

Does your parish, school or group want to change the face of poverty?



Consider supporting the Catholic Charities' First Step Program in your county. This important program provides basic material assistance and case management services for pregnant women and families with children ages 0-3. Last year, Catholic Charities provided First Step services to 3,542 adults and children in the Diocese of Youngstown.

Below are some items that First Step families frequently need:

- Disposable Diapers (all sizes)
- New Underwear for Toddlers and Preschoolers
- New Pajamas for Toddlers and Preschoolers

Interested in coordinating a drive to collect any of the above items?

Contact: Rachel Hrbolich at 330-744-8451, ext. 328

rhrbolich@youngstowndiocese.org

Items collected will benefit the people served by Catholic Charities in your county.



Catholic Charities
Diocese of Youngstown

First Step is a pro-life program of the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Youngstown that provides women and families with the material goods and services to help ensure the health, safety and well-being of their children.

Stewardship Bulletin Inserts for August / September 2008

August 3, 2008 (18th Sunday in Ordinary Time)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

In today's Gospel, Jesus feeds the five thousand with five loaves and two fish. The message of stewardship is that God's gifts, *shared*, will always be more than enough.

August 17, 2008 (20th Sunday in Ordinary Time)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

In today's second reading, St. Paul tells the Romans, "For the gifts and the call of God are irrevocable." To what is God calling me today? What gifts are mine to share?

August 31, 2008 (22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

In today's second reading, St. Paul exhorts the Romans to *total* stewardship. Brothers and sisters, He urges, "...offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God."

August 10, 2008 (19th Sunday in Ordinary Time)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

Elijah recognized the voice of God not in the strong and heavy wind, not in the earthquake, and not in the fire, but in a tiny whispering sound. May we find enough quiet in our clamorous world to hear His voice and discern what He is calling us to do and be.

August 24, 2008 (21st Sunday in Ordinary Time)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

In today's second reading, St. Paul reminds the Romans – and us – that all things come from God: "For from him and through him and for him are all things." Good stewards understand that all is gift and share generously the gifts of time, talent and treasure with which they've been blessed.

September 7, 2008 (23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

Am I my brother's keeper? All three readings today suggest that for the Christian steward the answer is "Yes!"

September 21, 2008 (25th Sunday in Ordinary Time)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

In today's Gospel, the vineyard owner says, "Am I not free to do as I wish with my own money?" We are likewise free. Is a generous return to the Lord in thanksgiving for His many blessings among the choices we have made?

September 14, 2008 (Exaltation of the Holy Cross)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

In today's second reading, St. Paul writes to the Philippians about Jesus' self-sacrificial love. Christian stewards know that as our Lord's disciples we are also expected to make sacrifices for others and His Church.

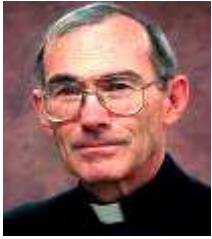
September 28, 2008 (26th Sunday in Ordinary Time)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

The first son in today's Gospel said he would do his father's bidding, but did not. The second son balked at first, but then repented and did as he was asked. What service is God calling me to do? Which son am I most like?

Diocesan Stewardship Day

Presented by the Diocese of Youngstown Stewardship Commission

Featuring:



Bishop Robert Morneau

Bishop Robert Morneau is recognized throughout North America as one of the most popular speakers on stewardship. He serves as Auxiliary Bishop in the Diocese of Green Bay, Wisconsin where he was ordained a bishop in 1979. Bishop Morneau was one of the authors of *Stewardship: A Disciples Response*, the U.S. Bishop's pastoral letter on stewardship. He is a noted speaker, author and poet. Bishop Morneau's published works range from numerous books on prayer to children's literature including *The Gift* and *A Tale from Paleface Creek*. His collection of poetry is entitled,

Poems

Thrown Into the Wind.

Bishop Morneau will make you smile as he challenges you to be a disciple of our Lord Jesus

Thursday, September 18, 2008 at two locations

*Blessed Sacrament Parish
3020 Reeves Road
Warren, OH 44483
330-372-2215*

12:00 Noon Registration & Lunch
12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Presentation

*St. Louis Parish
300 N. Chapel Street
Louisville, OH 44641
330-875-1658*

6:00 p.m. Registration & Supper
6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Presentation

PRE-REGISTRATION ONLY... Includes lunch at Blessed Sacrament or a supper at St. Louis.

Individual Fee: \$15.00 --- Three or more from a parish: \$10.00 per person.

Religious Education Certification Hours: two

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Friday, September 12, 2008 (Please duplicate if necessary)

Name(s):

Address:

_____ Zip: _____ Phone (Day): _____

Parish: _____

Parish City: _____

Please check:

_____ Blessed Sacrament (Day Session & Lunch) _____ St. Louis (Evening Session & Supper)

_____ Amount Enclosed

Parish Ministers who have paid their annual fee please check here.

Please mail completed registration form along with check made payable to Diocese of Youngstown and mail to: Diocese of Youngstown, Stewardship Office, 144 W. Wood Street, Youngstown, OH 44503

Respect Life Bulletin Quotes

August 2008

USCCB Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities

August 3rd

It is precisely in caring for the poorest and most helpless of patients, those whose value and dignity are dismissed by others, that Catholic health care most clearly lives up to its mission and demonstrates the need for specifically Catholic health care providers in our secularized society. It is in meeting the moral challenge of caring for the most helpless that we live up to our own God-given dignity.

Cardinal Justin F. Rigali, JCD and Bishop William E. Lori, STD, "On Basic Care for Patients in the 'Vegetative' State," Health Progress, May-June 2008, 70-72

August 10th

Scientists have been able to convert ordinary skin cells directly into stem cells that have all of the important properties of embryonic stem cells. Thus, scientists who claimed that embryonic stem cells offered the "best" or the "only" hope for patients have been proved wrong by science itself.

Maureen Condic, Ph.D., "Stem Cells and Hope for Patients," Respect Life Program 2008

August 17th

The causes that lead to such painful decisions as abortion are of course many and complex. If, on the one hand, ... the Church never tires of reaffirming that the sacred value of every human being's life originates in the Creator's plan, on the other hand, she encourages the promotion of every initiative in support of women and families in order to create the favorable conditions in which to welcome life, and the protection of the family institution founded on the marriage between a man and a woman. Not only has permitting recourse to the termination of pregnancy not solved the problems that afflict many women and a fair number of families, but it has also made another wound in our society, unfortunately, already burdened by deep suffering.

Pope Benedict XVI, Address to the Members of Italy's Pro-Life Movement, May 12, 2008

August 24th

For Christians ... an indispensable field for the apostolate and for Gospel witness is always open: to protect life with courage and love in all its stages. ... It is necessary to witness concretely that respect for life is the first form of justice to apply. For those who have the gift of faith this becomes a mandatory imperative, because the disciple of Christ is called to be increasingly a "prophet" of a truth that can never be eliminated: God alone is the Lord of life. Every person is known and loved, wanted and guided by him. Here alone lies the deepest and greatest unity of humanity: in the fact that every human being puts into practice God's one plan, originates in God's same creative idea. One thus understands why the Bible says: whoever profanes man, profanes the property of God (cf. Gn 9: 5).

Pope Benedict XVI, Address to the Members of Italy's Pro-Life Movement, May 12, 2008

August 31st

No job, no plans, no possessions, no idea of "freedom" can take the place of love. So anything that destroys God's gift of motherhood destroys His most precious gift to women—the ability to love as a woman.

Blessed Mother Teresa of Calcutta

**Office of Pro-Life, Marriage and Family
Diocese of Youngstown
Natural Family Planning Bulletin Quotes**

August 3rd

When I was in Peru I worked with a married couple and an obstetrician to teach Natural Family Planning. Some 100 couples participated. We also offered a class for young adults, singles, who wanted to be instructors or promoters. Not only young women, but young men attended... The course lasted six months and when it was over I asked one of the boys what he had learned. He said to me, "Father, I learned respect for women."

Father Phil Bloom

August 10th

God wants what is best for His sons and daughters. He never asks the impossible—just the plain difficult. Chastity is a difficult virtue; it always has been. Chastity always benefits our marriages, our families, and the wider culture. The absence of chastity always brings great harm and misery to everyone it affects. I encourage you...read the encyclical *Humanae Vitae*. It has a clear formula for happiness and well-being for everyone.

Father Matthew Habiger, O.S.B., PhD

August 17th

The Natural Family Planning approach to child spacing has no health risks, is more reliable than any artificial contraceptive, and is very nearly free! It strengthens marriages, raises the dignity of women, and helps couples to become open to children. Once people really understand how good NFP is, they want to use it and start reaping some of those benefits for themselves. We encourage everyone, both single and married, to learn NFP, even if they may never use it.

Vince & Bernadette M. Sacksteder

August 24th

Oddly enough, NFP, or natural family planning, is one of the most effective means, if not the most effective means, of planning one's family. NFP, of course, is not the outmoded rhythm method, which was based simply on the calendar. Rather, NFP is a highly scientific way of determining when a woman is fertile, based on observing various bodily signs.

Janet E. Smith, PhD

August 31st

Natural Family Planning (NFP) is fertility awareness that is simple, scientific, and reliable. It is basic knowledge that can be used either to achieve a pregnancy or to avoid a pregnancy when there are serious reasons for doing so. Many people don't realize, however, that there are different methods of NFP—all of which are in harmony with Church teaching. The most widely used methods include the Sympto-Thermal Method, Creighton Model, Ovulation Method, and Marquette Model. A National directory of NFP Teachers and NFP Centers is available at www.OMSoul.com.

Patty Schneier