

# dear Padre

March 15, 2009

## How can I get my son to see the importance of faith?

**My forty-year-old son doesn't go to church anymore. He says, "Mom, it works for you, but it doesn't work for me". What does that mean?**

**Frustrated**

Dear Frustrated,

There are so many sons-and daughters-like your son. A priest often meets them at the deathbed of a parent. "Padre, my father is the greatest man I know. His faith means everything to him. That's why I called you."

The priest is usually tempted to ask, "Well, what about you? What does your faith mean to you? Can you even imagine your father without his faith? Without it, he wouldn't be the man you know and admire so much."

Last June the TV journalist Tim Russert suddenly died. That night the NBC network, where Tim worked, offered a remembrance and a tribute. His colleagues, on very short notice, outdid themselves in the feeling, sincerity, and beauty of what they said. They kept speaking of faith and family in Tim's life and work. They made it clear they meant Tim's Catholic faith.

That faith worked for Tim, it even goes a long way in explaining him. I pray with you that your son will soon make his faith work for him. He may fear he has lost his faith. But that cannot happen. God has given him this faith in baptism, and God never takes his gifts back. Your son's faith may be asleep, even comatose. But it is still there, waiting to wake up and live again. Your son is and always will be a child of God even more truly than he is your child.

**John Hamrogue, C.Ss.R.**

### PLEASE PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS

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### THE CARDINAL MAIDA ACADEMY ADDS 7TH GRADE~

The Cardinal Maida Academy, 315 Franklin Avenue, Vandergrift, Pa is now accepting applications for the fall 2009 semester for Preschool to grade 7. CMA offers all day kindergarten, bus transportation (grades 1-7). Library, Art, Music, and PE in a Christian atmosphere. Take advantage of our small class size and hot lunch program. To schedule a personal tour, please contact Mrs. Judy Wright, Admissions Coordinator, or Mr. Tom Stabile, School Principal at 724-568-3304. Tuition assistance available. Space is limited. Open to all denominations.

**GO RAIDERS!** We are happy to announce the St. Gertrude Raiders High School Basketball team won the Diocesan Championship defeating Bishop Bosco 88 - 70. The team will represent the Diocese of Greensburg at the State Playoffs in Allentown, Pa. The tournament is scheduled for March 20, 21 & 22. We also extend congratulations to the 8th grade team for winning the Class "B" Championship.



**High School juniors or seniors** and their families are invited to a Get Acquainted Day Open House at Saint Vincent College, Latrobe, on Sunday, April 19. The day will conclude at 3 p.m. Find out more about this top-ranked Catholic, Benedictine, liberal arts college. Listen to financial aid and admission presentations and meet faculty. For info or reservations, phone 1-800-782-5549.

### OUR GIFTS TO THE LORD March 7 & 8

Offertory Collection.....	\$6,456.00
Children's Collection.....	6.87
Loose Collection.....	338.00
Utilities.....	194.00

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

**MEMORIAL CANDLES**

In memory of Orlando "Lundy" Naccarato by Joe & Rose DeRose

**In Sympathy** ~ We commend to your prayers the soul of Theresa Zaccagnini. May God bring comfort and peace to her family.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR PARISHIONERS AND FRIENDS**

who are hospitalized, invalids or seriously ill at home: Julia DonGiovanni, Joe DeRose, Jean Gaydeski, Dorothy Keddie and all the sick who need our prayers.

**THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL** asks that you donate nonperishable food and/or paper products or other sundry items so that Easter baskets can be assembled for needy families. Boxes are located at all church doors. We will, of course, accept monetary donations that can be placed in the Poor Box.



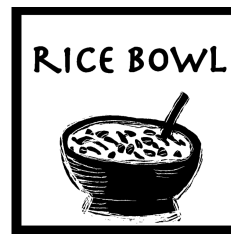
**Readings for the week of March 15, 2009**

- Sunday: Ex 20:1-17 or 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17/1 Cor 1:22-25/Jn 2:13-25
- Monday: 2 Kgs 5:1-15ab/Lk 4:24-30
- Tuesday: Dn 3:25, 34-43/Mt 18:21-35
- Wednesday: Dt 4:1, 5-9/Mt 5:17-19
- Thursday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a (St. Joseph)
- Friday: Hos 14:2-10/Mk 12:28-34
- Saturday: Hos 6:1-6/Lk 18:9-14
- Next Sunday: 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23/Eph 2:4-10/Jn 3:14-21

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**SAINT GERTRUDE PARISH:** will host a Parish Lenten Mission by Father Jim Sichko. The Mission will take place on March 22, 23, 24 and 25 beginning at 7 p.m. each evening. Fr. Sichko, a priest of the Diocese of Charlotte, N.C., will present a motivational and spiritually uplifting mission. After each talk a social will be held in the church hall. All are welcome!

**ST GERTRUDE CEMETERY REMINDER ~ PLEASE PICKUP YOUR CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. ANYTHING LEFT PAST MARCH 28 WILL BE DISCARDED.**



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As we continue our Operation Rice Bowl journey let us remember in prayer that all humanity has been made in the image of God. Through our actions we must express that each person is precious and that the lives and welfare of all people are priorities. May our **fasting** keep us mindful of the hunger of the people of the world. May our **almsgiving** assist Catholic Relief Services as we **learn** about programs that care for Orphans and Vulnerable Children in Tanzania.

**Our Lady, Queen of Peace Parish** is sponsoring a trip to Lancaster, PA on Wednesday, April 22, to see the live production of "BEHOLD THE LAMB". We'll be leaving our parking lot at approximately 6 a.m. and returning about midnight. Prices are as follows: \$139 per adult, \$122 ages 13-18 and \$99. ages 4-12. For more info call the rectory 724-567-7603 or Dennis 724-568-1523.

And to those who sold doves he said, "Take these out of here, and stop making my Father's house a marketplace." His disciples recalled the words of Scripture, "Zeal for your house will consume me." - Jn 2:16-17

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD

**CHURCH HALL ~  
Sunday  
Doors open 5:15 p.m.  
Please invite your family  
& friends.**



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**Saturday, March 14, Lenten Weekday**

4:00 p.m. †Joseph A. Petrarca (An.)

**Sunday, March 15, Third Sunday of Lent**

8:00 a.m. Living & Deceased of our Parish

10:30 a.m. †James Rametta, Sr.

**Monday, March 16, Lenten Weekday**

8:30 a.m. †Vincent Naccarato

**Tuesday, March 17, St. Patrick's Day**

8:30 a.m. †Argie Ceraso

**Wednesday, March 18, Lenten Weekday**

8:30 a.m. †Domenick & Josephine Fasano

**Thursday, March 19, Joseph, husband of BVM**

8:30 a.m. †James Ferraccio (An.)

**Friday, March 20, Lenten Weekday**

9:00 a.m. †Clem Lanzino

10 - 12 N. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

6:30 p.m. STATIONS OF THE CROSS

**Saturday, March 21, Lenten Weekday**

8:30 a.m. †Jan & Paulina Cunderlik

4:00 p.m. †Joey Donghia (An.)

**Sunday, March 22, Fourth Sunday of Lent**

8:00 a.m. Living & Deceased of our Parish

10:30 a.m. †Joseph Misho (An.)

7:00 p.m. **PARISH MISSION**



**MARCH 21 & 22**

4:00 p.m. ~ Billy & Tim Johnson

8:00 a.m. ~ A. J. & Deana Callipare

10:30 a.m. ~ Joey Caporali & Marissa Molnar