

Stewardship Bulletin Inserts for March / April 2008

March 2, 2008 (4th Sunday of Lent)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

The blind man 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 man born blind or the Pharisees?

March 16, 2008 (Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

"Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!" shout the crowds in today's Gospel. May we be always ready to share our blessings when we are sent in His name!

March 30, 2008 (2nd Sunday of Easter)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

Jesus meets the need of each disciple. To the fearful in the upper room, He speaks words of peace. To doubting Thomas, He provides the tangible proof of His resurrection. What do I need to become His disciple? What do I have to share that might meet someone else's need?

April 6, 2008 (3rd Sunday of Easter)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

The disciples on the road to Emmaus walked and talked with Jesus all day long, but it was not until they offered Him hospitality and He blessed and broke the bread that they recognized Him. Simple acts of loving kindness still reveal the presence of God in our midst.

April 20, 2008 (5th Sunday of Easter)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

"Whoever believes in me will do the works that I do, and will do greater ones than those," Jesus tells His disciples. That's quite an assignment for us as Christian stewards!

March 9, 2008 (5th Sunday of Lent)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

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

March 23, 2008 (Easter Sunday)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

Very early in the morning after the Sabbath, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb to anoint Jesus' body with precious oils. The reward of this good conscientious steward was to be the first to know that Jesus had been raised from the dead! Alleluia!

April 13, 2008 (4th Sunday of Easter)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

Jesus says, "I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly." Good stewards are grateful for the gift of life and joyfully share their abundance with others.

April 27, 2008 (6th Sunday of Easter)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

Those who obey the commandments, Jesus says in today's Gospel, are the ones, who really love Him. Does my stewardship reveal my love for Jesus?

Bulletin Quotes
March 2008
USCCB Secretariat for Pro-Life Activities

March 2nd – Fourth Sunday of Lent

In addressing these issues of life over the past four decades, the Catholic bishops of the United States have not – repeat, not – made “sectarian arguments.” The bishops have made moral arguments that can be known by anyone willing to think through the first principles of justice. It is worse than a tragedy, it is a scandal, that too many of our fellow-citizens, including our Catholic fellow-citizens, seem not to have grasped these first principles of justice or have turned their backs on them.

Archbishop Edwin F. O’Brien, Oct. 1, 2007 Installation Mass, Baltimore, Md.

March 9th – Fifth Sunday of Lent

When I saw the embryo [through a microscope at a friend’s fertility clinic], I suddenly realized there was such a small difference between it and my daughters. I thought, we can’t keep destroying embryos for our research. There must be another way.

Dr. Shinya Yamanaka, pioneer in reprogramming adult cells to behave as embryonic stem cells, Dec. 11, 2007

March 16th – Palm Sunday

The right to life is the greatest civil rights issue of our time. This is the issue that will determine whether America remains a hospitable society – committed to caring for women in crisis and their unborn children, committed to caring for those with special needs, committed to caring for the elderly and the dying – or whether America betrays our heritage and the truths on which its Founders staked their claim to independence.

Archbishop Edwin F. O’Brien, Oct. 1, 2007 Installation Mass, Baltimore, Md.

March 23rd – Easter Sunday

No one has to have an abortion. To all of those in crisis pregnancies, I pledge our support and our financial help. Come to the Catholic Church. Let us walk with you through your time of trouble. Let us help you affirm life. Let us help you find a new life with your child, or let us help you place that child in a loving home. But please, I beg you: let us help you affirm life.

Archbishop Edwin F. O’Brien, Oct. 1, 2007 Installation Mass, Baltimore, Md.

March 30th – Octave of Easter / Divine Mercy Sunday

If human embryonic stem-cell research does not make you at least a little bit uncomfortable, you have not thought about it enough.

Dr. James A. Thomson, the first to isolate stem cells from human embryos in 1998, who also has found a way to reprogram adult cells to behave like embryonic stem cells, quoted in NY Times, Nov. 22, 2007

NFP Bulletin Briefs
Diocese of Youngstown
Office of Pro-Life, Marriage and Family

March 2nd – Fourth Sunday of Lent

Studies show an increased risk in breast cancer, cervical cancer, liver tumors, blood clots, heart attacks and brain hemorrhage in women who use the Pill, Norplant, or Depo-Provera.

John and Shelia Kippley

March 9th – Fifth Sunday of Lent

"The experience of tens of thousands of couples has shown that, when lived prayerfully and unselfishly, NFP deepens and enriches marriage and results in great intimacy...and greater joy."

Archbishop Charles Chaput, Of Human Life

March 16th – Palm Sunday

Did you know that Natural Family Planning is not the same as the 'Rhythm Method'? Modern methods of NFP treat each cycle as unique and are 99% effective at determining the fertile days even with irregular cycles. Visit www.doy.org for more information.

March 23rd – Easter Sunday

Visit www.doy.org to learn how modern methods of Natural Family Planning are 99% effective even with irregular cycles, and 100% safe and natural. God has created us with a perfect way to plan our families, and those who practice NFP in their marriage are blessed with a divorce rate of under 5%.

March 30th – Octave of Easter / Divine Mercy Sunday

God chooses to bring forth new human life through the love of spouses. The entire world was created for us and for others like us. God wishes to share His creation with new human souls, and brings new souls into the world through the love of men and women for each other. When a man and woman have a child together, it's an act that changes the cosmos; something has come into existence that will never pass out of existence.

Dr. Janet Smith, Humanae Vitae: A Challenge to Love

CATHOLIC CHARITIES
Voice of Hope Award Nomination Form 2008

**** Please refer to the "Guidelines for Selection" Sheet for more information****

All entries must include the following:

- completed nomination form
- 500-word typed essay

Section 1 -- Nominee Information

Award Category (circle one only): Individual Parish Institution

Nominee: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Section 2 -- Nominator Information

Nominated by: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Section 3 -- The Essay

Please describe in 500 words (about 2-3 paragraphs) or less why your nominee should receive a Voice of Hope Award. Your essay should provide examples of how the nominee's talents, skills and dedication in the areas of charity and/or justice have made a difference in the Diocese of Youngstown. *Preference will be given to nominees who interface with the ministries and/or agencies of Catholic Charities.*

Please direct any questions to Shellie Sabel at 330-744-8451, ext. 322 or

ssabel@youngstowndiocese.org

Deadline for nominations: April 30, 2008

Catholic Charities Voice of Hope Awards 2008

GUIDELINES FOR SELECTION

Award Mission: To recognize an individual, a parish and a Catholic institution demonstrating excellence, creativity and leadership in charity and justice on behalf of disadvantaged people.

Eligibility/Guidelines: All nominees (individual, parish or institution) must be located in and affiliated with the Catholic Diocese of Youngstown.

- Individual nominees must serve in a volunteer capacity. They cannot be paid employees of a parish or institution.
- Parish or institution nominees must demonstrate the involvement of a “group effort” in meeting a need or challenge in their community.
- Former Voice of Hope Award nominees *are* eligible for re-nomination.
- Former Voice of Hope Award winners *are not* eligible for subsequent awards *unless* the individual, parish or institution is nominated for an effort unrelated to their previous award.

Standards for Selection: One winner will be chosen from each of the three categories (individual, parish, institution). Award recipients will be selected according to the following criteria:

- nominee’s achievements and leadership
- nominee’s efforts to support and/or assist the ministries/agencies of Catholic Charities in the Diocese of Youngstown
- nominee’s dedication to his/her/their cause
- impact of the nominee’s efforts on his/her/their community and/or the Diocese of Youngstown

Selection: Nominees will be individuals, parishes and institutions connected to the Catholic Church who exhibit excellence, creativity and leadership in charity and justice on behalf of disadvantaged people. An ad hoc committee will review the nomination materials and rank each nominee according to the Standards for Selection listed above. Top recommendations from each category will be submitted to the Executive Director of Catholic Charities for his consideration. The Executive Director will then forward the final choices to the Bishop/Administrator for review and approval.

**All completed Voice of Hope Award nomination forms are due by Wednesday, April 30, 2008.
Mail, fax, or e-mail completed nomination forms and essays to:**

**Ms. Shellie Sabel
ATTN: Voice of Hope Awards 2008
Catholic Charities
144 West Wood St.
Youngstown, OH 44503**

**Fax: 330-742-6447
E-mail: ssabel@youngstowndiocese.org**

Questions? Call 330-744-8451, ext. 322