

OFFICE OF PRO-LIFE ACTIVITIES

Suggested Intercessions for the Month of April

April 4th PALM SUNDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

For those who are about to die this day, and especially for those who are alone or afraid: that our prayers may ease their agony and strengthen their faith; *We pray to the Lord:*

April 11TH EASTER SUNDAY: THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

For a love for life from conception to natural death; that all Catholics might work for an end to abortion, and for the right to life of every human person; *We pray to the Lord:*

April 18th SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

For the grace of the mercy of God: that all who contribute to the culture of death might turn away from sin and embrace the Gospel of Life; *We pray to the Lord:*

April 25th THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

For all who have been killed in the culture of death: that God might raise them up on the last day to enjoy the fellowship of the saints in the Kingdom of Heaven; *We pray to the Lord:*

Suggested Bulletin Messages for the Month of April

How can one not think of the family as the primary locus to realize the civilization of love? The family represents the human realm in which the person, from the beginning of his existence, can experience the warmth of affection and grow in a harmonious way. –John Paul II, January 15, 2004

Life is a gift that God has given us. That life is present in the unborn. A human hand should never end a life. I am convinced that the screams of the children whose lives have been terminated before their birth reach God's ears. –Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta

Adoption is the circle of life. It is people coming together and giving what is best for the child. –Amy Zajac, director of adoption for Catholic Charities of Fairfield County.

Whether we are citizens or politicians, whatever be our state in life, we all have the responsibility to work for a society which safeguards and promotes the dignity of human life. We must recognize that the building of a culture of life begins in the home, in our families. It begins with a true understanding of the conjugal union and its ordering to the gift of children (cf Catechism of the Catholic Church, n.2366). –Most Rev. Archbishop Burke, Archbishop of St. Louis (formerly Bishop of LaCrosse) A Pastoral Letter: On the Dignity of Human Life and Civic Responsibility, November 23, 2003

We need courage and honesty to speak the truth about human life. We need humility to listen to both friend and opponent. We need perseverance to continue the struggle for the protection of human life. We need prudence to know when and how to act in the public arena. –Archbishop Alfred Hughes, Bishop of New Orleans, column printed in the Clarion Herald, January 14, 2004

Suggested Stewardship Bulletin Inserts for April/May

April 4, 2004 (Palm Sunday)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

In the Gospel story of the first Palm Sunday we hear that the owners of the colt had only to be told, "The Master has need of it." to give the animal gladly. Do I give as readily to the Lord's work.

April 18, 2004 (2nd Sunday of Easter)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

"Blessed are they who have not seen and have believed," Jesus says in today's Gospel. For those who have not seen to believe, however, we must be good stewards of our faith, living it joyfully and sharing it generously. Then, in our time too, "men and women in great numbers" will be "added to the Lord."

May 2, 2004 (4th Sunday of Easter)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

Paul and Barnabas encountered both violent rejection and joyful acceptance of the message that they preached. We, too, may meet with mixed reactions when we use our gifts in the service of God. But, the Gospel assures us, the reward for those who follow faithfully is eternal life.

May 16, 2004 (6th Sunday of Easter)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

Today's reading from Revelation offers a vision of the City of God, the new Jerusalem. "But," the bishops' pastoral on stewardship reminds us, "that 'life to come' is in continuity with this present life through the human goods, the worthy human purposes, which people foster now."

May 30, 2004 (Pentecost)

One miracle of Pentecost was that, despite their diversity, each listener heard God's word in his or her own language. The meaning for stewardship is that, by sharing the gifts poured out on us by the Holy Spirit, we will be empowered to meet the needs of our brothers and sisters, whatever they may be.

April 11, 2004 (Easter)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

In the second reading today, St. Paul reminds the Colossians that they have been raised with Christ, exhorting them to "be intent on the things above rather than on things of earth." We too, have been raised with Christ. Let us rejoice and be glad!

April 25, 2004 (3rd Sunday of Easter)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells Peter again and again "If you love Me, feed my sheep." He says the same to each of us, "If you love Me, use the gifts I have given you to serve your brothers and sisters."

May 9, 2004 (5th Sunday of Easter)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

In today's Gospel, Jesus gives His disciples – and us – a new commandment: "Love one another." Good stewards who spend their time and talents in service to others are well on their way to fulfilling this commandment.

May 23, 2004 (7th Sunday of Easter)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

The second reading today contains the somber warning that Jesus is coming soon and will bring to each person the reward that his or her conduct deserves. Has my stewardship of the blessings entrusted to me been such that I could respond Joyfully, "Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!"?

SAVE THE DATE!!

Diocesan Stewardship Day

Thursday, September 23rd, 2004

***Featuring:* Mr. James K. Kelley
Diocese of Charlotte, NC**

Jim Kelley is a “standing room only” presenter annually at the International Catholic Stewardship Conference. He has authored numerous books and manuals on stewardship. Jim was the ICSC 2000 recipient of the Bishop William Connare Stewardship Award.

**WHERE: St. Michael Parish, Canton
10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

&

**Blessed Sacrament Parish, Warren
7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.**

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW!!!
DETAILS FORTHCOMING**

Sponsored by the Diocesan Stewardship Commission

**Phone Mr. Pat Palombo, Director of Stewardship &
Development at 330-744-8451 ext. 325 for information.**

ATTENTION YOUNG ADULTS*

“Leadership For Life”

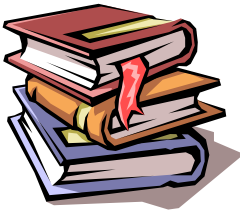
A special weekend training course for young adults and
parish/campus young adult ministry teams

Saturday April 24, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. and

Sunday, April 25, 10:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.

@ Blessed Sacrament Parish

3020 Reeves Rd, N.E. Warren, OH 44483



COST: \$20 Materials Fee

Includes the “Leadership for Life” Workbook, course handouts, and refreshments. Feel free to bring a lunch, or take part in the provided lunch for a suggested donation of \$5.

For more information, please contact your parish office to connect with the parish team leader, or contact Cindee Case, Director, Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry, 330-744-8451, ext. 280 or ccase@youngstowndiocese.org

*** Young adults are out of high school and in their 20’s and 30’s. So, this class is for those who are 19-39 years old, as well as older adults who wish to work with young adults.**

This is one of four classes in the “Principles and Practices for Ministry with Young Adults” National Training program, sponsored by the Center for Ministry Development and the Diocese of Youngstown’s Office of Youth & Young Adult Ministry. However, this is a “stand-only class” for any young adult with interest. Anyone wishing to continue through the remaining classes will need to be registered with a parish team. Contact our office for details.