

MUSINGS FROM A PUZZLED PASTOR

Two weeks ago, I informed you through the Pulpit Announcements that our parish is in deep financial crisis. Last weekend I took to the pulpit at all the Masses and preached on the Gospel story of the peasant boy who took his small lunch of two barley loaves and a couple of fish and gave it to the Lord, Who, in turn, accepted it, blessed it, and used it to feed more than 5,000 people. Those people were in need of food, and, with very little to work with, Jesus took care of the situation. I compared this with our problem at St. Pius X and appealed to every one of you to help us. Since we're all part of the parish, I urged all of you to be part of the solution to our parish problem. Yes, I am aware – and painfully so – of the worldwide economic recession; and even more so now that it has come to roost at our parish doorstep. I'll admit that I was greatly encouraged by the favorable responses I heard from many parishioners after each of the Masses. But I'm Irish and hard-headed and long enough in the priesthood to know that "The proof of the pudding is in the eating." So, I eagerly awaited Monday morning, when the collections would be counted and we'd see how well we'd done. Our secretary always provides me with the weekend total by mid-morning Monday, together with the amount of the collections for the corresponding Sunday last year. For many of the Sundays since Easter, we had noticed that our totals had been significantly lower. Well. Glory be to God! This past Sunday our collection was higher than that Sunday a year ago..... a mere **\$250 higher!** That brought me back down to earth in a hurry – especially when I realized that \$200 of that increase had come in a check from a lady visiting me from Tallahassee, Florida, with her daughter, who had been a student of mine at St. Jerome's 19 years ago! You do the math on that one! The only conclusion I can come to is that my efforts and my words have fallen on deaf ears. I have long since entrusted

our parish problem with the finances over to the Lord. Has he let me down? NEVER! But it certainly looks like I have let Him down – and that's not a pleasant thought to live with, especially for a priest. So, where do I go from here? I realize that you've only been made aware of our problem for the past two weeks. That certainly isn't enough time for you to respond with the help that's needed. Besides that, it is only you, our year-round parishioners, who are getting the message. Many of our good and faithful members have not been here since after Easter. They have a right to know of our plight too. It is my intention to write to all of our registered parishioners within the next few days, enclosing that pulpit announcement, a copy of my last week's sermon, and this item for the Bulletin. You who are here will be getting this too. Sorry about that! This is the only means of getting the message and a plea for help to our parishioners, who are now up north. Hopefully, by the end of August, I'll have a better idea of what they and you and the Lord will do. After that.....? Well, we'll just have to leave it to Our Blessed Lord to show us where our parish – and me, your unworthy servant – are going. Meanwhile, I thank you for your patience, your concern, your encouragement and your help; and I humbly ask for your prayers for this puzzled but still Kindly Pastor!

Father Pat Slevin

B I N G O

Every Thursday

All parishioners and friends of St. Pius are invited to attend **every Thursday.**

Doors open at 5:30PM

Progressive Game

Early bird starts at 6:30PM

Regular Bingo at 7:00PM

Snack Bar serves coffee, tea, hot chocolate, popcorn, hot dogs and a variety of sweets.

Hall Rental - Knights of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus is offering the rental of its Hall, located at 3999 North Dixie Highway, Oakland Park, for weddings, parties, meetings and social affairs, etc. Seating capacity is 104 persons with kitchen and bar facilities.

Contact Joe Scerbo for information and membership application. Cell 954: 401-6428.

The Sanctuary Lamp signals the Eucharistic presence of the Lord Jesus in the tabernacle and burns continuously for 7 days. You may have the sanctuary lamp memorialized for either a sick person, a deceased loved one, or a special intention, for a weekly donation of \$10.00. Please call the parish office to reserve a specific date.

The Sanctuary Lamp will burn this week in the Church in memory of: **Luella Sciscent** and in the Chapel in memory of: **Mary Comis**.

Prayer Request for the sick...

Helen Keating, Mary Fearon, Mary Reilly, Pat Zades, Elizabeth Santos, Gwen Chintala, Bess Malvarosa and Kate Norakawa.

Prayer Requests for the deceased...

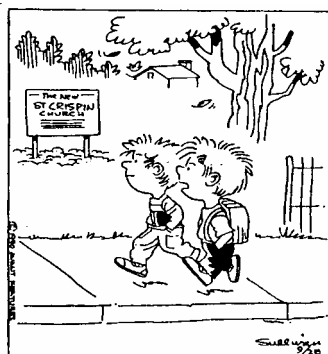
Vini Corona.

Our Parish Web Site

Pope Benedict XVIA Tech-savvy and wired Pope Benedict is taking the Gospel to the people in a new and exciting manner. Web surfers can now send virtual postcards of Pope Benedict XVI to their Facebook friends or follow the pontiff's travel on their iPhones.

Log on to our website for more information and get the addresses to the "plugged-in Pope Benedict" sites including YouTube, WikiCultura among others.

<http://www.saintpiusthetenth.org>.



"THEY BROKE GROUND FOR OUR NEW CHURCH YESTERDAY. IT WAS GREAT SEEING SOMETHING GET BROKEN THAT WASN'T MY FAULT."

ADVERTISER OF THE WEEK

LAW OFFICE OF CHRIS NARDUCCI

Chris Narducci, Parishioner

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(954) 260 6090

629 SW 1 Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

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In our Parish Bulletin.

THANK YOU TO OUR BULLETIN ADVERTISERS

Our Bulletin is furnished to our parish **FREE** of charge through the generosity of our advertisers. We wish to thank all of our advertisers listed on the back cover of the Bulletin for supporting St. Pius X Parish. We urge you to patronize the advertisers as a way of saying "Thank You". Tell them you saw it in our St. Pius X Family's Bulletin. If you wish to place an ad on the back of the Bulletin, please call Diocesan Publications at **1-800-292-9111** and ask for **Charbel Barakat**.



Mass Intentions

SATURDAY – AUGUST 1st

4:00PM Elizabeth Romano

5:30PM Carmella Magocco

SUNDAY – AUGUST 2nd

8:00AM Anthony Acampora

9:30AM Sampson & Zucconi Families

11:00AM Dorothy & Jim Gill

12:30PM Herta & Max Saurel

MONDAY – AUGUST 3rd

8:00AM Carl J. Meister

9:00AM Herta & Max Saurel

TUESDAY – AUGUST 4th

8:00AM Vini Corona

9:00AM Herta & Max Saurel

WEDNESDAY – AUGUST 5th

8:00AM Thomas Bonanno

9:00AM Herta & Max Saurel

THURSDAY – AUGUST 6th

8:00AM Kathryn Seaman

9:00AM Herta & Max Saurel

FRIDAY – AUGUST 7th

8:00AM Mary Gillan

9:00AM Herta & Max Saurel

SATURDAY – AUGUST 8th

8:00AM Marian & Edward Stitzell

9:00AM Herta & Max Saurel