

## ✠ An Excerpt from a letter from Deacon Jared Suire ✠

Dear Spiritual and Financial Benefactors,

We are happy to inform you that our **mission trip to East Africa** from May 15 to June 7 was a **tremendous success**. All of us returned home safely. During our three weeks, we completed every planned project – and a couple of extra projects. At every opportunity, we explained that we financed the projects from the generosity of people in the United States. And, at every opportunity, the people we served gave us their sincerest thanks.

Indeed, God blessed our mission trip! Many doubted that five students could raise \$17,000 in an economic recession. In fact, we far exceeded our goal. Thanks to the inspiring generosity of faithful Christians, we donated a sum of **\$22,000** to needy families and institutions in Uganda and Kenya.

Everywhere we went, the people had prepared for our arrival and graciously welcomed us. Each visit, each project was carried out according to plan. It is a testimony to the competency of our team, the hospitality of the Ugandan people, and, of course, the blessing of God. The Ugandan people are deeply touched by the compassion shown to them by foreigners. It must be kept in mind that, in honoring us, they were really honoring you.


**We are grateful that you many of you joined us in prayer and with financial support.** Our visits encouraged us that money was well-spent on needed and significant projects, ranging from the construction of a new pit latrine for a village church to the dedication of a parish youth library in a Kampala suburb. The pastor of the village church told us that the health authorities were threatening to close his church if he did not construct a new pit latrine. Knowing he lacked the necessary funds, he prayed for help. He soon received an unexpected phone call from our mission leader, explaining that we had chosen to help his parish during our mission trip. Deacon Luta learned about this parish from a Ugandan priest working in the United States. Surely divine Providence was at work!

We were also deeply touched by the faith of the Church in East Africa. We assisted at crowded and enthusiastic Masses on four successive Sundays; we visited seminaries so full that as many as six seminarians shared a room; and everywhere we witnessed the deep and sincere faith of our Catholic brothers and sisters in Uganda and Kenya.

**We hope that you considered yourself part of our mission team.** We prayed for you every day in our Masses, Liturgy of the Hours, and rosaries. You can also be assured of the prayers of the countless people to whom we brought assistance.

Sincerely in Christ our Lord,

*The mission team: Fr. Jan Dolny, Deacons Corey Campeaux, Luta Nsubuga, **Jared Suire**, and Jon Thomas & Brother Luke Prejean*



**Congratulations To:** Father Raymond Collins, who will be celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of his Ordination to the Priesthood on June 28<sup>th</sup> at St. Luke's Church in Barrington, Rhode Island. And to: Father Martins Emeh who has been appointed Parochial Administrator for St. Peter Parish, Geneva, Illinois effective Wednesday, July 1, 2009.



## Stewardship Report: Revenue



June 14 <sup>th</sup> :	7,614.28
Faith Direct:	1,602.75
Total Offertory:	9,217.03
Last Year:	10,581.39
Poor Box:	141.00
Every Penny Counts Box:	25.30

**Some of our Recent Expenditures:** McGraw Hill (Terra Nova Tests) \$3,390.00; Property Insurance, \$1,840.00 per mo; Catholic Standard Assessment, \$521.00 per mo; Bills: BG&E \$4,012.34; WSSC \$1,761.00; American Capital \$2,000 School Cleaning (2 wks) and McLean \$1,300.00 A/C Repair.

Number of Adult Envelopes: 201  
 Number of Children's Envelopes: 9  
 Number of Faith Direct donors: 45  
 Number of Registered Households: 668



- **Peter's Pence Collection:** During his April 2008 historic journey to the United States, Pope Benedict XVI inspired, encouraged and blessed our local Church and our nation. Now we have the opportunity to give back to him by supporting the annual Peter's Pence Collection on June 27<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>. Each year, this collection is taken up in parishes around the world to assist the works of the Holy Father and provide emergency funds to those who suffer from oppression, disease, war or natural disaster. Through the Peter's Pence Collection, we have the opportunity to be beacons of hope to those of our brothers and sisters who are most in need and to answer the call to cast the light of Christ upon the world. Thank you for your generosity to the collection during the weekend of June 27<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>. May the Lord bless the Holy Father, each of you and all of those in need throughout the world.
- **Summer Stewardship:** Please remember that your parish counts on your weekly sacrifice of treasure, joyfully given to the Lord in gratitude, and that treasure is needed even when you're away from us on vacation. Please remember to mail your offertory envelope to the rectory before you go away on a well-deserved holiday or drop it in the collection basket the week before you leave. Thank you for being a faithful steward!
- **Recycling Bin:** If you haven't finished your "spring cleaning" why don't you get rid of all of your old newspapers, magazines, shopping catalogs and office paper and mail piling up in your home. Bring them to our Green and Yellow paper recycling container located in the area to the left of the parking lot behind the school. It is an easy way to help earn cash for our school.
- **A Stewardship Moment:** In today's Gospel reading we hear Jesus commanding the wind and sea to be at peace, to be still. The Gospel scene depicting Jesus and His disciples on a boat seems appropriate for the summer. It is a season to contemplate nature and to find God in the wonders of His creation. It is also a time to contemplate, as stewards of the Lord's abundant gifts, all of creation as God's gift and that ultimately it is God who has control over the world and not us.



## Faith Formation

**Registration for 2009-2010:** Forms have been mailed home via regular mail. Please make sure to fill out and return them to the Office of Faith Formation before July 31<sup>st</sup>. If you do not receive a letter from us, please check with the office to make sure we have the correct address for you.

## Youth News

It's College Bound Basket time again. Please submit all names to the Youth Ministry Office if you have a teen graduating from High School. The Graduation Mass is for those who have graduated from the 12<sup>th</sup> Grade or College and will take place Sunday, June 28, 2009 at 9:30am. All are welcome. For further information, please contact Mrs. Donna Stewart-Moore at 301-459-4814 ext 204.

## Other Items of Note

**The Future of Catholic Education:** Why is Catholic education important and what is being done about it here in our own archdiocese? Read Archbishop Wuerl's pastoral letter, *Catholic Education: Looking to the Future with Confidence*, online at [www.adw.org](http://www.adw.org) and see the insert in this week's bulletin.

**New Pamphlets:** We currently offer three new pamphlets in the pamphlet racks with information on the **Anointing of the Sick:** The purpose of this pamphlet is to introduce the history, celebration and theology of the sacrament of the anointing of the sick and give practical examples of when, where, by whom and for whom it may be celebrated; **Roman Catholic Funeral Rites:** gives information concerning the funeral Mass, burial, and related optional rites; and **The Church and Cremation:** contains information on the rules concerning cremation, the proper container for cremated remains and whether they must be buried.

**Ladies of Charity:** Due to increased need, our pantry shelves have once again been depleted. The Ladies would appreciate, if your means allow, another drive to collect non-perishable food donations to restore our pantry. Items in short supply are: canned fruit (we have none at all), cereal, pasta sauce, peanut butter, jelly, canned meats and tuna fish. Please place your bag in the back of the church. We thank you for helping to feed the poor in our neighborhood.



## A Prayer for Fathers



**Most gracious Heavenly Father,** we thank you for our earthly fathers, those to whom you have entrusted the responsibility to provide loving protection of their families and guidance of their children. We thank you, also, for our priests and bishops, whose spiritual fatherhood is so vital to the faith of your people.

Assist all fathers of families, all spiritual fathers, and all Christian men, that through your Grace they may steadily grow in holiness and in knowledge and understanding of your Truth. May they generously impart this knowledge to those who rely on them.

As you, our Heavenly Father, so loved the world, sending your only Son to be our Savior and Redeemer, we ask you to help all men to imitate His fatherly gentleness and mercy toward those who are weak; His humility, perfect obedience to your Will, and fearless witness to your Truth. May their lives be examples to all of heroic faithfulness to you.

We ask your blessing on all those to whom you have entrusted fatherhood. May your Holy Spirit constantly inspire them with justice and mercy, wisdom and strength, fidelity and self-giving love. May they receive your Grace abundantly in this earthly life, and may they look forward to eternal joy in your presence in the life to come.

We ask this through Jesus Christ, your Son and Our Lord,  
**AMEN.**

## Mass Intentions for the Twelfth Week in Ordinary Time:



**Monday, June 22: John Fisher, bishop & Thomas More, martyrs**

8:30 am Father's Day Novena

**Tuesday, June 23:**

8:30 am Father's Day Novena

**Wednesday, June 24: Nativity of John the Baptist**

8:30 am Father's Day Novena

**Thursday, June 25:**

8:30 am Father's Day Novena

**Friday, June 26:**

8:30 am Father's Day Novena

**Saturday, June 27: Vigil – Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

3:30 pm to 4:30pm—Confessions

5:00 pm Father's Day Novena

**Sunday, June 28: Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:00 am The People of the Parish

9:30 am Father's Day Novena

11:30 am This Mass has been canceled for the summer.

**Please Pray for: ♦The Sick and Homebound In Our Parish:**

Anne Benson; Mary Bittner; Margaret Brooks; Audrey Brown; Dennis George; Helen Guditis; Charles Henry; Lena Jacobs; Ray Krok; Joe Makowski; Willie (Bill) Moore; Rosemarie Nardozi; Peter O'Neill; Joe & Irene Pezzuti; Bill Pinchback; Rohland Reich; Joe Sico; Margaret Tolzman; Anita Topnick; Margaret Zanin ♦**For the Deceased:** Magdalene Bell; Cyril O. Okonkwo. Names will be placed on our prayer list for three weeks. To add a name or to request continuing prayers, please contact Carmen Kosko by email at [ckosko@stmatthias.org](mailto:ckosko@stmatthias.org) or by phone at 301-459-4814 ext 201.

## Outdoor Parish Shrines; Memorials and Tributes:

The votive lights burning from **June 21<sup>st</sup>** through **June 27<sup>th</sup>**

### Shrine of the Sacred Heart

**For the Special Intentions of: Dennis George.**

**For the Happy Repose of: George O. Defayette; Roland Pouliot; George Tach; and for Frank Vitale.**

### Shrine of the Madonna & Child

**For the Special Intentions of: The Ferrara Family; Fr. Jerry Gamrot; Joe & Irene Pezzuti; and for Rosanna Aitcheson and Melinda George on the occasion of their birthdays.**

## SCHOOL RAFFLE WINNER

Congratulations to **Mr. Joseph Young** of Mitchellville, MD (winner of \$300) AND **Ms. Elizabeth Jones** of Landover Hills, MD (\$50.00 as seller ) of this week's ticket!



## Holy Humor



Somebody has well said there are only two kinds of people in the world. Those who wake up in the morning and say, "Good morning, Lord" and those who wake up in the morning and say, "Good Lord, it's morning."