUGUSTINE SAT. JANUARY 16, 2010

We will once again participate in March for Life. Please have your parents fill out the enclosed permission slip and bring it with you! We will depart Sacred Heart at 9:30am and return around 6pm. There is no charge, however you will need money to eat lunch.

Who attends March for Life St. Augustine?
March for Life St. Augustine is for anyone of any faith who believes in the sanctity of human life. Our first march, in January of 2007, brought over 700 people of many different faiths, backgrounds and ages. People also came from many places - not just in northeast Florida, but as far as Palm Beach, Miami, and St. Petersburg. Sometimes it can be hard to travel all the way to Washington, D.C. for the March for Life on Capitol Hill (although we definitely encourage it if you can!). But if you live in Florida or southern Georgia and would like to take a stand for life in the nation's oldest city, we encourage you to make the pilgrimage - March for Life St. Augustine is well worth the trip!

www.marchforlifestaugustine.com



Pictured: Kaitlin, Taylor, Emily, Emma, Baylee, Robyn, Josie & Lewis, M for L 2009

**PLEASE, YOU MUST RSVP
ANDY (386)428-4732 OR PATTY (386)690-732
We must have a proper head count for the bus**



Sacred Heart Youth Ministry Calendar of Events - Winter 2010

JANUARY

Friday, 1st: Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Sun., 3rd: The Epiphany: No Life Night ~ Happy New Year!

Tues., 5th: Feast of St. John Neumann, Redemptorist

Sun., 10th: The Baptism of the Lord: Life Night: 6:30-8:30pm in the Social Hall

Sat., 16th: March for Life St. Augustine

Sun., 17th: No Life Night

Sun., 24th: Life Night - 6:30-8:30pm, Social Hall

Sun., 31st: Life Night - 6:30-8:30pm, Social Hall



FEBRUARY

Feb 4,5,6&7: Spring Carnival returns to Sacred Heart (North Field)



Sun., 7th: Life Night - 6:30-8:30pm, Social Hall

Sun., 14th: St. Valentines Day Life Night 6:30-8:30pm in the Social Hall



Wed., 17th: Ash Wednesday (7pm Mass)

Sun., 21st: Life Night - 6:30-8:30pm, Social Hall

Sun., 28th: Life Night - 6:30-8:30pm, Social Hall

CONFIRMATION REMINDERS

Wed., Feb. 3rd: Confirmation Parent Meeting in the Social Hall 6:30pm

Sun., Feb. 7th: Presentation of Candidates for Confirmation 11:30am Mass

A Confirmation letter and calendar was sent home in December. Please refer to the confirmation calendar for additional dates. If you did not receive this information please call the office.

MARCH

Sun., 7th: Life Night - 6:30-8:30pm, Social Hall

Sun., 14th: Life Night 6:30-8:30pm in the Social Hall

Wed., 17th: St. Patrick's Day



Sun., 21st: Life Night 6:30-8:30pm in the Social Hall

Tues., 23rd: Parish Penance Service, 7:00PM

Sun., 28th: Palm Sunday Life Night - 6:30-8:30pm, Social Hall



APRIL

Thurs., April 1st: Holy Thursday Mass 7pm

Fri., April 2nd: Good Friday

Sat., April 3rd: Holy Saturday (Vigil Mass TBA)

Sun., April 4th: Easter Sunday No Life Night



Service Hour Opportunities

Call the Office of Faith Formation for information (386)428-4732

Environment & Art

Help Clean, decorate and un-decorate the church and grounds during the various liturgical seasons.

Religious Education

Youth Classroom Assistants & Middle School Peer Ministers Needed Each Sunday Morning 10am—11:30am

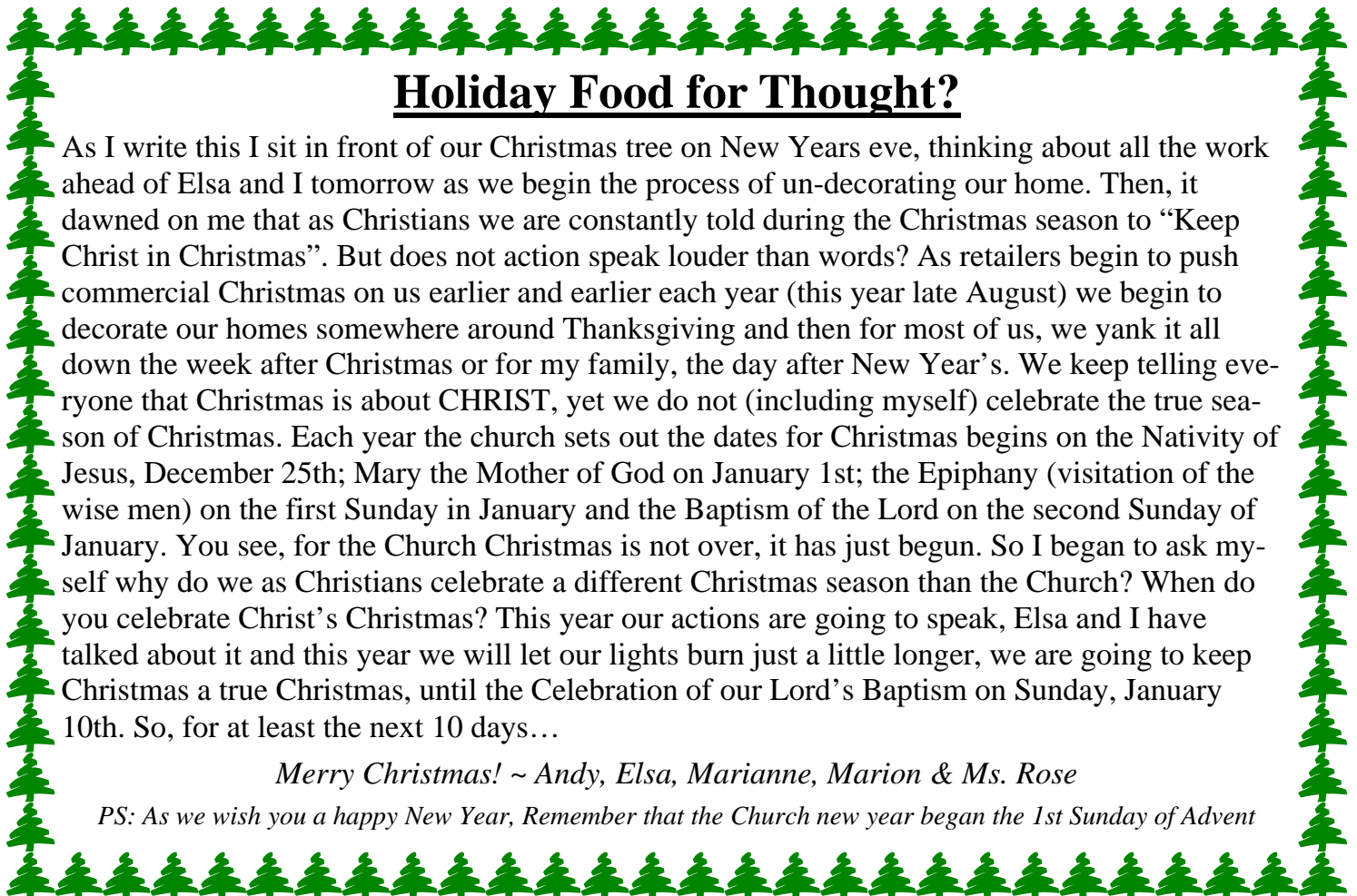
Religious Ed. Office

Need youth to organize files, type, etc. Afternoons during the week



OTHER OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE THROUGHOUT THE PARISH COMMUNITY

- ✘ Religious Education Teacher or Assistant
- ✘ Edge Middle School Ministry Leader
- ✘ Parish Usher
- ✘ Parish Welcome Committee
- ✘ Altar Server
- ✘ Parish Music Ministry
- ✘ Youth Mass Music Ministry
- ✘ Coffee & Donut Ministry
- ✘ Parish Gardening Angel
- ✘ Eucharistic Minister (18YOA)



Holiday Food for Thought?

As I write this I sit in front of our Christmas tree on New Years eve, thinking about all the work ahead of Elsa and I tomorrow as we begin the process of un-decorating our home. Then, it dawned on me that as Christians we are constantly told during the Christmas season to “Keep Christ in Christmas”. But does not action speak louder than words? As retailers begin to push commercial Christmas on us earlier and earlier each year (this year late August) we begin to decorate our homes somewhere around Thanksgiving and then for most of us, we yank it all down the week after Christmas or for my family, the day after New Year’s. We keep telling everyone that Christmas is about CHRIST, yet we do not (including myself) celebrate the true season of Christmas. Each year the church sets out the dates for Christmas begins on the Nativity of Jesus, December 25th; Mary the Mother of God on January 1st; the Epiphany (visitation of the wise men) on the first Sunday in January and the Baptism of the Lord on the second Sunday of January. You see, for the Church Christmas is not over, it has just begun. So I began to ask myself why do we as Christians celebrate a different Christmas season than the Church? When do you celebrate Christ’s Christmas? This year our actions are going to speak, Elsa and I have talked about it and this year we will let our lights burn just a little longer, we are going to keep Christmas a true Christmas, until the Celebration of our Lord’s Baptism on Sunday, January 10th. So, for at least the next 10 days...

Merry Christmas! ~ Andy, Elsa, Marianne, Marion & Ms. Rose

PS: As we wish you a happy New Year, Remember that the Church new year began the 1st Sunday of Advent

WHY CATHOLIC?

JOURNEY THROUGH THE CATECHISM

Coming Advent of 2010 to all parishes in the Diocese of Orlando, *Why Catholic?*

Why Catholic?, is an adult faith formation program centered on the Catechism of the Catholic Church. It is a 4 year program of formation and conversion for all Catholics that are based on the 4 principals of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, Christian Prayer: Deepening my Experience of God; The Profession of Faith: What We Believe; The Celebration of the Christian Mystery: Sacraments; Life in Christ: Walking with God. *Stay Tuned for More Information !*

The Giving Tree Success:

Over 300 children and families had a bigger and brighter Christmas because of all your help. Give yourself a pat on the back and say a little prayer of thanksgiving for all the parishioners that helped make this event a success! If you need service hours, remember it is up to you to keep track of the hours and get me the proper paperwork.

THANK YOU!



The Season of Lent: A Journey to Holiness by Jerry Welte

Each year as we start thinking about Lent, we often seem initially drawn to the concepts of sacrifice and self-denial. These issues are significant, but they are neither the starting point nor the end of the season. The goal of Lent, in fact, is quite the opposite. Lent is first and foremost a time, not for diminishment, but for growth and development. We should aspire to expand our hearts, enlarge our souls, and enrich our minds. Perhaps the meaning of the Lord's words in this-God prefers a full heart to an empty stomach.

The first question we often ask is, "What should I give up for Lent?" Perhaps instead we might begin by asking: "What do I need for Lent?" or "What is missing from my Life?" The first goal of Lent is holiness and the meaning of holiness is wholeness. Such holiness is measured, not by the scale of our deprivation, but by the fullness of our life in Christ. Lent is a time to seek the real gifts we lack: Patience, joy, trust and compassion. True blessedness does not arrive by denying our craving for chocolate, but by fulfilling our hunger for righteousness.

Once we determine what we lack, only then do we turn to the question of self-denial. The human heart and soul are much like our hard drives and garages; they fill up with junk very quickly. The role of self-sacrifice is to discard the superfluous in order to clear a space for life's real treasures. We live in a culture that is often distracted by noise, materialism, and self-absorption. We use the three disciplinary tools of Lent—prayer, fasting and almsgiving—to open our hearts and minds to others and make room in our lives for God.

Senior High Youth Group / Life Teen
of Sacred Heart Catholic Church

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Web Site

All youth activities and calendars are updated regularly on the Sacred Heart Web Site www.sacredheartcatholic.com under the tab Formation. I will update it every Friday.

Stations of the Cross

During lent Catholics often, especially on Friday's meditate on the stations of the cross as a way of growing closer to Christ's Passion and Death. I encourage each of you with your families to make this devotion at least twice during lent. If you do this, Easter will take on a whole new meaning. St. Alphonsus de Ligouri once said; "Gaze at the Passion, there you will find all the reasons to love Christ."



REFLECTION

"Go, and learn the meaning of the words: It is mercy I desire, not sacrifice."

Matthew 9:13



Sacred Heart Catholic Church

P.O. Box 729

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