



Communique'

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VOLUME XXXVI

NO. 8

AUGUST, 2003

CHANCERY

1. DIRECTORY NOTES

Rev. Thomas McCarthy	New address: St. Paul Parish 157 Ohio Avenue, Salem 44460	Effective August 1, 2003
Rev. Philip Miller	Dean, Ashtabula County	Effective August 1, 2003
Rev. Oswald Mugendi Murungi, A.J.	Associate Pastor St. Joan of Arc, Canton	Effective August 1, 2003

2. SACRAMENTAL RECORDS

Parishes are reminded of their responsibility to respond to requests for sacramental records. The Chancery Office continues to receive correspondence stating that a parish has not responded to requests for these records, and callers saying the parish will not research the records. Thank you for your cooperation.

3. OFFICE OF PRO-LIFE ACTIVITIES

A. Regional Gatherings for Parish Pro-Life Representatives

Every parish is encouraged to send a representative to meet with diocesan Director of Pro-Life Activities Melinda Knight at one of the regional meetings listed below. Participants will receive the 2003 "Respect Life Packet," learn about the resources available through the diocesan Office of Pro-Life Activities, meet representatives from other parishes, and discuss and share ideas for raising awareness of pro-life issues and events in their parishes.

Representatives are encouraged to attend the gathering nearest their parish, but may attend elsewhere if more convenient. The Parish Pro-Life Representative Gatherings will be held at the following locations:

<u>Mahoning County</u> Saturday, Aug. 23	10-11:30 am	Diocesan Conference Room 225 Elm Street, Youngstown
<u>Ashtabula County</u> Monday, Aug. 25	1-2:30 pm	Catholic Charities of Ashtabula County 4200 Park Ave., Ashtabula

<u>Trumbull County</u> Tuesday, Aug. 24	7-8:30 pm	St. William Parish, Champion 5411 Mahoning Ave. NW, Warren
<u>Columbiana County</u> Wednesday, Aug. 25	1-2:30 pm	St. George Parish, Lisbon 271 W. Chestnut St. , Lisbon
<u>Stark County</u> Thursday, Aug. 26	7-8:30 pm	Walsh University David Student Center 2020 Easton St. NW, N. Canton
<u>Portage County</u> Friday, Aug. 27	1-2:30 pm	Immaculate Conception Parish 409 W. Main St. Ravenna

For more information contact Melinda Knight at 330-744-8451 ext 289.

B. Human Life Guild Annual Prayer Breakfast

Registration begins in September for the annual Human Life Guild Prayer Breakfast on **October 4** at the National Shrine of Our Lady of Lebanon, North Jackson. Bishop Tobin will lead Morning Prayer. Guest speaker is Mrs. Kimberly Hahn, best-selling author of *Life-Giving Love; Embracing God's Beautiful Design for Your Marriage*.

C. Journey of Hope . . . Alternatives to the Death Penalty

Family members of murder victims will visit the Diocese of Youngstown with the Journey of Hope, a non-profit organization that addresses alternatives to the death penalty. Journey members will speak at Blessed Sacrament Parish in Warren following Evening Prayer at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, **October 7**. Visit the Journey of Hope website at www.journeyofhope.org. To book a Journey speaker for your parish group call the Office of Pro-Life Activities.

D. Intercessions and Bulletin Messages

Recommended Intercessions and bulletin messages for August are included with this issue of *Communique*.

5. CTNY

A. Programming on the Ecumenical Channel

1. ETC Special: "Hail Mary Full of Grace"
The National Shrine of Our Lady of Lebanon
August 13, 8:00 p.m. -- August 14, 10:00 a.m. -- August 15, 11:30 a.m.
2. Solemnity of the Assumption – August 15, 12:00 p.m. - LIVE
3. World of St. Paul – Thursdays, 8:30 p.m.

August 7 – Interpretation of the Bible in Church
August 14 – Why Read the Bible
August 21 – Did Jesus Intend to Establish the Church
August 28 – Jesus at the Sea of Galilee

4. Celebrating the Great Jubilee – Mondays, 8:00 p.m.

August 4 – Religious Life 1
August 11 – Religious Life 2
August 25 – Laity 2
September 1 – Eastern Churches

5. Jewish Christian Dialogue – Wednesdays, 8:30 p.m.

August 6 – Torah Repair NEW
August 13 – Role of the Cross
August 20 – Lutheran and Anti-Semitism
August 27 – Holocaust in Movies
September 3 – Religion and Politics

B. Wineskins Highlights for August

WKBN – 570 AM, 7:30 a.m.; WRCW – 1060 AM, 10:30 a.m.; WLOA 1470 AM 10-11 a.m. Sundays

August 3 – Eileen Novotny will talk about the Lay Ministry Formation Program in the Diocese of Youngstown

August 10 – Msgr. Robert Siffrin and Sr. Brendon Zajac, SND, discuss the upcoming Marian Congress on August 16

August 17 – Brian Corbin reflects on the Assumption of Mary and the Marian Series , begins with talks from the Marian Congress

August 24 – Fr. Larry Rice reports on the first Catholic settlement in America on Fact of Faith

August 31 – The Catholic Exponent with Lou Jacquet

- C. Personally Speaking – NBC (WFMJ TV-21) – Sunday, August 24, 12:30 p.m.

The Catholic Communication Campaign has produced a special hour-long edition of the talk show “Personally Speaking” that will feature three well-known Catholic celebrities: Dom Deluise (acclaimed conedian, author and chef), Catherine Hicks (7th Heaven) and Michael Badalucco (The Practice). Hosted by Msgr. Jim Lisante, the program’s guests boldly proclaim their faith and the role the Church plays in their lives. The Catholic Communications Campaign is part of our diocesan Church at Home combined collection.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES SERVICES

1. CATHOLIC CHARITIES CORPORATION

“Theme Baskets” Needed for Silent Auction

Catholic Charities is adding a silent auction to its 2003 Voice of Hope Dinner. We are asking creative individuals and groups to donate “theme baskets” for the event. Our goal is to auction 12 baskets at the Voice of Hope Dinner, with all proceeds going to support the emergency assistance efforts of the Catholic Charities Agencies. Need help coming up with a theme? Call Shellie Sabel, Catholic Charities Fundraising Specialist, at 330-744-8451, ext. 322.

Don’t forget: the Catholic Charities Voice of Hope Dinner is scheduled for Friday, **October 24**, at Leo’s Ristorante and Banquet Center in Warren.

2. OFFICE OF SOCIAL ACTION

A. Operation Rice Bowl

Reminder: Please send all parish collections to: Operation Rice Bowl, Office of Social Action, Diocese of Youngstown, 144 W. Wood Street, Youngstown, OH 44503.

Questions: email/call Brian Corbin (bcorbin@youngstowndiocese.org) at the Office of Social Action, 330-744-8451.

B. *Just*Faith: A Catholic Social Teaching Opportunity

Mr. Jack Jezreel, director of the Office of *Just*FAITH of Catholic Charities USA, will present a two-evening workshop concerning the *Just*FAITH educational program that will be offered in 2003-04 in the Diocese of Youngstown. Mr. Jezreel is the author-developer of the *Just*FAITH program.

The opening workshop will be held in the Diocesan Conference Room, 225 Elm Street in Youngstown, on **August 27 and 28**, 2003. The time for both meeting dates is 6:00-9:00 PM. There is no charge but reservations are required by August 25, 2003. The August dates are open to anyone interested in learning more about the *Just*FAITH program.

Twelve people completed the diocesan *Just*FAITH pilot course in Portage County 2002-03. There will be two locations this next year, one in Mahoning County and one Portage County. The Office of Social Action, with the aid of both the Bishop's Appeal and local CCHD monies, is underwriting this course in the Diocese of Youngstown for a period of three years. It is hoped that pastors will send participants who could facilitate this curriculum for religious education credits at the community level in the future. There is a limitation of 17 participants in each location.

*Just*FAITH is a social justice education project sponsored by Catholic Charities. The process is based upon the RCIA model of religious education and consists of thirty, 2 ½ hour sessions. The course uses approximately 12 books and numerous videos. There are two retreats as well as interaction with social service programs within the diocese. The cost of the course is \$150.00 per person to cover the cost of the books and some of the retreat cost. Seventy-five hours of General Religious Education credits are given upon completion of the course.

For more information, to reserve for the August workshop, or to sign up for the course, please contact Rick Walker, Office of Social Action. 330-744-8451, or rwalker@youngstowndiocese.org.

CLERGY AND RELIGIOUS SERVICES

1. OFFICE OF CLERGY SERVICES

A. Clergy Study Day

The annual fall Clergy Study Day is scheduled for Thursday, **October 23**. Keynote speaker is Rev. Cletus Kiley, Executive Director for the Committee on Priestly Life and Ministry for the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

B. Faculties

Parishes which have extern priests in residence who are performing sacramental ministries are reminded that those priests must receive faculties to minister in the Diocese of Youngstown. Please contact Msgr. John Zuraw at 330-744-8451

2. OFFICE OF CONTINUING EDUCATION OF PRIESTS

Advent Day of Recollection

Thursday, **December 11** - Sacred Heart Retreat and Renewal Center

Beginning 9:30 A.M., concluding with dinner at 6:00 P.M.

With the beginning of the Advent Season and the start of the Luken cycle, Father Joseph A. Fitzmyer offers a refreshing and enlightening look at the Gospel of Luke.

Further information and registration will be forthcoming.

3. OFFICE OF VOWED RELIGIOUS

RFR Speakers Needed

Last year's Retirement Fund for Religious appeal was a huge success. A key component was the large number of religious presenters. Over one hundred parishes had religious presenters.

Please consider being a RFR appeal presenter for the elder members of our congregations. The appeal dates for this year are November 22-23.

DEVELOPMENT/STEWARDSHIP

1. Annual Bishop's Appeal

As of July 14 we have received pledges totaling \$3,407,489 toward our goal of \$3.5 million in our 2003 Annual Bishop's Appeal. These commitments are from 27,477 donors.

Please pray for the success of our Appeal and those served through its success.

2. Bulletin Inserts

Suggested stewardship bulletin inserts for August/September are included with this issue of *Communique*.

PASTORAL AND EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

1. OFFICE OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LIFE

A. Retrouvaille

Marriage is about beautiful weddings, romance, love and candlelight anniversary dinners, but marriage is also about dirty laundry, disagreements, balancing budgets, and raising children. Retrouvaille is a program designed to provide help and support to married couples facing difficult times in their relationship. It is for couples who are hurting and lonely. Retrouvaille is also for those who are separated and divorced. Retrouvaille is Catholic in origin but is available to couples of different faiths. The next program begins **September 26-28** at the Best Western Hotel off I-80 in Youngstown. To register, or for more information, call Harry and Sue Reight at 1-800-470-2230 or log on to the website at www.retrouvaille.org. All inquires are confidential.

B. Wedding Anniversary Celebration

The Office of Marriage and Family Life is sponsoring its second Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Celebration for the year 2003 on Sunday, **October 12**, 2:00 p.m. at St. John the Baptist Church in Canton. Diocesan couples who are observing their 25th, 40th, 50th and over wedding anniversaries in 2003 will be honored at this celebration. Couples celebrating are encouraged to register for the event by contacting their parish before September 8.

The Wedding Anniversary Celebration includes Mass celebrated by Bishop Tobin, renewal of marriage vows, a personalized certificate for each couple and an opportunity to greet Bishop Tobin. Following Mass, St. John the Baptist parish will host a reception for the couples and their families.

2. OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

A. Sowers of God's Peace Parish Ministers Annual Gathering

The Offices of Religious Education and Youth and Young Adult Ministry are sponsoring the annual gathering of prayer and preparation for parish ministers:

Saturday, **September 6**, 2003 -- 9:30 a.m.– 2:30 p.m., Ursuline Center, Canfield

Target audience: Adult Faith Formation Contacts, Confirmation Contacts, PDREs, PCREs, Pastoral Associates, Pastoral Ministers, Youth Ministry Leaders, CCD Principals and Small Christian Community Contacts.

Please share this information with any new personnel who may not yet be on the mailing list. Registrations for the day may be mailed or phoned to the Office of Religious Education.

B. OCEA 2003

If you plan to attend the Ohio Catholic Educators Conference, **September 25-26**, at the Cincinnati Convention Center, visit the website: www.cdeducation.org/ocea, to pre-register @ \$75 by September 10 and \$100 at the door and to register for housing. OCEA 2003 features Bill Huebsch and Joanne Chafe as keynoters, and special two-day sessions on Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, sacraments, adolescent catechesis and other topics. For more information call the OCEA office, 614-224-7147 or the Office of Religious Education.

C. Rev. Hehir Keynoter for Diocesan Ministry Convocation

Saturday, **October 25**, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Rev. J. Bryan Hehir will be the keynote speaker for the Diocesan Ministry Convocation, "Sowers of Peace," at Kent State University Student Center. Rev. Hehir is President of Catholic Charities USA. He has served as Dean of the Harvard Divinity School, faculty member at Georgetown University and Director of the Department of Social and Political Affairs for the U.S. Catholic Bishops' Conference.

The Diocesan Ministry Convocation 2003 will provide a variety of workshop opportunities on many ministry topics and concerns. Plan to gather a group from your parish to attend together.

D. Sowers of God's Peace – USCCB Kit

This English/Spanish kit published by the USCCB includes planning strategies and celebrations for Catechetical Sunday, liturgical suggestions through the year, a new feature "Car Chats" for family catechesis, clip art and other ministry helps. The cost per kit is \$10.00 plus postage.

E. Applications for a New Limex Group

If you or someone you know is interested in joining a Loyola University New Orleans Institute for Ministry Extension (LIMEX) group in the Diocese of Youngstown, contact the Office of Religious Education for more information about this graduate ministry education program.

If you are a graduate of LIMEX or of another master's degree ministry program, contact this office for information about focus courses for alumns.

F. 10th Anniversary of U.S. Bishops' Peace Pastoral

The Harvest of Justice is Sown in Peace – A reflection of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops on the Tenth Anniversary of "The Challenge of Peace."

Newly redesigned and reprinted, this title confronts the trend to isolationism in U.S. foreign policy and in the post-Cold War world. It acknowledges the importance of non-violence and discusses the just-war theory, humanitarian intervention, deterrence, conscientious objection and the development of peoples. From the U.S. Bishops, the cost of each is \$4.50 plus postage.

G. Employment of Parish Ministers

Pastors seeking new or additional parish ministers to serve pastoral ministry, youth ministry or religious education are asked to contact the Office of Religious Education for assistance. Positions will be made known to qualified applicants, and pastors will have help with selection criteria, creation of suitable position descriptions and additional needs. Other support services are available from the Office of Religious Education and the Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry.

3. OFFICE OF WORSHIP

A. RCIA Teams

The annual gatherings for RCIA teams will be held on Wednesday, **August 27**, 7:00-9:00 p.m. at two locations in the diocese: Blessed Sacrament Parish in Warren and St. Michael Parish in Canton. Please join members of the Diocesan Christian Initiation Team and Diocesan Canon Lawyers, Msgrs. Peter Polando and John Zuraw, for a discussion of pastoral issues and canonical norms pertinent to the implementation of the RCIA. Registration is requested by August 18. Brochures have been mailed.

B. Leader of Prayer Formation Series

The Office of Worship will sponsor an eight-week series for the formation of Leaders of Prayer. Those taking part will be instructed in the verbal and non-verbal elements of presiding as outlined in the diocesan document, *Gathered in Steadfast Faith*. The series is open to those discerned for this ministry by their pastor. The sessions will begin on Wednesday, **September 17** at the Ursuline Center in Canfield from 7:00-9:15 p.m., and continue each Wednesday **through November 12**, with the exception of October 8. Commissioning of Leaders of Prayer will be held November 19.

The fee for the series is \$60. Registration information has been mailed to pastors and Spiritual Life and Worship chairpersons. For more information call the Office of Worship at 330-744-8451, ext. 304.

C. Liturgy Day 2004

Please mark your calendars for the annual Liturgy Day to be held Saturday, **February 7, 2004** at St. Charles Parish in Boardman. Rev. Edward Foley, Capuchin, professor of Liturgy and Music at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago, will present the day.

D. Used Organs Available

An older Conn organ is available free to a parish or institution. Please contact Ann Zubyk at 330-545-5139.

A Hammond organ is also available at no charge. Please call the Office of Worship for information.

4. OFFICE OF YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

A. National Catholic Youth Conference (NCYC)

July 31 was the deadline for the third payment for NCYC. The final balance for the trip is due September 15.

Please remember to make sure all NCYC chaperones are in compliance with the Diocesan Child Protection Policy. Those who have not been fingerprinted should have it done soon so their clearance arrives before the trip.

B. Sowers of God's Peace: Diocesan Parish Ministers Gathering

Sponsored by the Offices of Religious Education, and Youth and Young Adult Ministry, this event will be held at the Ursuline Center, Canfield, on Saturday, **September 6**, 9:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. If you have not received a flyer call Faye at 330-744-8451, ext. 281.

C. Dive In! 2003 Ohio Young Adult Conference

Saturday, **October 18**, 2003 - John Carroll University, Cleveland

Cost: \$40.00 (price options available)

For women and men, single and married in their 20's and 30's. For more information call Faye at 330-744-8451, ext. 281 or go online to www.ohioyoungadultministry.com.

D. Bring, Brag, Borrow: Youth Ministers Fall Gathering

October 25, 2003, Kent State University Student Center

Diocesan Ministry Convocation—Session B (See convocation schedule for location.) If you minister with high school age youth, please grab a lunch and bring it to this session to network with other youth ministers. Also bring your favorite fund-raising ideas with you (or just borrow other's ideas!)

E. Child Protection Policy - Clarification

In the July, 2003 issue of *The Compass*, the notice regarding persons who have regular contact with children should be clarified. While the diocesan *Child Protection Policy* describes anyone age 18 or older as an adult, the *Directory for Catechesis* (F-1.11) requires that persons be 21 years old or older to be chaperones.

The *Child Protection Policy* states: "A team approach to managing youth activities will be used. At least two adults must be present for any activity for children sponsored by a parish or institution of the Diocese of Youngstown, with the exception of the Sacrament of Penance and regular day school or religion classes conducted on the grounds of the parish or institution." Any person functioning as an employee or volunteer who has regular contact with children must be fingerprinted. Persons 18-20 years old (not old enough to be chaperones according to the *Directory for Catechesis*, but considered adults by the *Child Protection Policy*) should read the policy and sign the Background Questionnaire and Applicant's Certification.

PROGRAMS - RETREATS

1. AIDS Ministry – Prayer Support Group

For persons challenged by HIV/AIDS, their families, friends or those grieving their loved ones. The Ursulines of Youngstown invite those feeling the impact of HIV/AIDS to join them for a meal and socialization on Saturday, **August 16**, from 12:00 to 3:00 p.m. at the Ursuline Center, 4280 Shields Road, Canfield. Reservations are not necessary. Call Sister Kathleen Minchin, 330-792-7636 or Father Frank Zanni, 330-394-2461, for more information.

2. Sacred Heart Retreat Center, Youngstown (330-759-9539)

Aug. 5	Women's Auxiliary casserole picnic (bring casserole) Guests welcome with paid members	Cost: \$3.00 covers main dish
Aug. 7	Women's Auxiliary monthly card party Lunch and door prizes	10 am-3 pm Cost: \$5.00
Aug. 7	MSC Educational Foundation Annual Golf Outing Yankee Run Golf Course, Brookfield, Ohio	
Aug. 8	Cursillo Weekend Call Nancy Layko for details 330-799-3817	

3. Villa Maria Retreat Center, Villa Maria, PA (724-964-8920, ext. 3358)

Sept. 2	Morning Prayer: Coffee & Contemplation Liturgy of the Hours	9 –11 am Cost: free will
Sept. 21-27	Directed Retreat Registration due: Sept. 5	7 pm Sun.-Breakfast Sat. Cost: \$240

MISCELLANEOUS

1. Pilgrimage to Carey, Ohio

On Wednesday, **August 6**, Bishop Tobin will be principal celebrant at the 11:00 a.m. Mass at Our Lady of Consolation Shrine in Carey, Ohio. This Mass marks the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the Diocese of Youngstown, as we dedicate our diocese of Mary, Mother of the Church.

Buses are available through Sutton Motorcoach Tours. Departure is 6:00 a.m. from Sutton Tours in Boardman and 7:30 a.m. from St. Michael Parish in Canton. Cost is \$22 per person. Call Sutton Tours for reservations, 330-726-2800. Deadline is August 1.

2. Vatican Museum on the Net

The Vatican museum's treasures are now available on the internet. The site contains 3,200 pages, 165 high resolution images and is constantly expanding. Among exhibits: Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel, Raphael's rooms, the Pinacoteca painting gallery. Paintings can be enlarged for detail and moved around, interesting background on paintings, watch panoramas, etc. Visit www.vatican.va and click on Vatican Museums in the lower left-hand corner.

IN MEMORIAM

	<u>August</u>
<i>Rev. Daniel Drab, OFM</i>	1/64
<i>Rev. Msgr. James Peppard</i>	2/74
<i>Rev. Joseph O'Connell, OP</i>	4/56
<i>Rt. Rev. Msgr. George P. Mulroy</i>	4/66
<i>Rev. John M. Crann</i>	5/50
<i>Rev. George McGuire</i>	5/77
<i>Rev. Carl A. Nicolay</i>	8/66
<i>Rev. Ignatius Wagner, CPPS</i>	10/58
<i>Rev. Frederick Anzivino</i>	10/72
<i>Rev. J. Richard Gaffney</i>	10/83
<i>Rev. Vincent Kopunek, MSC</i>	10/88
<i>Rev. Kenneth Sanders</i>	12/83
<i>Rt. Rev. Msgr. Adelbert J. Cook</i>	12/85
<i>Rev. Baan F. Vitez</i>	13/97
<i>Rev. Paul J. Elnen, OP</i>	14/56
<i>Rev. Joseph Chircop, SSP</i>	16/99
<i>Rev. Thomas F. Sofranec</i>	18/90
<i>Rev. John A. Grabowski</i>	19/60
<i>Rev. John E. Cassidy</i>	19/88
<i>Rev. Msgr. William P. Dunn</i>	20/82
<i>Rev. William A. Appell</i>	21/74
<i>Rev. Felix R. Tecca</i>	22/97
<i>Rev. Orlando D. Rich</i>	25/01
<i>Rev. Alfred Zanolar, CPPS</i>	26/58
<i>Rev. Patrick J. Murphy</i>	27/82
<i>Rev. Robert Hawkins</i>	29/65
<i>Rev. Patrick Gribbon</i>	30/43
<i>Rev. William W. Maund</i>	30/62
<i>Rt. Rev. Msgr. John Stipanovic</i>	30/70
<i>Rev. James R. Hennessy</i>	31/87

OFFICE OF PRO-LIFE ACTIVITIES

Suggested Intercessions for the Month of August

August 3rd EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

For every man and woman who sits on death row: that they may have the courage of repentance, and that God might give us the wisdom to preserve the life of every human being;

We pray to the Lord:

August 10th NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

For legislators who work to preserve the life and liberty of every human being: that God may bless their efforts to enshrine that conviction in American law ; *We pray to the Lord:*

August 17th TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

For new mothers and fathers: that through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and good Saint Joseph, her spouse, they might cherish and protect the life of their child;

We pray to the Lord:

August 24th TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

For medical researchers: that they might use their knowledge and skill for the healing and nurturing of human life from conception to natural death; *We pray to the Lord:*

August 31st TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

For all who work to support new mothers, and especially for those who provide them a home and food and love as they await the birth of their child: that God may bless them abundantly; *We pray to the Lord:*

Suggested Bulletin Messages for the Month of August

Dear Christian families, do not be afraid to present to others, first and foremost by the witness of your lives, God's authentic plan for the family as a community of life founded on marriage, in other words, on the stable and faithful union of a man and a woman, bound to each other by a bond which is publicly manifested and recognized.- *Pope John Paul II, Mass for Families in Rijeka, June 8, 2003.*

When human babies are not preferred to material possessions, this preference is a sign not of freedom but of servitude. Material possessions are not signs of freedom; children are. The new free will and mind in the world represent that potential innovative force by which the material possessions needed to support us can be invented and come into being in the first place. The child is the parents' contribution to creation. The ultimate wealth is the human mind and will as it refreshingly comes to be in each new human birth. — *James V. Schall, S. J., Schall on Chesterton, 132-133.*

On the other side [of culture's great struggle] is a "culture of life." It recognizes the equal dignity and precious worth of every person. It abounds in joy and peace. It is rich, not in money but in forgiveness and reconciliation. It teaches us about the real world, accepting realities that sometimes are hard. Not man but God alone can transform reality through the power of grace.— *U.S. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Mel Martinez, Legatus 3rd Annual Pro-Life Pilgrimage, May 22, 2003*

Children are the treasure and hope of the church. — *John Paul II*

Suggested Stewardship Bulletin Inserts for August/September

August 3, 2003 (18th in Ordinary Time)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

The crowd in today's Gospel demanded a sign of Jesus and wanted to know what "work" He did to inspire their faith. May our faithful stewardship be a sign to others that we, like the Ephesians in the second reading, have laid aside our former way of life and acquired a "fresh, spiritual way of thinking" in Christ.

August 17, 2003 (20th in Ordinary Time)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

"Those who seek the Lord want for no good thing," says today's Psalm. But in the second reading St. Paul reminds us that, thus blessed by the Lord, the good steward should "give thanks to God the Father always and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ."

August 31, 2003 (22nd in Ordinary Time)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

"Every worthwhile gift, every genuine benefit comes from above," says St. James in the second reading. But, he reminds us, true worship of God involves *using* those good gifts to benefit the less fortunate.

September 14, 2003 (24th in Ordinary Time)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

Even though the Lord led them out of Egypt and provided for their every need, the people in today's first reading were complaining and ungrateful. Does my stewardship of God's gifts show that I know from Whom they came and am grateful?

September 28, 2003 (26th in Ordinary Time)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

St. James warns in today's second reading that those who hoard their wealth and live only for themselves will be condemned. But in the Gospel, Jesus assures us that all who give of themselves for His sake will be rewarded.

August 10, 2003 (19th in Ordinary Time)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

The gifts of God that the angel brought to Elijah—food, water, rest, and encouragement—were given, not for his own good alone, but to strengthen him for service. How am I using my gifts to serve others?

August 24, 2003 (21st in Ordinary Time)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

In today's first reading, Joshua challenges the people to decide whom they will serve. Recalling God's faithfulness to them and to their ancestors, the people declare, "We also will serve the Lord, for he is our God." May we, too, be mindful of God's gifts to us and renew our commitment to serve Him with grateful hearts.

September 7, 2003 (23rd in Ordinary Time)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

The good steward must not show favoritism. The rich may have many material gifts to share, but St. James reminds us in the second reading that God has chosen the world's poor to be rich in faith and inheritors of God's kingdom.

September 21, 2003 (25th in Ordinary Time)
STEWARDSHIP THOUGHT

Today's second reading warns that a heart consumed with avarice and envy leads to jealousy, strife, conflicts and disputes. A giving heart, in contrast, can sing instead with the Psalmist, "Freely will I offer you sacrifice; I will praise your name, O Lord, for its goodness."