

Pastor's Letter

Last week we mailed out letters to each of the families in our parish thanking them for the donations that they have made during this past year (2011) and the previous year (2010). We send these letters as a way of saying **THANK YOU** for your donations and as a means of enabling you to take the tax deduction for what you have offered to the Church. If you have not yet received your letter, please call me or Shannon in the Parish Office and we will confirm with you that we have your correct address and then we will re-send your letter.

In preparing these letters, I prepared an analysis of the donations of our parishioners during the past year. We have approximately 1,000 registered families here at Holy Name of Jesus Church. Approximately half of our families receive pre-printed envelopes in the mail and about half of those families use their pre-printed envelopes on a regular basis. Other families use the blue envelopes that are in the pews or they simply write checks without using an envelope. All of your donations are recorded in our parish data system and credited to your family. Here is the 2011 breakdown of donations to Holy Name of Jesus Church:

- 1) We have 44 families who gave at least \$2,000.00 to our church last year. This means that they averaged a minimum of \$40.00 per week. (However 30 of those families gave significantly more than \$40.00 per week.)
- 2) We have 79 families who contributed between \$1,000.00 and \$2,000.00 to our church last year. This is an average of between \$20.00 and \$40.00 per week.
- 3) We have 36 families who contributed between \$750.00 and \$1,000.00 to our church last year. This is an average of between \$15.00 and \$20.00 per week.
- 4) We have 58 families who contributed between \$500.00 and \$750.00 to our church last year. This is an average of between \$ 10.00 and \$ 15.00 per week.
- 5) We have 112 families who contributed between \$250.00 and \$500.00 to our church last year. This is an average of between \$ 5.00 and \$10.00 per week.
- 6) We have 131 families who contributed between \$100.00 and \$250.00 to our church last year. This is an average of between \$ 2.00 and \$ 5.00 per week.
- 7) The remaining 540 families in our parish gave less than \$100.00 to our church last year. This represents over half of our registered parishioners and they gave an average of *ninety-six cents per week*.

In looking at these figures, we must all ask ourselves "How much has God given to my family? Can I possibly count the blessings that Our Savior has bestowed on us?" And then we must ask ourselves "How much has our family given to God and God's Church? Are we giving back to God in proportion to what God has given us?"

If we still have our jobs and we are still able to pay our bills each month, are we willing to make our contributions to the Church just as important as the checks we mail each month for our cell phones, cable television and any other luxuries that we may enjoy? The Church does not ask you to contribute the same as your rent, or your mortgage payment, or your utility bills. But let's take an honest look at what we spend on our own enjoyment and then look at how much we give to God and God's Church.

For each family, the contribution to the Church will be dependent on many different factors. But, if you are in the group that gives ninety-six cents per week to the Church, I invite you to consider giving \$5.00 or \$10.00 or \$15.00 to the church each week. After all, do we not spend at least as much on ourselves each week? Last month, one of our parishioners suggested that I invite everyone who is not contributing on a regular basis to give based on their age. If you are twenty-five years old, could you give \$25.00 per week - or even per month? If you are fifty years old, could you give \$50.00 per week - or even per month? It is an interesting question to think about.

Once again, I want to give thanks to God for each person who comes into our Church to pray and a thank you to God for each member of our parish who gives of their **Time**, their **Talent**, and their **Treasure!**

May the Lord continue to bless us always and in all ways, *Father Paul*

Holy Name of Jesus School News!

300 Students by 2012!

We want to thank you, the parishioners and parents of HNOJ School, for your assistance in spreading the word about Holy Name School! Your efforts have helped us reach and exceed our first target of 200 students with the goal of 300 students by the start of the 2012/2013 school year. Please continue to help recruit new students. Remember to contact Fr. Paul (323) 734-8888 or Ms. Belisle (323) 731-2255 with your referrals.

Tickets on Sale Now!

*Join the Ladies Auxiliary Court 121
for their annual*

Mardi Gras Dinner Dance Fundraiser

Saturday, February 18, 2012

8pm - 12am

\$25.00 pre-sale through February 12th

\$30.00 at the door



Price Change

The prices of donuts have increased. The new prices are: \$1.00 Round Glaze, \$1.25 for Fancy, \$1.00 for Coffee and .25cents for Punch. Sorry for the inconvenience.

A parishioner is looking to rent a room. Negotiable on rent and shared expenses. Limited S.S.I. Income. Please call church office with information 323-734-8888 ext 1.

San Manuel Indian Bingo & Casino

Holy Name of Jesus 50+ Club is hosting a trip to San Manuel Casino on Friday Night February 24, 2012. Pick up time is 6:00pm. Slots/Bingo/Blackjack/Fine Dinning/ Great Entertainment. For more information, call Clyde Sparrow (213) 392-1916.

Holy Name of Jesus School

Fourth Annual Musical Fundraiser Luncheon

~Save the Date~

Saturday, March 17, 2012 from 11:00am to 3:00pm at St. Mary's Academy. Tickets are \$55 and are available in the Hall after Mass on Sundays. For more information call the School Office at (323) 731-2255 or Church Office at (323) 734-8888.

Healthy Living

Alzheimer's Disease - (www.webmd.com)

Alzheimer's disease is the most common cause of mental decline, or dementia. But dementia also has many other causes. For more information, see the topic Dementia.

What is Alzheimer's disease? Alzheimer's disease damages the brain. It causes a steady loss of memory and how well you can speak, think, and carry on daily activities. Alzheimer's disease always gets worse over time, but how quickly this happens varies.

What causes Alzheimer's disease? Alzheimer's disease happens because of changes in the brain. These include lower levels of chemical messengers (neurotransmitters) that help brain cells work properly. What causes these changes is not clear. The risk of getting Alzheimer's disease increases as you get older. But this does not mean that everyone will get it. By age 85, about 35 out of 100 people have some form of dementia. That means that 65 out of 100 don't have it. Dementia is rare before age 60. Having a relative with Alzheimer's raises your risk of getting it, but most people with Alzheimer's disease do not have a family history of it.

What are the symptoms? For most people, the first symptom of Alzheimer's disease is memory loss. Often the person who has a memory problem does not notice it, but family and friends do. But the person with the disease may also know that something is wrong. As the disease gets worse, the person may: have trouble making decisions, be confused about what time and day it is, get lost in places he or she knows well, have trouble learning and remembering new information, have trouble finding the right words to say what he or she wants to say, have more trouble doing daily tasks like cooking a meal or paying bills. The symptoms of Alzheimer's get worse slowly over time. A person who gets these symptoms over a few hours or days or whose symptoms suddenly get worse needs to see a doctor right away, because there may be another problem. As people with Alzheimer's get worse, they may get restless and wander, especially in late afternoon and at night. This is called sun downing.

How is it treated? There is no cure for Alzheimer's disease, but there are medicines that may slow symptoms down for a while and make the disease easier to live with. These medicines may not work for everyone or have a big effect. But most experts think they are worth a try.

How can you help your loved one with Alzheimer's disease? If you are or will be taking care of a loved one with Alzheimer's, start learning what you can expect. Work with your loved one to make decisions about the future before the disease gets worse. It is important to write a living will and a durable power of attorney. A living will states the types of medical care your loved one wants. A durable power of attorney lets your loved one pick someone to be his or her health care agent. This person makes care decisions when your loved one cannot. Your loved one will need more and more care as the disease gets worse. Ask your doctor about local resources such as support groups or other groups that can help as you care for your loved one. Help is available.

Stewardship Report - A Spirit of Giving

"Give and it will be given to you. They will pour into your lap a good measure -- pressed down, shaken together and running over. For by your standard of measure it will be measured to you in return."

(Luke 6:38)

Current Year:

January 22, 2012 = \$5,937.00

Two Previous Years:

January 23, 2011 = \$8,113.00

January 24, 2010 = \$7,096.00

Thank you for your generosity!

DID YOU KNOW?**Protect your children from accidental poisoning**

From fertilizer to antifreeze and medicines to makeup, poisonous items show up throughout our homes. By following some common-sense guidelines regarding these items, parents can help prevent kids from ingesting poisonous substances by accident. For instance, Store all medications — prescription and nonprescription — in a locked cabinet, far from kids' reach. Even items that seem harmless, such as mouthwash, can be extremely dangerous if ingested in large quantities by children. Just because cabinets are up high doesn't mean kids can't get their hands on what's in them — they'll climb up (using the toilet and countertops) to get to items in the medicine cabinet. For more tips, please visit the Household Safety section at: www.kidshealth.org.

**SHARMAINE HAYLOCK, CHAIRPERSON
HOLY NAME OF JESUS CHURCH
SAFEGUARD THE CHILDREN COMMITTEE**

***Black History Month 2012
Our Life in Christ -
Build His Kingdom in Love, Faith, Service***



It's time to celebrate Black History Month 2012! Wear your African attire each Sunday!

If you are interested in being a vendor or donating your best soul food dish for the Taste of Soul, there's still time! Please call the office and leave your contact information.

See the enclosed flyer in this weekend's bulletin for more information on our guest celebrants, guest speakers and Umoja Karamus (Unity Feasts) each Sunday.

Join the African American Cultural Awareness Ministry in lifting our voices in prayer for a successful, spirit-filled month celebrating our heritage!

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)

Are you over 18 and interested in becoming Catholic or learning more about the Catholic faith? If so please come to our inquiry classes on Tuesdays, 7:00pm to 8:30pm in the Acacia Center. The next meeting will be held Tuesday, February 7th. The topic is "Explanation of the Mass and Holy Eucharist" presented by Fr. Allan Roberts.

Welcome Visitors!

Holy Name of Jesus Church would like to welcome all visitors to the Hall after the Masses on Sundays for fellowship and complimentary refreshments.

Office of Religious Education

Parents, please remember that religious education is ongoing. Children who have received the Sacraments should return to class each year. For more information, please contact **Cathy Brown at (323) 734-8888 ext. 2.**

Youth Ministry

Holy Name of Jesus Church Youth Ministry invites all Youth between the ages of 14 and 18 to come and join the Youth Ministry. The Youth Group meets the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month in the Hall from 7:00pm to 8:30pm. For more information, please see Norma Mitchell or any Youth Ministry member.

A Parishioner is looking for a 2 or 3 bedroom house to rent that also accepts Section 8. Please call the church office with information 323-734-8888 ext 1.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

Your love as husband and wife is a gift to one another as well as a gift from God. Attend a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend to receive the tools needed to make the most of this precious gift. Deepen your communication, strengthen your relationship, rekindle your romance and renew your sacrament by attending the next WWME weekend February 17-19, 2012 (Norwalk) or April 20-22, 2012 (Woodland Hills). For more information or to apply, go online at www.ilovemyspouse.net or call Winston & Pansy Green at (661) 297-8271.

New Bulletin Policy

There are two ways to get information to our parishioners. One is by flyer and the second is by asking for your event to be published in the bulletin. You may choose one option or the other, **not both**. Since space is limited, the parish office will let you know which option is available. If fliers are the option available to you, you will have to provide your own copies and bring them to the office by Wednesday of that week. Fliers should not be placed in the bulletins without office approval. Thank you in advance for cooperation.