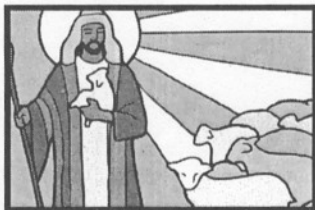


**FOURTH SUNDAY
OF EASTER
MAY 3, 2009**



REFLECTION

The image of the Good Shepherd is at the heart of the biblical tradition. "I myself will look after and tend my sheep," the Lord God tells Ezekiel (34:11-16), expressing dismay at the religious leaders for their failure to guide Israel in the way of the law. Later Jesus takes up this same image in the Gospel of John, saying, "I am the Good Shepherd," and goes on to explain what that means.



Fr. Frank Kurimsky and the parishioners at St. Irenaeus invite the

members of our parish to join them for a day at the ballpark.

**Sunday, May 31,
2009**

Pirates vs. Astros

\$10.00 per person for a reserved seat. Bus transportation is free. Tickets are on a first come, first served basis. Payment must be received at St. Irenaeus by Monday, May 25th. Make check payable to St. Irenaeus Church (write Pirate Game on memo line).

How does Good Shepherd Sunday show us an image of the Papacy?

The Fourth Sunday of Easter is known as Good Shepherd Sunday. The Gospel passages for all three Lectionary years come from chapter 10 of John's Gospel, a chapter imaging Jesus as the Good Shepherd. Biblically, shepherds were pastors who watched over and cared for others. Good Shepherd Sunday calls us to reflect on the role of our communities' pastoral leaders, including the pope.

This past January 25, we celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of Pope John XXIII's first call for an ecumenical council. Eventually called Vatican II, John envisioned a thoroughly pastoral council. This pastoral vision would dominate John's brief pontificate.

In his coronation Mass homily soon after his election in October 1958, John XXIII used two images that summed up his vision of the papacy. For the first time he quoted Genesis 45:3, a verse he would use often in his pontificate. "I am Joseph [which was his baptismal name], your brother." John saw himself not as prince but as a baptized member of the human family. The second was the image of the Good Shepherd from John's Gospel. John XXIII stressed that "other human qualities, such as knowledge, shrewdness, diplomatic tact, and organizational skill, can give the finishing touches to a pope's rule, but they can no means be a substitute for his duty as pastor."

John XXIII set a new tone to the papacy that continues to impact the whole human family, through Pope Paul VI, Pope John Paul II, and to this day with Pope Benedict XVI.

*Have a Blessed Week.
Sister Dorothy*

SCHOOL NEWS



This week we celebrate National Teacher Day. We are so blessed here at St. Bart's school to have such devoted teachers on our staff. I invite you to take some time out of your busy day and thank a teacher, whether at St. Bart's or elsewhere for their guidance and care for you and all students.

First Communion

Please join us in congratulating our 11 second graders as they make their First Communion on Sunday, May 3rd at 10:30 am. Miss Begley and the students have worked very hard to prepare for this special event. May each day your commitment and love of the Church and Jesus grow stronger.

Family Breakfast



St. Bart's students and their families will enjoy breakfast before school on Monday, May 4th. Breakfast will be served between 7:30 am and 8:30 am. You must have registered for this event.

PTG Meeting

As our year winds down, it is important to attend this PTG meeting. Plans for upcoming events as well as next year will be discussed. The meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 5th in the school library at 6:30 pm. All parents/guardians of St. Bart's students are welcome.

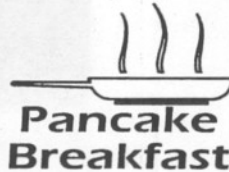


Field Trip

Please keep kindergarten thru fourth grade in your prayers on Wednesday, May 6th. The students will be going to the Aviary.

May Crowning

Please join the 2nd and 8th graders on Thursday, May 7th at 10 am for mass and May crowning. What a wonderful way to honor Mary.



St. Bart's Lifeteens will be sponsoring a Pancake Breakfast Sunday. Mother's Day May 10th, 2009 after the 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM Masses. This is a special way to help support the youth of our parish and to give Mom a special treat on Mother's Day. Everyone is invited to attend.

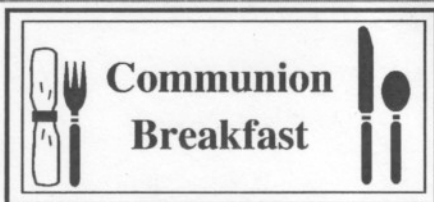


GOD'S HOUSEKEEPERS

are in need of volunteers to assist them two days a month in the cleaning of our church. If you are interested in helping please call the rectory.



St. Bart's newly formed Adult Bell Choir is looking for members. Practice is at 6:30 PM Monday evenings. What a great way to get to know new people and enrich our music ministry. Call the rectory for details.



The Women's Group of St. Bart's cordially invites all adult parishioners to their annual Communion Breakfast. This year's event will take place on Sunday, May 17th, beginning with Mass at 10:30 AM, followed by a buffet breakfast served at the Edge-wood Country Club.

Special guest speaker for this event will be Rev. David Bonnar. Tickets will be sold after all masses. Tickets are \$20.00

The St. Bartholomew Women's Group would like to thank everyone who donated, worked and co-operated in any way towards our card party! God Bless you all for making our party a great success!



Catholic families should be living symbols of our conviction that life is *always, always* a gift from God. Teach your children to respect human life from conception to natural death. Pray as a family for an end to this evil that destroys the weakest of the weak, the poorest of the poor.

— *Light and Shadows: Our Nation 25 Years After Roe v. Wade*, National Conference of Catholic Bishops



MON., May 4, Easter Weekday

10:00 AM Margaret Irvine (The Golden Agers)

TUES., May 5, Easter Weekday

8:00 AM St. Irenaeus

9:00 AM St. Gerard Majella, St. Joseph

WED., May 6, Easter Weekday

8:00 AM St. Irenaeus

9:00 AM St. Gerard Majella, St. Susanna

7:00 PM Holy Hour

THURS., May 7, Easter Weekday

10:00 AM DeLuca Family (Gino & Mary Jean DeIuliis)

FRI., May 8, Easter Weekday

10:00 AM Ioli/Secola Deceased (Rita Secola)

SAT., May 9, Vigil Fifth Saturday of Easter

4:00 PM Confessions

5:00 PM Living & Deceased Mothers and Grandmothers

SUN., May 10, Fifth Sunday of Easter

8:00 AM Living & Deceased Mothers and Grandmothers

10:30 AM Living & Deceased Mothers and Grandmothers

Please remember in your prayers the sick, shut-ins, and hospitalized members of the Parish.

Please remember in your prayers the departed members of our parish family, especially,

**Margaret Wersing
Margaret Dougherty
Ann Gorney**



The Sanctuary Candle is lit this week in memory of Corradino Calvano from her granddaughter Pat & Family