

GOOD NEWS

January 25, 2009

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jon 3:1-5, 10 / 1 Cor 7:29-31 / Mk 1:14-20

Today's readings are about decisions. What in the world can you depend on? What in the world is real?

The Ninevites were famous sinners and enemies of the chosen people. Yet when the half-hearted prophet Jonah warned them their world was about to be destroyed, they immediately turned to God. What did they see in Jonah's message? What did they see in the world that helped them understand Jonah's message? They knew when to change, to repent.

Saint Paul warned the first-century Corinthians that time was short for them, that "the present form of this world" was ending. What would the end mean? Did the world end for Corinth and the Church planted there? What would it look like for those Corinthians to turn to God? Did they hear a message like Jonah's? Did they sense the same urgency?

The people of Nineveh, those reading about Jonah, those in Corinth--were they all reading a letter from the apostle Paul, being asked to reject the world? It doesn't seem like it. They're being asked to see what the world is.

God does not reject the world. God created it. Jesus does not reject the goodness of creation. He comes to redeem it. How in the world do we forget the Creator?

Was the world then different from ours? In Mark's Gospel, things move quickly. John the Baptist is arrested. Jesus moves onto center stage. He says the reign of God is now. He calls followers; they drop what they are doing. Was the disciples' world different from ours? Did they live in the last days?

How are we to read such old, odd stories that speak so urgently? Can we apply them to our own world? We seem to have more time. Or are our times urgent?

Dan Finucane

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CARDINAL MAIDA ACADEMY will hold an Open House/Registration for all new perspective students (grades PK-7) and their families on Sunday, January 25 from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. and on Wednesday, January 28 from 6 p.m.—8 p.m. If you are unable to attend on those dates, please call the school office at 724-568-3304 to schedule an appointment.



PARISH PHOTO DIRECTORY

Final weekend for photography appointments will be January 24 & 25 after all Masses. Additional appointments can only be made thru Olan Mills at 1-800-866-2263 (Monday—Friday, 9 a.m.—9 p.m.), please give church's phone number for confirmation. Any questions—call Alexandra Wolfgang—724-845-1239.

* 2008 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT * REQUESTS

This year, we are mailing contributions records to those who request their 2008 contribution statement. If you wish a record of your financial statements, please fill out this form and return in the collection basket or at the church office. You must fill out this request if you wish to receive a statement.

2008 Contribution Statement

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

BUDGET _____

OUR GIFTS TO THE LORD January 17 & 18

Offertory Collection.....	\$4,814.00
Children's Collection.....	4.00
Loose Collection.....	184.00
Utilities.....	212.00

May the Lord bless you for your financial sacrifice to your Parish.

MEMORIAL CANDLES

In memory of **Emily Maszgay** from her children

SPECIAL NOTICE: STARTING ON FEBRUARY 1, AND ALL SUNDAYS, THE MASSES WILL BE 8 a.m. AND 10:30 a.m.

IN YOUR CHARITY

In your charity, please pray for the soul of **Michael Cunningham**, son of the late **Louise Cunningham**. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS who are hospitalized, invalids or seriously ill at home: **Anthony DelleDonne**, **Robert Smith** and all the sick who need our prayers.

The Knights of Columbus, Council #3174 will be holding their monthly meeting on Tuesday, January 27, church hall at 7 p.m. All officers & members are requested to please attend.

The St. Gertrude Men's Club will meet in the church hall at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, February 2. All members please try to attend.

The Catholic Daughters of America Court #1008 ~ meeting on Tuesday, February 3 at 7 p.m. in the church hall. 2009 dues are due.

Rosary Society Members ~ this is a kindly reminder to all our members to pay their 2009 dues of \$6. For your convenience, you can put it in an envelope with your name, the organization's name and drop it into the Sunday collection.

Natural Family Planning Instruction ~ CM-BBT is a medically based, highly effective NFP method that can be used to avoid, postpone or plan pregnancy. The next CM-BBT Method of Family Planning Session is scheduled for Monday, February 2 at 6 p.m. at the Catholic Charities office in Greensburg. Contact **Mary Ann Newhouse** at Catholic Charities at 724-837-1840 ext 658 for more info. or to register.

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT SUNDAY, will be for Eastern Europe Collection. The reason for this appeal is to re-establish and restore the Church in Central and Eastern European countries after years of oppression and persecution. The money from this collection will help to restore religious orders and seminaries, and reinstitute religious education. Please be generous.

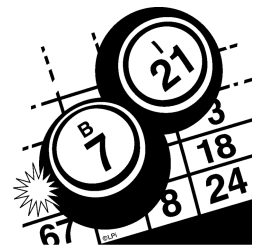
MARCH 7, 2009 ~ "NIGHT at the RACES" the St. Gertrude Men's Club will be sponsoring "Night at the Races" in the church hall. Price: \$10.00 ~ includes: beverages, buffet and a horse.

BINGO

Jackpot ~ 53#'s

**SUNDAY ~ CHURCH HALL
DOORS OPEN 5:15 P.M.**

PLEASE INVITE YOUR FAMILY & FRIENDS



CHURCH BULLETIN ~ starting in March, the format of the bulletin will be changing. **Linda Mullooly** of the J. S. Paluch Co. will be working in our area in the next several weeks to sell the advertising for the back page of the church bulletin. You may reach her at 724-217-3170. This new format of the bulletin will be more attractive and readable. And the advertising helps make this possible for our parish community. If you have a business or business associate who would like to place an ad on the back of the bulletin, please call Mrs. Mullooly. Our bulletin services as a source of spiritual, social and community enrichment. We look forward to seeing your ad in the bulletin.

NASCAR SUNDAY AT DAYTONA PARTY

~ start your engines on Sunday, February 15 for a great afternoon of racing, eating, betting and friends. Join us at the West Leechburg Fire Hall. Donation of \$20.00. All



proceeds will benefit the Valley Points Family YMCA Strong Kids Campaign providing financial assistance to members of the community who are unable to afford membership and program fees at the YMCA.



Saturday, January 24, Vigil: 3rd Sun. in Ord. Time

4:00 p.m. †James Geno Marsinetti (An.)

Sunday, Jan. 25, Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 a.m. †Mr. & Mrs. Benny Trozzi (An.)

11:00 a.m. For the Parish/Rosary Society

Monday, January 26, Timothy & Titus, bishops

8:30 a.m. †Rose Zawacki

Tuesday, January 27, Weekday

8:30 a.m. †Louis Morabito

Wednesday, January 28, Thomas Aquinas, priest

8:30 a.m. †Mary Vetro

Thursday, January 29, Weekday

8:30 a.m. †Pete Blaizes

Friday, January 30, Weekday

9:00 a.m. †Francis Romagni

10-12 N. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday, January 31, John Bosco, priest

8:30 a.m. †Anthony Corcetti

4:00 p.m. †Margaret "Sis" Azzarone

Sunday, February 1, 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. †Pauline Matarrese (An.)

10:30 a.m. For the Parish

January 31 & February 1

SERVER'S SCHEDULE

4:00 p.m. -Austin Feydt & Jordan Kiebler

8:00 a.m. -Nicole Shannon & Emma Lloyd

10:30 a.m. -Kaitlyn Sciullo & D. DelleDonne