

CHURCH OVERSEAS COMBINED COLLECTION - FEBRUARY 14/15, 2009

ONE COLLECTION . . . FOUR REASONS TO GIVE

Catholic Relief Services

“Jesus in Disguise”

- Aid victims of war in the Middle East.
- Teach women in India about nutrition and health care.
- Feed starving children in the Sudan.
- Educate farmers in Ecuador in the production of full harvests without chemicals.
- Serve immigrants and refugees in the USA through apostolates in diocesan and parish networks.
- Provide emergency assistance and long-term development programs in more than 75 countries.
- Supports Catholic Relief Services, Migration and Refugee Services, Holy Father’s Relief Fund and the USCCB Department of Social Development and World Peace.

Holy Father/Peter’s Pence

“Christ Our Hope”

- Enables the Holy Father to respond with emergency assistance to those who suffer as a result of war, oppression, disease and natural disaster.
- Provides an opportunity for Catholics worldwide to support the Holy Father’s mission as an active expression of Christ’s love for the poor.
- More than \$190 million has been contributed by dioceses of the United States.
- More than 98 cents of each dollar directly supports the Holy Father’s spiritual and charitable works.

The Church in Central & Eastern Europe

“Love is the only light”

- Funds projects in 28 countries to build the pastoral capacity of the Church and rebuild and restore the faith.
- Supports social service programs, youth ministry, pastoral centers, church construction and renovation.
- Supports formation and training of priests and religious.
- Assists in development of catechetical programs, materials and teachers.
- Assists in establishment of mass media and communications apostolates, transmitting the Gospel message through TV, radio and the Catholic press.
- Supports the Church’s charitable works.
- Coordinates assistance with other aid agencies in the United States and Western Europe.

The Church in Latin America

“Disciples, Missionaries, Leaders”

- Distributed over \$8 million in grants to 535 projects.
- Supports the USCCB Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development in its work on behalf of the Church in Latin America.
- Awarded \$850,000 for 80 projects to the Church in Cuba, including \$250,000 toward reconstruction of churches destroyed by hurricanes Gustav and Ike.
- Funded “Continental Mission” projects in Nicaragua, Haiti and Ecuador for a permanent mission of evangelization.
- Funds formation of priests, religious, lay ministers, missionaries, catechists and youth ministers.
- 40 grants totaling \$540,000 to projects sponsored by the Latin American Episcopal Conference in 22 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Thank you for your continued support of the Church Overseas.

For more information go to www.usccb.org



Stewardship Bulletin Inserts for February / March 2009

February 1, 2009 (4th Sunday in Ordinary Time)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

Moses told the people, "A prophet like me will the Lord, your God, raise up for you from among your own kin." God still provides among His people the gifts and talents necessary to continue the work of His Church. What gifts are yours to share?

February 15, 2009 (6th Sunday in Ordinary Time)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

In today's second reading, St. Paul urges the Corinthians to "do everything for the glory of God." If we follow that advice in everything that we do, we cannot help but be good stewards.

March 1, 2009 (1st Sunday of Lent)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

The waters of Baptism make us part of the new covenant in Christ. But the bishops' pastoral letter on stewardship reminds us that "there is a fundamental obligation arising from the sacrament of baptism...that people placed their gifts, their resources – their selves – at God's service in and through the Church."

March 15, 2009 (3rd Sunday of Lent)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

"You shall not covet" is perhaps a difficult commandment to keep in our consumer society. As Christian stewards we know that we are the recipients and caretakers of God's many gifts. May this understanding that *all* is gift help us be less resentful of the gifts of others.

March 22, 2009 (4th Sunday of Lent)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

All that we have and all that we are comes from the Lord, "For we are His handiwork," says St. Paul in the second reading, "created in Christ Jesus for the good works that God has prepared in advance, that we should live in them."

March 29, 2009 (5th Sunday of Lent)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

"Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there also will my servant be." In what ways is Jesus inviting me to follow Him? What service is He asking of me?

February 8, 2009 (5th Sunday in Ordinary Time)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

Like St. Paul in today's second reading, the good steward can say, "All this I do for the sake of the Gospel, so that I too may have a share in it."

February 22, 2009 (7th Sunday in Ordinary Time)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

Forgiveness too, is a gift from God. Freed from the paralysis of sin, the man in today's Gospel was able to stand and give witness to the power of God. How do I let sin cripple me? Am I a good steward of the gift of God's forgiveness?

March 8, 2009 (2nd Sunday of Lent)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

Abraham was prepared to sacrifice his only son, Isaac. St. Paul reminds us that God Himself "did not spare his own son." Are *my* gifts to the Lord - of my resources, of time, of myself – also sacrificial?

March 15, 2009 (3rd Sunday of Lent)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT (Cycle A Readings)

When Jesus asked the Samaritan woman for a drink of water, He opened the door for a life-changing relationship with Him. Scripture says her testimony drew many others to Him as well. We, too, must be ready to respond whenever and wherever the Lord speaks to us and be prepared for it to change our lives.

March 22, 2009 (4th Sunday of Lent)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT (Cycle A Readings)

The blind man in today's Gospel was willing to let Jesus minister to him and willingly did all Jesus asked of him. The Pharisees were more resistant to His message, spending their time and energy to disprove the miracle. Which am I more like, the blind man or the Pharisees?

March 29, 2009 (5th Sunday of Lent)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT (Cycle A Readings)

When Jesus heard about the illness of Lazarus, He said "This illness is not to end in death, but is for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Every aspect of our lives- sufferings as well as our gifts - can, if surrendered to Christ, lead to blessings for ourselves and others.

Intercessions for Life

February 2009

February 1st

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

For all who teach young children:
that by their lives and by their words
they might teach the beauty and value of life
from conception to natural death;
We pray to the Lord:

February 8th

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

For doctors who struggle to do the right thing,
and for their patients:
that the Gospel of Life might be their guide;
We pray to the Lord:

February 15th

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

For all who are defenseless against the forces of violence and hate,
and especially for the littlest of children in their mothers' wombs,
that God will protect them from all evil;
We pray to the Lord:

February 22nd

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

For those whose desperation tempts them
with death,
and especially men and women
contemplating suicide:
that God might teach us to bring them his
hope;
We pray to the Lord:



February 1

In the mystery of the Incarnation, the Son of God confirmed the dignity of the body and soul which constitute the human being. Christ did not disdain human bodiliness, but instead fully disclosed its meaning and value: “In reality, it is only in the mystery of the incarnate Word that the mystery of man truly becomes clear.”

--*Dignitas Personae*, Instruction on Certain Bioethical Questions, Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, Sept. 8, 2008, n. 7.

February 8

By virtue of the simple fact of existing, every human being must be fully respected. ... Discrimination with regard to human dignity based on biological, psychological, or educational development, or based on health-related criteria, must be excluded.

--*Dignitas Personae*, Instruction on Certain Bioethical Questions, Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, Sept. 8, 2008, n. 8.

February 15

“This boundless and almost incomprehensible love of God for every human being reveals the degree to which the human person deserves to be loved in himself, independently of any other consideration – intelligence, beauty, health, youth, integrity, and so forth.”

--*Dignitas Personae*, Instruction on Certain Bioethical Questions, Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, Sept. 8, 2008, n. 8.

February 22

There are those who say that the moral teaching of the Church contains too many prohibitions. In reality, however, her teaching is based on the recognition and promotion of all the gifts which the Creator has bestowed on man: such as life, knowledge, freedom and love. Particular appreciation is due not only to man’s intellectual activities, but also to those which are practical, like work and technological activities. By these, in fact, he participates in the creative power of God and is called to transform creation by ordering its many resources toward the dignity and wellbeing of all human beings and of the human person in his entirety. In this way, man acts as the steward of the value and intrinsic beauty of creation.

--*Dignitas Personae*, Instruction on Certain Bioethical Questions, Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, Sept. 8, 2008, n. 36.

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

February 1

What is natural family planning?

Natural family planning is a general name for the methods of family planning that are based on a woman's menstrual cycle. A man is fertile throughout his life, while a woman is fertile for only a few days each cycle during the child-bearing years. Some believe that NFP involves using a calendar to predict the fertile time. That is not what NFP is today.

Married Love & The Gift of Life: United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

February 8

A woman experiences clear, observable signs indicating when she is fertile and when she is infertile. Learning to observe and understand these signs is at the heart of education in natural family planning. When a couple decides to postpone pregnancy, NFP can be very effective. NFP can also be very helpful for couples who desire to have a child because it identifies the time of ovulation.

Married Love & The Gift of Life: United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

February 15

The Church's support for NFP is not based on its being "natural" as opposed to artificial. Rather, NFP respects the God-given power to love a new human life into being even when we are not actively seeking to exercise that power. However, because NFP does not change the human body in any way, or upset its balance with potentially harmful drugs or devices, people of other faiths or of no religious affiliation have also come to accept and use it from a desire to work in harmony with their bodies. They have also found that it leads couples to show greater attentiveness to and respect for each other.

Married Love & The Gift of Life: United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

February 22

Living God's design for human sexuality in marriage can be difficult. But husbands and wives have not been left alone to live out this fundamental life challenge. If you have failed to do so in the past, do not be discouraged. God loves you and wants your ultimate happiness. Loving as Christ loves is a possibility opened to us by the power of the Holy Spirit, as a free gift of God. Through prayer and the sacraments, including Reconciliation and the Eucharist, God offers us the strength to live up to this challenge.

Married Love & The Gift of Life: United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

Wedding Music Showcase Concert

**Friday, February 13, 2009
7:00 p.m.**

**St. Christine Church
Youngstown, Ohio**

Presented by

Patricia Campbell, Ronald Goulish, and Daniel Laginya

Assisted by

Kim Russell, *flute*
Susan Sexton, *trumpet*

Processionals

*March – Handel
*Processional – Cavarra
Canon in D (flute & organ) – Pachelbel
*Rigaudon – Böhm
*Rondeau in D – Lasky
*Prelude to the Te Deum – Charpentier

Psalmody

Psalm 103: The Lord Is Kind and Merciful –
Cotter
Psalm 128: All the Days of Our Lives –
Cooney
Psalm 128: Blest Are Those Who Love You
– Haugen
Psalm 145: Our God Is Compassion - Cotter
Psalm 148: Let All Praise the Name of the
Lord – Cotter

Hymns and Songs

Bridegroom and Bride
Gathered in the Love of Christ – Haugen
Hear Us Now, Our God and Father
No Greater Love – Joncas
A Nuptial Blessing – Joncas
Three Songs for Weddings – Collegeville
Composers Group

Vocal Solos and Duets

Our Love Is Precious – Young
To Believe in Love – Whitaker
When Love Is Found – Hopson
Wherever You Go – Haas
Your Love, O God – Young

Recessionals

*Trumpet Tune – Stanley
Hymn of Joy – Travis
*Bourrée – Handel
Sonata – Telemann
Festival Trumpet Tune – German
*Recessional – Cavarra