

March 23-24, 2019



OUR LADY, QUEEN OF THE YOUGH CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

Pennsylvania Charitable Trusts

*Our vision is to lead all whose lives we touch
into a living relationship with the person of
Jesus Christ through Word and Sacrament,
Service and Fellowship.*

www.youghcatholic.org

**SPRING
HAS
SPRUNG
(ALMOST!)**



To our visitors... If you are just passing through, we are glad you chose to worship with us. If you are seeking a new church home, please know there is always room in our pews and a place in our hearts for you.

DEVIVO CENTRE

116 South 2nd Street
Connellsville, PA 15425

724.628.6840 (f) 724.628.0838

MON-THU 8:30am-noon / 1-4pm
FRI 8:30am-1pm

BRADY CENTRE

459 Ranch Road
Dunbar, PA 15431

724.277.4236 (f) 724.277.8954

MON, TUE, THU, FRI 9am-3pm

SATs 5:15-5:45pm at IC

Confession

and by appointment

We work with the Holy Trinity Conference of Saint Vincent DePaul to help our neighbors in need. You may call them at 724.562.3341.

We are grateful for the advertisers on pages 4 and 9, who cover the cost of printing our bulletins.

Please frequent their businesses in support of them.

This week's featured advertiser is MONGELL TIRE SERVICE.

Our Faith Community consists of the Parish Families of Immaculate Conception, Connellsville (1869), Saint Aloysius Gonzaga, Dunbar (1874), Saint John the Evangelist, Connellsville (1895), and Saint Rita of Cascia, Connellsville (1915).



We also embrace the former Parish Families of Saint Vincent de Paul, Leisenring (1888-2008), Sacred Heart, Dawson (1889-2007) Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Connellsville (1901-1913), Saint Emory, Connellsville (1903-1970), Holy Trinity, Connellsville (1903-2008), Saint Polycarp, West Leisenring (1917-1997).

OUR STAFF - WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

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SUN, MAR 17, 2019 STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Adult\$5,305.00
Loose371.00
Maintenance198.00
Total:\$5,874.00

Cemetery\$609.00
Accent\$125.00
Lent\$263.00
Ash Wednesday\$85.00
Home Missions\$13.00



ST. ALOYSIUS

Adult\$4,650.00
Loose211.00
Children/Young Adults21.00
Parish Improvements123.00
Total:\$5,005.00

Cath. Family Religious Ed\$115.00
Ash Wednesday\$174.00
Home Missions\$120.00



ST. JOHN

Adult\$3,134.00
Loose Collection263.00
Maintenance125.00
Total:\$3,522.00

Cemetery\$467.00
Accent\$5.00
Lent\$401.00
Ash Wednesday\$105.00
Home Missions\$187.00



ST. RITA

Adult\$4,148.00
Loose Collection492.00
Maintenance29.00
Total:\$4,669.00

Cemetery\$540.00
Lent\$75.00
Ash Wednesday\$39.00
Home Missions\$15.00

Open your heart to HOPE

HOPE GROWS

In our communities, the Church seeks to be a place of spiritual growth. You, the donors, ensure that people like Jennifer Hering, a 20-year-old student at Seton Hill University, can also explore God's calling. Jennifer is a finance major and a student in the Certificate in Pastoral Ministry Program who plans to work in parish religious education after graduation.

2019 DIOCESAN LENTEN APPEAL

Donna Malone talks about growing our faith so we can share it with others. Watch the video at dioceseofgreensburg.org/HOPE

DONATE TODAY dioceseofgreensburg.org/HOPE

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT



MARCH 24, 2019

1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12 THE ROCK THAT MOVES

Looking back on our past we can retrace the steps that brought us to where we are. We made decisions at important crossroads. We met people we weren't expecting. Opportunities and setbacks came our way. We made the best decisions we could. Somehow, mysteriously, they have brought us to where we are.

Lent is a good time to reflect on the past, to thank God for the blessings that have brought us to this day, and to confess the sins that hindered our journey.

Through this reflection we more deeply realize the presence of

Christ. He has been our companion through good times and bad. He has guided us, stood patiently by while we made our mistakes, and cleared a path for our faith.

In a letter to the Corinthians, Paul explained that the followers of Moses had a companion on their journey as well. Surprisingly, that companion was Christ. The Bible records two instances when Moses struck a rock and produced water in the desert. The stories occur in different locations. So a tradition developed that the rock moved along with the chosen people. Paul expands that tradition and says, "the rock was Christ."

Throughout Lent we confess our guilt. But we also take heart in the good news that our sometimes crooked path is straining toward a glorious end. Guiding us along the way, solid as a rock, fluid as a stream, is Christ.

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SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

MON: Is 7:10-14, 8:10; Ps 40:7-11; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38

TUE: Dn 3:25, 34-43; Ps 25:4-5ab, 6-7bc, 8-9; Mt 18:21-35

WED: Dt 4:1, 5-9; Ps 147:12-13, 15-16, 19-20; Mt 5:17-19

THU: Jer 7:23-28; Ps 95:1-2, 6-9; Lk 11:14-23

FRI: Hos 14:2-10; Ps 81:6c-11ab, 14, 17; Mk 12:28-34

SAT: Hos 6:1-6; Ps 51:3-4, 18-21ab; Lk 18:9-14

SUN: Jos 5:9a, 10-12; Ps 34:2-7; 2 Cor 5:17-21; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

DIOCESAN LENTEN APPEAL - current to 3/19/19

IC	SA	SJ	SR
<u>DLA Goal</u>	<u>DLA Goal</u>	<u>DLA Goal</u>	<u>DLA Goal</u>
\$38,133	\$26,715	\$18,319	\$34,301
<u>Pledged</u>	<u>Pledged</u>	<u>Pledged</u>	<u>Pledged</u>
\$15,295 (40%)	\$13,530 (51%)	\$4,165 (23%)	\$17,730 (52%)

If you need a DLA envelope, they are available at the back of our churches, or they may be picked up at the DeVivo Centre.

What's Happening at home

St. John's Fundraising Committee will again be selling their frozen pirohi for \$10/dozen, this SUN before Mass, 10:30-11am and after, 12:30-1pm.



St. John's Chicken Dinner, THIS SUN in Moravek Hall, 12:30pm 'til sold out. \$10 adults,

\$5 kids 12/under. Meal includes 1/2 a baked chicken, mashed potatoes/gravy, green beans, salad, roll/butter, dessert/beverage. Eat in or take-out.

THIS SUN IC's 150th Anniversary Committee will have commemorative



items for sale in the social halls after IC's 9:30am Mass and St. John's 11:30am Mass. You may

purchase a 1 lb. box of Colebrook chocolates/\$23, and a specially labeled bottle of wine from Vinoski Winery - Merlot /\$25, Riesling /\$20 and Isabella/\$18. You can also call Christa Puskar at 880-9666 or Becca Richter at 787-7875.

Tom Severin's Bible study continues WED, MAR 27, in IC's Sciberras Hall from 6:30-8pm.

Boundless Compassion book study continues on THUs during Lent, in St. Rita's Bucci Hall from 1:30-3pm.

Molli Vassar's Bible study on FRI after 8:30am Mass at St. Al has outgrown its original space, and has moved to the social hall. Bring your Bible and a notebook. Come whenever you can. ALL are invited. Thanks to those who donated a screen and DVD player for the study.

Our Lady, Queen of the Yough Catholic Community Children's Choir will rehearse SAT, MAR 30 at 11am in IC's Sciberras Hall. Children in grades 3-6 are eligible to join the choir. In addition, 7-8th graders and senior high students may join as cantors and leaders of song.

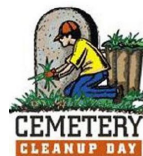
St. Al's Families in Faith meeting is scheduled for SUN, MAR 31 after 9am Mass.

IC Holy Name will meet on MON, APR 1 at 7pm in Sciberras Hall.

The Cemetery Committee is looking for volunteers for spring clean-up of our cemeteries on SAT, APR 6, beginning at 10am.

ALL old decorations will be discarded that day.

If you cannot be there then, it would be a tremendous help if you personally disposed of your own decorations. *Thanks!*



IC Christian Mothers will meet on SAT, APR 6 in Sciberras Hall at 4pm. Any lady interested in Christian Mothers is welcome. After the meeting they will attend 6pm Mass as a group.

IC Holy Name is having a Pancake, Buckwheat and Sausage Breakfast on SUN, APR 7 in Sciberras Hall, 7:30-11:30am. Adults \$5.50, kids 9/under \$3.

St. Al's needs Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors for SAT 5pm Masses. To volunteer, please call the Brady Centre at 277-4236.

St. Aloysius is collecting individually wrapped candy for their Easter Egg Hunt, which is set for SAT, APR 20. Please put your candy in the basket in the church's gathering area. Full event details to come.



IC Festival and 150th Anniversary committees will meet on MON, APR 8 in Sciberras Hall at 6:30pm. Bring your ideas to help us continue with our year of celebration. It's been a GREAT journey so far, but we still have a way to go.

St. Rita Christian Mothers' annual Women's Day of Recollection will be held on SUN, APR 7, beginning at 1:30pm at St. Rita's.



Msgr. Roger Statnick will serve as Retreat Master. Women of all area parishes are invited to this devotional day, which will include a Time for Reflection, Rosary, Benediction (no Mass) and a catered dinner in Bucci Hall. Cost for the day is \$18 (payable by APR 1 to St. Rita Christian Mothers) and includes a coffee and cinnamon roll break, plus dinner. For reservations call Mary at 628-6832.

IC Christian Mothers will sell their nut, apricot, and poppyseed rolls for \$10 each plus cinnamon rolls for \$6/half dozen on Palm Sunday weekend - SAT, noon 'til after 6pm Mass; SUN, 8:30 'til after 9:30am Mass. There will also be a Chinese auction.



Volunteers are needed for IC's Living Stations to be presented Palm SUN evening.

If you'd like to participate, please contact Joan Emmanuel at 880-5703 or Sr. Donna at the DeVivo Centre at 628-6840 ASAP.

ALL festival volunteers MUST have diocesan-required clearances. If you need clearances or have questions about them, call the DeVivo Centre at 628-6840.

THE BEST LENT EVER 2019: A FOCUS ON PRAYER

Personally, I have never had an issue with fasting and almsgiving during Lent. It seems as though Jesus shows me every year exactly WHAT I should be offering completely to Him. However, personal prayer is something a little less clear to me.

I know that I SHOULD be praying more and more often. But practically what does that look like?

For someone growing up in the Catholic Church, thankfully a lot of that is “built in.” We offer Mass more often during Lent. We pray the Stations of the Cross. We come before God in Adoration. We participate in communal evening prayer. Still, our personal prayer lives should also be transformed during this time. So exactly HOW and WHAT should we be doing on our own? Here are some ideas...

1. MAKE MORE TIME:

You may say right away, “*I don’t have time.*” I get that. I also live in the illusion that I don’t have time. But the truth is we need to make time. We need to focus on what is ACTUALLY important and rid ourselves of daily distractions. What distracts you? What do you waste time on?

For me, it is my phone. So during Lent, instead of picking up my phone, I pick up my Bible, my Lenten Prayer Book, or another Christian book that I want to read. EVERY time I get the impulse to waste time on my phone, I have something else to “pick up.” The first year I did this, I was actually **EMBARRASSED** at the number of times a day my mind automatically goes on auto pilot to use my phone for something OTHER than necessity/work!

2. PRAY THROUGH THE DAILY READINGS:

Something that we should ALWAYS do (but don’t) is pray through the daily readings. If you do not know how to find the daily readings, they are available online at www.usccb.org. They are also listed in your Lenten Prayer Book that we all received at Church this year. Speaking of your Lenten Prayer Book, commit yourself to reading that after you have read and reflected on the readings for the day. If you didn’t receive one, we have extra in the office. Please stop by!

3. READ A SPECIFIC BOOK OF THE BIBLE FOR LENT:

Many of us have never just picked up our Bible to pray. Perhaps we are intimidated. Perhaps we don’t know where to start. Something I have found helpful is to get a good Catholic Study Bible. You can learn about the history and background of the text prior to reading. Last year, I read through the book of Job. I found some really great literature on that book in particular and spent the entire season of Lent focusing on what suffering truly means to God. This year, I am reading through the Psalms. This seems much more “doable” to me than simply reading the Bible and not getting very much out of it. Commit to ONE book and learn as much as you can!

4. MAKE ONE SPECIFIC PRAYER YOUR PRAYER FOR LENT:

What is the one thing that you need to work on personally during Lent? Anxiety and stress? Fear and worry? Anger and resentment? Once you have an answer to that question, find a prayer to pray EVERY DAY during Lent that meets your particular need.

Father Dan suggests purchasing a Catholic devotional, the Pieta Prayer book, or an App (such as iPieta).

A prayer that I have found extremely helpful and at the same time EXTREMELY challenging for

me in the past has been the Litany of Humility. Honestly, I don’t even WANT to pray this prayer sometimes because it is so difficult at times for me to swallow!! Look it up! Be prepared to be transformed!!

5. GET INSPIRATION FROM THE LIVES OF THE SAINTS:

There are thousands of canonized Saints so start small! Find out more about patron Saint! Just a few weeks ago, Father Dan told me that my middle name was so appropriate for me; Catherine, as in Saint Catherine of Siena. Because my name is Mary, I don’t associate with Catherine as much. Since then, I have spent a great deal of time learning more about Saint Catherine, and we indeed share some amazing inherent qualities (like the fact that she was not afraid to tell it like it is). Two wonderful books on the Saints if you are interested are “*Butler’s Lives of the Saints*,” and “*Saint of the Day*” by Leonard Foley.

6. WATCH DAILY VIDEOS/READ DAILY MEDITATIONS ONLINE.

We have so many amazing and free resources at our fingertips! Three in particular that come to mind are “*Best Lent Ever*” by Dynamic Catholic, “*Share Jesus*” by Redeemed Online, and daily videos from Word on Fire. Each 3-4 minute video is completely FREE and is sent to your email every day.

If you are not familiar with the “*Best Lent Ever*”, it is put together by Matthew Kelly, who is a Catholic New York Times bestselling author. This year, he is using his new book, “*The Biggest Lie in the History of Christianity*” as the framework for the series. It is excellent! If you would like to read the book, I have a few copies of it at the office! Give me a call.

Christ’s peace and Mary’s love,
Mary Sampey



RCIA during Lent. Our participants are now called the elect. They have been officially admitted to the Easter sacraments by Bishop Malesic at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral. They are: **Adam**

Morgan, Hunter Brown, Landen Brown, Bryson Brown, Karen Campbell, Yamdee Collins, Amy Vinoverski, Alex Crouse, Kimberly Crouse, Olivia Crouse, Ruby Geyer, Lisa Jones, Tom Jones, Jessica Gaffney, and Holli Zavatchan.

Today, those who are to be baptized will participate in the first of three rites called The Scrutinies. They

will come forward and we as a congregation will pray with them and for them that God will remove all sin and evil from their lives and that they will come to know the mercy of God in their lives.

Praying for the elect in our parishes is made more real for us by the distribution of "Prayer Partner" cards now located in the vestibules of each of our parishes. Please take one and pray each day for the person who is written about on the back. Remember that prayers are real things - they mean something to God and they really assist the person you pray for.

Molli

COMMUNAL LENTEN PENANCE SERVICES

MON, MAR 25	7pm	St. Florian, United
TUE, APR 2	7pm	St. John, Connellsville
SAT, APR 6	11am	St. Pius, Mt. Pleasant
THU, APR 11	7pm	St. Raymond, Donegal
SAT, APR 13	11am	St. John, Scottdale
MON, APR 15	7pm	St. Aloysius, Dunbar

Please pray for the repose of the souls of ANTHONY DELLAVECHIA, DORIS HANKLE (mother of Elaine Chojnacki) and JOSEPH WALLACE (brother of Ed Wallace), who died recently. May their souls and the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in eternal peace.

DON'T MISS THE DEADLINE! All info for the Palm SUN bulletin (APR 14) is due by MON, APR 1.

All info for the Easter SUN bulletin (APR 21) is due by MON, APR 8.

Thanks for your cooperation!



Catholic Daughters of the Americas Court Annunciata #260 will meet on TUE, MAR 26 in St. Rita's Bucci Hall at 6pm.

Nar-Anon meeting, WED, MAR 27 at St. John's Moravek Hall, 7-8pm.

The Connellsville Area Ministerial Association's Lenten Lunches are being held TUEs, noon-1pm (except Holy Week), at Connellsville Presbyterian Church. Various area clergy are the featured speakers and women's groups from various congregations are preparing the meals. There is no cost for lunch, but free-will donations are welcome.

St. John, Perryopolis, Lenten Fish Dinners, FRIs through APR 12, noon-6:30pm. Hand-breaded/baked cod \$7, with a variety of al la carte sides and extras for small additional costs. Dine in or call 736-0675 to order take-out.

St. Pius in Mt. Pleasant is hosting a free Lenten Mission Night concert with David Kauffman on FRI, APR 5 at 7:30pm. David is a devout Catholic whose works touch and inspire people worldwide. He is the founder of Good For The Soul Music™, based in San Antonio, TX. Kauffman is a songwriter and recording artist, screenwriter and movie producer, whose creations are described as "good for the soul". All are welcome! Bring the family. For more info contact Eric Harris at 689-2581.



HEATHER COLLINS, a new addition to our prayer list.

We are in the process of updating ALL 4 of our parishioner databases and need current email addresses. After you complete the cut-out form, please put it in the collection basket, or bring/mail it to the DeVivo or Brady Centres.



NAME _____

CHURCH _____ ENVELOPE # _____

EMAIL _____



**We need FOUR volunteers
for extended Adoration during
Lent: TWO for 4:30-5pm,
and TWO for 5-5:30pm.**

**Please call Sr. Donna at 628-6840 to
help in this ministry.**

**Thanks to these parishioners
who will be leading
our WED 12:10pm
Stations of the Cross at IC:**

MAR 27 Brian Casey/
Chris Hornick
APR 3 Terri Cross
APR 10 Mary Lazor
APR 17 Ron Goron

**And to these parishioners who
will be leading our MON 6pm
Stations of the Cross at St. Al**

MAR 25 Josh Grover
APR 1 Don Gmitter
APR 8 Josh Grover
APR 15 Don Gmitter

**Ministry schedules can be found on
the parish website at
www.youghcatholic.org.**

**If you cannot serve when scheduled,
please contact Chris Sparks
at 628-7510 or
crsparks1@zoominternet.net**

MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

MON, MAR 25		ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD
8:00am	St. Rita	Matthew & Andrew McLaughlin (April Walsh)
8:30am	St. Al	Sophia Vaslavsky (Sandra Lincoln)
6:00pm	St. Al	Stations of the Cross
TUE, MAR 26		LENTEN WEEKDAY
8:00am	St. John	Deceased Members of the Painley Family (John Painley & M/M Joseph Sages)
8:30am	St. Al	Diletta Orlando (Ron & Joyce Schmigalsky)
WED, MAR 27		LENTEN WEEKDAY
8:00am	St. Rita	Eugene J. Galiardi (Andrea, Linda & Cynthia)
8:30am	St. Rita	Adoration until 5:30pm
12:10pm	IC	Stations of the Cross
6:00pm	St. Rita	Antoinette Alphonse (St. Rita Christian Mothers)
THU, MAR 28		LENTEN WEEKDAY
8:00am	IC	Donald S. Smith (Family)
8:00am	St. Al	Prayers for Priests & Padre Pio Devotions
8:30am	St. Al	Msgr. J. Edward McCullough (Cousins, M/M Anthony McDermott)
FRI, MAR 29		LENTEN WEEKDAY
7:10am	Geibel Chapel	Thomas A. Vinoski (Greg Vinoski)
8:00am	St. Rita	Joanne Natale (The Donald Natale Family)
8:15am	St. Al	Divine Mercy Chaplet
8:30am	St. Al	Diane Bryner (Pat & Ann Trimbath)
6:30pm	St. John	Stations of the Cross
SAT, MAR 30		LENTEN WEEKDAY
11:30am	St. Rita	CONFESSION VIGIL
4:00pm	St. Rita	Albert & Mary Opst, Jacob & Catherine Bereiter (Barb & Bob Opst)
5:00pm	St. Al	Pro Populo
6:00pm	IC	Flynn Family (Betty, Carole & Judy)
SUN, MAR 31		4TH SUNDAY OF LENT
8:00am	St. Rita	Celeste "Theresa" Mongell (Family)
9:00am	St. Al	Mary & Dorothy Farris (Leonard)
9:30am	IC	Sylvester & Melvina Rendine (Stanton & Paula Fogie)
11:30am	St. John	James & Bridget Andursky (Stephen, Angela & Olivia Andursky)

ST. AL MINISTRY SCHEDULE		
SAT, MAR 30 - 5PM		
ALTAR SERVER	LECTOR	EX MINISTER
C Baldwin	T Nedrow	K Andolino
C Baldwin		P Herron
J Trimbath		S Lincoln
SUN, MAR 31 - 9AM		
ALTAR SERVER	LECTOR	EX MINISTER
A Mongell	C Johnston	T Dull
N Mongell		J Grover
F Vinoverski		A Trimbath
ROSARY SCHEDULE		
SAT, MAR 30	SUN, MAR 31	
Volunteer	B Klotz	

IC, ST. JOHN, ST. RITA MINISTRY SCHEDULE				
	ACOLYTE	EX MINISTER	CROSS BEARER	LECTOR
MAR 30 SR-4pm	E Bohinski K Daniels	G Lembo J Lembo N Lembo	L Thomas	V McDowell
IC-6pm	A Lincoln G Galley	E Aquino J Miller J Colvin	O Spotto	T Sabatini
MAR 31 SR-8am	D Long J Long	B Bielecki L Kozel C Waggett	A Long	B Casey
IC-9:30am	A Zavatchan E Snyder	I McKenna B Molitor A Shroyer	B Zavatchan	L Galiardi
SJ-11:30am	G Holonich L Hampshire	D Siecinski B Knizner L Martin	H Hampshire	M Martin



RAMBLES & RAVES

OUR LADY, QUEEN OF THE YOUTH'S PASTOR
SHOUTS THE

GOOD NEWS

OF THE SPIRIT'S STIRRINGS IN THE
CONNELLVILLE- DUNBAR METROPLEX!

DIOCESAN LENTEN APPEAL: It's that time of year. Again. Yes, the Bishop is asking for **YOUR** help. The Diocese of Greensburg (just like our parishes!) can't function without the financial support of faithful (and even not-so-faithful!) Catholics. Unfortunately there is NOT an orchard of money trees growing in the fields at 723 East Pittsburgh Street, Greensburg. Let's face it, if such trees can't take root along the idyllic shores of the Youghiogheny they sure as heck ain't gonna grow in the concrete jungle of Greensburg!

Now **WHY** should **I** support the **DIOCESE**, you may ask. Why **NOT**, I retort! The Diocese is not some distant, alien entity over and above us. No, **WE** are the Diocese, each and every one of us. It is a false dichotomy to pit "Parish" against "Diocese." It isn't an "us" and "them" situation; we are in this together. In Catholic ecclesiology (the theological discipline that deals with the study of the nature and structure of the Church) the Parish cannot exist without the Diocese, nor the Diocese without its Parishes. The truth is the Diocese **IS** us; **WE** are the Diocese! And without the help of the Diocese we would NOT be able to make it on our own.

For years now we have had an arrangement; I keep talk about the DLA to a bare minimum and **YOU** do **YOUR** part. I don't want to yap on and on and on about it *ad nauseam* and you don't want to hear me go on and on and on about it. My goal is to briefly address it **ONE** Sunday at each Mass. A fortnight ago Saint Aloysius and Saint John heard the "pitch." Last week

was Immaculate Conception's turn. This weekend Saint Rita heard the "good news." My apologies if you attend different Masses each week-end and had the unfortunate experience of hearing me blabber on twice (or **GOD FORBID, THRICE!**). Luckily it was only a short spiel at the end of the homily. Except for at Saint Aloysius that is.

Why did Saint Aloysius get such special treatment? (Or why were they mercilessly punished might be a better phrasing of the question!) Since this is the first DLA campaign in which they have been part of the fold I thought it important to go into greater depth. Basically I laid out the case there as I had done in Connellsville years ago, in order that we all might be on the same page. The rationale led me to dedicating space in Rambles to the DLA message.

I am extremely proud of the people of this community. For seven straight years all three Connellsville parishes exceeded their target (remember, everything raised over the target is **OURS**, free and clear!). I am **SURE** that this year we will have **FOUR** parishes in the "Winner's Circle." **THANK YOU** for all **YOUR** help!

THE PASCHAL TRIDUUM: As we all should know, Lent comes to an end on Holy Thursday and with the celebration of the Mass of the Lord's Supper that evening the holiest time of the year, the Christian "High Holy Days" begin. The Paschal Triduum (the three days of the Lord's "Passover") consists of that Holy Thursday evening Mass, the Service of the Lord's Passion on Good Friday, and the Great Vigil in the darkness of Holy Saturday night. In the liturgical theology of the Catholic Church these three liturgies are not stand-alone celebrations but 3 facets of **ONE** celebration, namely the **SINGLE** Paschal Mystery of the Passion, Death, and Resurrection

of the Lord Jesus Christ. Thus it is envisioned that the three celebrations occur in the **SAME** Church. For years now in Connellsville the Triduum has been celebrated at Immaculate Conception, as it holds the most people. This year the people of Saint Aloysius are welcomed into our glorious celebration.

The rationale for **NOT** having a separate celebration of the Triduum at Saint Aloysius is two-fold. First, one of our RCIA candidates for full communion with the Catholic Church is a Saint Al's parishioner and we don't want to separate her from the other fourteen people with whom she has made this journey. Second, to properly celebrate these most important liturgies of the Church year requires **A LOT** of preparation and trying to divide our energies between two Triduum celebrations would be to the detriment of **BOTH**. And that is **NOT** something I am willing to countenance. Hopefully our new Dunbar folk have learned that I take the celebration of the Sacred Mysteries **VERY SERIOUSLY**. There is nothing more important that I do as a priest!

COVER PHOTO: Last Friday I was driving up Snyder Street on my way to the Middle School for "The Addams Family" when I was entranced by the scene the late afternoon sun created at Hill Grove Cemetery. So I parked the car and started shooting away! This dead tree, soon to come alive with green once spring has sprung, seems a fitting symbol of Lent. **WE** are dead, waiting to spring back to life at Easter.

BTW, the musical was **FABULOUS!** As was the high school's production of "Les Misérables" and Connellsville's "The Lion King." Next week-end Don't miss Geibel's production of "Mama Mia" starring *yours truly!* (Well, maybe not **STARRING ...**)