

JUN 15-16, 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](http://www.youghcatholic.org)**



## CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2019 GRADS

**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 VALDISERRI'S BAKERY, LLC.

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

### FR. BOB LUBIC

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### LOU ANN LAUFFER

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### DAVID BALLARD

*Dunbar Maintenance/Cemetery Care*  
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### DAVID PANZELLA

*Connellsville/Dawson Cemetery Care*  
724.323.5365



## SUN, JUN 9, 2019

### STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

#### IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Adult .....	\$5,168.00
Loose .....	479.00
Maintenance .....	232.00
<b>Total:</b> .....	<b>\$5,879.00</b>
Peter's Pence .....	\$15.00



#### ST. ALOYSIUS

Adult .....	\$6,202.00
Loose .....	224.50
Children/Young Adults .....	17.50
Parish Improvements .....	306.00
<b>Total:</b> .....	<b>\$6,750.00</b>
Ascension .....	\$173.00



#### ST. JOHN

Adult .....	\$3,029.00
Loose Collection .....	164.00
Maintenance .....	120.00
<b>Total:</b> .....	<b>\$3,313.00</b>
Cemetery .....	\$85.00
Ascension .....	\$110.00



#### ST. RITA

Adult .....	\$3,971.00
Loose .....	317.00
Maintenance .....	189.00
<b>Total:</b> .....	<b>\$4,477.00</b>
Cemetery .....	\$60.00
Easter .....	\$25.00
Ascension .....	\$292.00

## THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

### SUN, JUN 16, 2019



#### Proverbs 8:22-31 WISDOM'S ORDER

The disorder of our lives keeps us from peace. We race from one event to the next. Emergencies keep us from getting done the work we had planned to do. Our homes need a little more straightening. Our children need a little more attention. Our patience needs a little less demand.

It can be hard to appreciate the order of the world around us - the rhythm of the sun as it gently runs its course, the miracle of plants as

they open with new life, the comfort of the wind as it cools and refreshes. The cycle of life and death, although it brings chaos to individual lives, is well ordered, and the world passes methodically from generation to generation.

That order is the wisdom of God. The wisdom of God speaks in the Book of Proverbs: "When the Lord established the heavens I was there." God's wisdom predates creation. God's wisdom assisted in creation. Creation works because of God's wisdom. God's wisdom continues to work around the world and within us.

The disorder of our lives may keep us from sensing the wisdom of God, but wisdom is there. God created us in wisdom, ordered our bodies and gave us health, implanted within us a desire to know our creator, and nurtures us in our hunger for charity. Even when we are busy, even when we are unaware, God's wisdom is at work, keeping the pace of our hectic lives.

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And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased. *Hebrews 13:16*

Please pray for the repose of the soul of MICHAEL RITENOUR (brother of Misty Callahan), who died recently. May his soul and the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in eternal peace.

#### SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THIS WEEK

MON: 2 Cor 6:1-10; Ps 98:1, 2b, 3-4; Mt 5:38-42

TUE: 2 Cor 8:1-9; Ps 146:2, 5-9a; Mt 5:43-48

WED: 2 Cor 9:6-11; Ps 112:1bc-4, 9; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

THU: 2 Cor 11:1-11; Ps 111:1b-4, 7-8; Mt 6:7-15

FRI: 2 Cor 11:18, 21-30; Ps 34:2-7; Mt 6:19-23

SAT: 2 Cor 12:1-10; Ps 34:8-13; Mt 6:24-34

SUN: Gn 14:18-20; Ps 110:1-4; 1 Cor 11:23-26; Lk 9:11b-17

# What's Happening at home

mational meeting on **MON, JUN 17**  
VBS is set for July 22-26 at Geibel, 6-8pm.

Bible study, FRIs after 8:30am Mass  
in St. Al's social hall.

Any Adult or Youth Group member  
(completed grades 6-12) who would  
like to volunteer for Vacation Bible  
School is asked to come to an infor-  
mational meeting on **MON, JUN 17**  
at 6:30pm in St. Rita's Bucci Hall.

VBS is set for July 22-26 at Geibel, 6-8pm.



**APPOINTMENT TIMES ARE FILLING UP, SO HURRY  
TO SIGN UP ... ONLINE** at [www.ucdir.com](http://www.ucdir.com). Click  
on the yellow sunburst icon, enter church code  
PA824. Password is photo. **OR** you may call the  
DeVivo Centre at 628-6840.

Just for participating you will receive a **FREE 8 x 10**  
portrait and a church directory. You will view your images right away  
and have the opportunity to purchase family portraits.

**Our directory won't be complete without YOU!**

## PHOTOGRAPHY DATES ARE:

at St. Rita's Bucci Hall

**TUE-FRI, JUN 18-21, 2-8:30pm**

**SAT, JUN 22, 10am-4pm**

at St. John's Moravek Hall

**TUE-FRI, JUN 25-28, 2-8:30pm**

**SAT, JUN 29, 10am-4pm**

## IC'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY



**MON, JUN 17, 10AM!**



**Fr. Daniel Ulishney** will  
be leaving Our Lady,  
Queen of the Yough  
Catholic Community.

He has been appointed  
as the Pastor of St. Mary,

Our Lady of Lourdes in Export  
and St. Jean-Baptiste de la Salle in  
Delmont. We are happy for him,  
but sad of ourselves.

**Fr. Dan Carr** will be  
returning to Connellsville  
and Dunbar as our  
second Parochial Vicar.

He will also become  
the Assistant Chaplain  
at Geibel Catholic Junior-Senior  
High School. We are thrilled and  
blessed to welcome him back!



Please keep both Fr. Dans in your  
prayers. Transfers go into effect  
**JUL 1.**



**ST. RITA**  
**STREET FAIR**  
St. Rita's Street Fair will be held on **THU, FRI, SAT, JUL 11-13.**  
If you can volunteer in any way, please call Paul Mongell  
at 626-0946. If you an help in the kitchen or with food,  
call Rita Pratt at 628-2249.

**Fair tickets have been mailed out.** Please return your ticket stubs plus  
\$30 if you purchase all the tickets. Make sure your name/phone number  
are on the stubs. You may drop them in the collection basket or take  
them to the DeVivo Centre. Additional tickets are available at the office.

**Donations are being accepted to help defray food costs.** Cash or checks  
payable to St. Rita and marked "food fair donation" can be put in the  
collection basket or given directly to Rita Pratt.

**Anyone wishing to donate a themed raffle basket, items or monetary  
donations for a raffle basket for the St. Rita Street Fair should call  
Patty Merendino at 628-4051.** Items must be new. You may drop your  
basket off at Bucci Hall on **MON/TUE, JUL 8/9** from 5-7pm.



If at some point in  
the last 3-1/2 years  
**Fr. Dan Ulishney** has  
lent you a book from his personal  
library and you still have it, please  
return it to him at the DeVivo  
Centre as soon as you can, so that  
he can complete his packing. *Thanks!*



If you are a registered member of one of our parishes and have a child or children of catechetical age (4-17), you should have received a mailing this past week regarding 2019-20 Faith Formation.

I write to invite your participation in the 2019-20 Faith Formation of the Partner Parishes of Immaculate Conception, Saint Aloysius Gonzaga, Saint John the Evangelist, and Saint Rita of Cascia. This year, Our Lady Queen of the Yough Catholic Community is going to continue to be extremely intentional in creating disciples who live for Jesus Christ!

In your mailing packet, you will see registration forms and schedules for the following ministries:

**Vacation Bible School** will be **MON, JUL 22 - FRI, JUL 26** from **6-8pm** at Geibel.

Saint Aloysius will be joining with us this year. Registration is FREE of charge. Please fill out the appropriate forms, as pre-registration is strongly encouraged. Participants of VBS are those students who have just completed PreK-5<sup>th</sup> grade. Volunteers are those who have just completed grade 6-adulthood.

**VOLUNTEERS:** Our first meeting is **MON, JUN 17** in St. Rita's Bucci Hall at 6:30pm!



begins **WED, SEP 11** at Geibel, from **5:45-8pm**.

This year, we will have a total of four **FAMILY** nights with dinner included, **AND** four **YOUTH** nights with K-5<sup>th</sup> grade students only (without dinner). In addition to your family registration fee, we will also be asking that you purchase textbooks for your children. These textbooks will be used at **BOTH** the family and youth nights. Our youth will also be working on their textbooks at home with you, the parents.

This does not mean that your child is to attend **EITHER** the family nights **OR** the youth nights. The program consists of a total of **8** meetings that we expect you to participate in **FULLY**. Because of busy schedules, we have noticed some families that have not participated in our family nights, and thus we have **BARELY** seen your children! This change gives our parents the ability to still participate in community with each other, but decreases the number of evenings you are to attend as parents. Our four "youth only" nights give **YOU** as the parent the ability to have a night off! Go to dinner! Go on a date with your spouse! **RELAX!**

However, if you **WOULD** like to stay for the youth nights, we would be happy to provide an Adult Bible study for you. You could also serve as a Volunteer for our youth nights. We will also continue our Mission 119 at home family Bible program for those who wish to sign up.

Volunteers for Foundations of Faith include Youth Group members (grades 6-12) plus adults. Please see the registration form for details.

**YOUTH GROUP** will continue to meet on **WED** evenings from **6-8pm** beginning **SEP 4** at the former CAPS building.



Grades 6-7 will be in our Middle School Group and Grades 8-12 will be in our Senior High Group.

**SEE NEXT COLUMN FOR ADDITIONAL IMPORTANT UPCOMING MEETINGS TO PUT ON YOUR CALENDAR:**

If you have a child in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade next school year, you will be also asked to attend additional sessions **one SUN EVERY month** with your child for **Sacramental Preparation**, beginning **SUN, SEP 15** at Immaculate Conception beginning with **9:30am Mass** and ending around **12pm** in the Social Hall. This is required for all 2<sup>nd</sup> graders preparing for Reconciliation and First Holy Communion, regardless of which school they attend.



If your child is entering 8<sup>th</sup> grade this year, he/she will be confirmed on the evening of **THU, DEC 5** at Immaculate Conception.



There will be a mandatory parent/child informational meeting on **MON, AUG 5** in St. Rita's Bucci Hall at **6:30pm**.

There will also be a mandatory retreat for students on **SAT, SEP 14** in St. Rita's Bucci Hall from **10am-3pm**. This is required of all 8<sup>th</sup> graders preparing for Confirmation, regardless of which school they attend.


Please complete the registration forms that pertain to your family as soon as possible. If you have **NOT** received a mailing, please contact the office. Forms are also available [www.youghcatholic.org](http://www.youghcatholic.org) under the "Faith Formation" tab.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions you may have. I look forward to building a community of disciples with you.

Christ's peace  
and our Mother Mary's love,  
Mary Sampey



**A father is respected because he gives his children leadership . . . appreciated because he gives his children care . . . valued because he gives his children time . . . loved because he gives his children the one thing they treasure the most — himself.”**

FINANCIAL CORNER 			
ORDINARY INCOME VS. ORDINARY EXPENSES FOR MAY 2019			
IC	St Rita	St John	St. Aloysius
\$27,697.10	\$21,192.98	\$12,758.65	\$16,887.20
<u>(29,306.01)</u>	<u>(26,385.31)</u>	<u>(15,275.49)</u>	<u>(19,739.81)</u>
<u>\$(1,608.31)</u>	<u>\$(5,192.33)</u>	<u>\$(2,516.84)</u>	<u>\$(2,852.61)</u>

## PRAYER requests

Hank Adair, Victoria Altimus, Arlene Argiro, Scott Aronhalt, John Auer, Maureen & Stephen Austen, Beatrice Babura, Peter Babyak, Janice Bailey, Al Balow, Heather Bardin, Meghan Bayer, Scott Bell, Maya Bennett, Marissa Bercik, Reanne Berger, Seth Beveridge, Scott Bigley, Anise Black, Betty Blacka, Jeffery Blystone, Gail Boucher, Devin Braddock, Patty Broderick, Mary Bredesen, Brian, Michael Brienza, Quinn Bukovac, Divinia Calinao, Bob Camilli, Jamey Camp, Margaret Carbonara, Kay Caringola, Andrew Carr, Grace & Larry Carroll, Cecil Casini, Anthony Cecchini, Toni Cellurale-Kuhlman, Mallory Chaikcic, Patty Check, Anthony Colatch, David Coldren, Rita Cole, Heather Collins, Jack Conko, Steve Conko, Cindy Costello-Ford, Angelo Crocetti, Gloria Cross, Ron & Donna Cross, Robert Cumberland, Pat DeCara, Frank Decker, Debbie Del Sordo, Aidan DeMarco, Lavonne Dillinger, Paul Dillon, Albert Disson, Joyce Doppelheuer, Agnes Dowling, Sandy Drury, Mike Dunaway, Cathi Dunn, E.J. Duritza, Alberta Dusha, Melody Dynes, Pauline Dziurzynski, Ronald Egnot, John Emanuel, Charlotte Eutsey, Ron Farina, Michael Farris, Michelle Farris, Joan Fattori, Sandra Fletcher, Frankhouser & Hager Families, Cameron Frame, Sr., John Frick, Jason Friguglietti, Nicholas Gaborko, Christopher Galik, Robert Gallo, Sr., Jean Gallo-Ciscon, Machaela Garlowich, Greg Garred, Sr., Timmy Gibbs, Barry Glotfelty, Tanya Gray, Allie Guilian, Garrin Haggerty, Paul Hammaker, Jim Haney, Connie Hat-

ter, Betty Healey, Nancy Heinbaugh, Paul Helinsky, Frederick Helms, Alexia Herchko, Bill Herman, Angela Hill, John Hohmann, Steve Holup, Arlene & Jay Honeycutt, Dennis Hough, Ruthie Hough, Herk & Connie Hubbard, Barry S. Huey, Dominic Ianello, Dolores laquinta, Brittany Johnson, Darlene & Donnie Johnston, Kevin Jones, Karen, Joseph Kasunic, Rich Kazmierczak, Chase Kemp, Larry Kennison, Larry Kent, Lora Keslar, Joann Kieta, Carol King, Lorraine Kinnick, Alcuin & LaRena Kirsch, Zachary Knabenshue, Judie Kosisko, Kathy Kovac, Trish Koval, John Kuzyck, Bernadine Lafko, Susan Lake, Kevin Lape, Sean Lewandowski, Michaelene Lint, Michael Litman, Anita Grasso Lizza, Maryann Lloyd, Justin Loncala, William & Adina Long, Alvera & Michael Long, Savannah Longanecker, Ruth Lonigro, Shannon Lown, Jeffrey Madarish, Joe Maiese, Koochie Maiese, Noah Manges, James Marnell, Roger Marshall, Christine Martin, Daniel Martin, Marie Martin, Ted Martin, Theresa Martin, Kim Mari, Carol Martray, Bret Martucci, Ann Matthews, Betty Mazurik, Robert Mazurik, Jean McCormick, Janet McCune, Dave McMullan, Jeanne Meagher, Hunter Meese, Michael, Justin Miller, Kayia Miller, Sarabeth Miner, Terri Molinaro, Kay Molnar, Diane Monaco, Fotenie Mongell, Adam Morgan, Kimberly Morrell, Edward Mulhorn, Tom Mullen, Carmella Mullins, Betty Nagy, Ron Nagy, Irene Nakles, Anna Newton, Fred Niemits, Eugene Onusko, John Orazi, Sr., Mike Ozorowski, John Pessamato III, Jonathan Philburn, Tom Pierce, Frank Pilla, Daniel Piper, Doug & Joyce Pirl, Velda Plesz, Caroline P.,

Gemma Premus, James Price, Marisa Primozic, Scott Prinkey, Ruth Ann Puskar, Joseph Ranker, Theresa Ranker, Dexton Reed, Imogene Rega, Joe Rega, Maryann Reid, Freda Rennick, Tammy Renzi, Alexa Roadman, Jeanette Roley, Ellen Romanko, Terry Rose, Terry Ross, Ronald Rozell, Mary Margaret Ruck, Robert Ruck, Jay S., Joe Sages, Lorelai Santangelo, Parker Scarry, Betty Schott, Theresa Schott, Gavin Schuller, Brennan Sechrist, Susie Seman, Lisa Sezawick, Ray Shamberger, Mary Ann Shandorf, Steve Shandorf, Linda Shank, Martha Sheets, Kelly Huffman Sherbondy, Gen Sherwood, John Shields, Michele Sholtas, Lester Shultz, Sr., Jeff Sigado, Erin Sigwalt, Gunnar Skrobacz, Kendal Skrobacz, Eric Smearman, Mattie Smith, Thomas Soberdash, Dennis Soisson, Mark Soisson, Marian Soldano, Sonya Spaw, Heather Spennati, Evelyn Sperry, Charles Spicola, David & Lori Stofan, John & Janet Stroncheck, Sadie Swank, James Thompson, Michael Tonarelli, Turner Trimbath, Ronnie Umble, Shaun Valente, David Voda, David Voda, Jr., Denise Voda, Ursula Vozar, Carol Ward, Doug Ward, Millie Warnick, Melvin Washington, Nancy Watson, Lois Weibl, Mila Westerman, Henry Whipkey, Marcella Wilburn, Evelyn Williams, Roianne Wilson, Teri Winterhalter, Barbara Wisilosky, Beth Ann Wisniewski-Lee, Bernie Wolfe, Becky & Bob Wurst, Frank & Margaret Zadell, Sr. Mary Mark Zavatsky, Patty Zeldmore, Anita Zentarsky, Richard Zientarsky, Esther Ziska, Sammy Zorichak, Amy Zvara.

Nar-Anon meeting on WED, JUN 19  
in St. John's Moravek Hall, 7-8pm.



A light reception  
in St. Al's social  
hall, honoring St.  
Aloysius Gonzaga,  
will follow the  
8:30am Mass on  
FRI, JUN 21.

St. Aloysius needs Altar Servers for  
SUN 9am Masses, and Eucharistic  
Ministers and Lectors for SAT 5pm  
Masses. To volunteer, please call  
the Brady Centre at 277-4236.



Please join  
us for a  
reception  
to honor  
**FR. DAN  
ULISHNEY**

**SUN, JUN 30**  
at 2pm in Bucci Hall

## MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

MON, JUN 17		WEEKDAY
8:00am	St. Rita	Anna Palladino & Paul Palladino (Charles Palladino)
8:30am	St. Al	Sturge Hughes (John & Marilyn Nedrow)
TUE, JUN 18		WEEKDAY
8:00am	St. John	Adam & Sophia Gmitter (Daughter, Eleanor)
8:30am	St. Al	Terri (Nelis) Fowler (Dolores & Warne Rankin)
WED, JUN 19		ST. ROMUALD, ABBOTT
8:00am	St. Rita	Pee Wee Flynn (Children)
	St. Rita	Adoration until 4:30pm
THU, JUN 20		WEEKDAY
8:00am	IC	Tommy McGuinness (Mom, Dad & Cody)
8:00am	St. Al	Prayers for Priests & Padre Pio Devotions
8:30am	St. Al	John Partridge (Nancy Hudock)
FRI, JUN 21		ST. ALOYSIUS GONZAGA, RELIGIOUS
8:00am	St. Rita	Joseph V. Andolino, Sr. (Wife, Mildred)
8:15am	St. Al	Divine Mercy Chaplet
8:30am	St. Al	Mmgr. J. Edward McCullough (Pat & Ann Trimbath)
SAT, JUN 22		
1:30pm	St. Rita	Wedding of Karyssa Gault & Nick Mongell <u>VIGIL/ST. PAULINUS OF NOLA, BISHOP, STS. JOHN FISHER,</u> <u>BISHOP &amp; THOMAS MORE, MARTYRS</u>
4:00pm	St. Rita	Jacob Anthony Shelkey (Family)
5:00pm	St. Al	Pro Populo
6:00pm	IC	Eleanor Johnson (Norma Frazier)
SUN, JUN 23		MOST HOLY BODY & BLOOD OF CHRIST (CORPUS CHRISTI)
8:00am	St. Rita	Louie & Ella Molinaro (Chris & Katie Dillinger)
9:00am	St. Al	Don Butela (Jeff & Ryan Butela)
9:30am	IC	Stephen Beucher, Jr. (Wife, Barbara, Son Derek & Jolene Sim)
11:30am	St. John	Madelyn Kostelnik (Stephanie & Antoinette)

Altar flowers at IC are in memory of Son and Brother, Tommy McGuinness,  
given by Mom, Dad & Cody.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE - JUN 22				MINISTRY SCHEDULE - JUN 23			
	SR-4PM	ST. AL-5PM	IC-6PM	ST. RITA-8AM	ST. AL-9AM	IC-9:30AM	ST. JOHN-11:30AM
ACOLYTES/ SERVERS	H Bechtold Z Zimmerman	C Baldwin C Baldwin	A Berish P Scarry	S Harbaugh E Armstrong	A Mongell N Mongell	E Prestia J Prestia	L Hampshire K Burncheck
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS	R Pratt P Hann M Pieczynski	S Lincoln P Herron Volunteer	M VillaNeuva J VillaNeuva A Shroyer	B Bielecki L Kozel C Porter	J Laurion S Smith A Trimbath	S Reagan M DeFazio I McKenna	L Martin J Kosinski B Knizner
CROSS BEARERS	H Specht	J Trimbath	M Martray	R Lewandowski	F Vinoverski	A Zavatchan	N Gaudiello
LECTORS	V McDowell	T Nedrow	B Sheehan	T Kezmarsky	G Heller	L Galiardi	C Petrasun
ROSARY		J Connell			Volunteer		





## RAMBLES & RAVES

OUR LADY, QUEEN OF THE YOUGH'S PASTOR

SHOUTS THE

GOOD NEWS

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

**CEMETERY CLEAN-UP:** Two months back, on the first Saturday of April, a fine group of individuals came together to help get our cemeteries in *tiptop* shape for Easter. They were able to clean-up the main cemeteries used here in Connellsville: Holy Trinity, Saint John the Evangelist, Saint Rita of Cascia, and New Saint Joseph.

I want to particularly recognise Saint Rita parishioner Mary Kay Dunaway whose **PASSION** for the beautification of our cemeteries has *led the charge* and inspired others to become involved. Thanks also to the crew whom she mustered: Sylvia Murtha, Bob Akers, Bill Martin, the Craig and Kim Adams family, Maria Merendino and her fiancé (not sure if he was in **THAT** role yet!) Tim Brown, Anthony Lembo, Joe and Chris Mickey, Bob Randall, Dave Kosslow and family, and Frank Jacobyansky.

It is **ALWAYS** an incredible blessing when parishioners get involved and take charge! **AWESOME** things result from people **TAKING OWNERSHIP!**

### SPEAKING OF TAKING OWNERSHIP ...

I cannot imagine that **ANYONE** who has attended Mass at Saint Rita in the past few weeks has failed to notice the beautiful landscaping. Once again, this is the result of parishioners stepping up and **CHOOSING** to give of their time in order to better their parish. Particular **KUDOS** go out to Anthony Lembo and Mary Kay Dunaway who have made it their *personal* mission to ensure that the extensive grounds at Saint Rita are as beautiful as possible. They were assisted by Mike Merendino and family, Janine and Rick Brooks, Chris Mickey, Amy Shelkey, and Toni Shearer.

At the risk of embarrassing him I must especially single out young Mr. Lembo. At only 27 he is an **OUTSTANDING**

witness to younger parishioners. His faith community is **IMPORTANT** to him and he is willing to **SHOW** it and to proverbially put "his money where his mouth is!" I hope his example will **INSPIRE** the younger adults of **ALL** of our parishes to get more involved!

**AND EVEN MORE:** At the beginning of the season we made the decision to contract out the grass-cutting at Saint Rita. Unfortunately the young man with whom we contracted only lasted a few weeks as he couldn't keep employees (sadly, a **REAL PROBLEM** these days). As the grass started to get out of hand Mike Merendino volunteered his (and his family's!) services. As I finished a wedding appointment at the DeVivo Centre it was a true joy to see two **YOUNG** generations working hard to make the grounds splendid for Pentecost Weekend. There was Mike and his lovely wife Patty (**YOUNG** because they are barely older than *moi!*), and their 20-something children Adam, Abby, and Maria, along with Tommy Hann, the not-yet-Catholic husband of Abby, and Tim Brown, the not-yet-Catholic fiancé of Maria!

**MAY FINANCIAL INFO:** The previous month was **NOT** a banner one financially. All four parishes were in the **RED**. Immediately above this I wrote **GLOW-INGLY** about the great things volunteers are doing at Saint Rita. In **STARK** contrast, however, financially the parish is lagging behind everyone else. Yes, the parish has more buildings to maintain but at the same time (as I wrote in this space previously) the *per capita* giving is significantly less than the other parishes. (I did that particular analysis prior to acquiring Saint Aloysius; it is time to run the numbers again for all **FOUR** parishes.)

The simple reality is that were it not for the festival - and a very few particularly generous parishioners - the parish would be **SHUTTERED**. Festivals **EVERYWHERE** are becoming tougher and tougher to pull off; none of them will last **FOREVER**. And generous benefactors go to their **ETERNAL REWARD**. If **YOU** want **YOUR** parish to continue

to exist then **YOU** need "to put your money where your mouth is!" It really is **THAT** simple! And we're **NOT** talking exorbitant amounts here; if **EVERYONE** threw but a few extra dollars in the collection each week; those who can definitely afford a *little* more than a few covering those who honestly **CAN'T** do any more. (Oh for the days of publishing people's contributions in the bulletin - I remember that at IC when I was very young. There are **DEFINITELY** well-off individuals in **ALL** of our parishes who could "benefit" from public embarrassment at their **PALTRY** contributions!)

**COVER PHOTO:** Last Sunday the annual Graduates Mass was celebrated. The timing was perfect as it was Pentecost Sunday! How fitting that on the day the Church celebrates the outpouring of the Holy Spirit we prayed for the young men and women about to begin the next chapter in the story of their lives, a moment when they are in **ESPECIAL NEED** of the Spirit's gifts!

You will notice in the photograph that in addition to the high school graduates in their caps and gowns our own Fr. Dan is resplendent in academic regalia of his own. I am very proud of him for completing his Licentiate in Canon Law!

The only disappointing thing about the celebration is that we sent out 39 invitations but only ten high school graduates participated. That works out to 25% (well to be *precise* 25.61%). I guess that is what should be expected as it pretty much mirrors the percentage of Catholics who attend Mass on Sunday. Thus the cover photo is the Holy Spirit reminding **YOU** to take up your baptismal call to evangelise! (I usually prefer to be inclusive and say "us" or "you and me" in most circumstances, but evangelising is my **JOB** and I try to take it fairly seriously! I also firmly believe that evangelisation is **MUCH** more effective when it comes from ordinary people. I do **MY** part but **YOUR** part is **EXTREMELY** important ... **MORE** important than mine!)