



Congratulations to the Villa Victors!!!! After 4 tries over the past 26 years, Villa Maria Academy has brought back to Erie the P.I.A.A. State Basketball Championship!! Bishop

Trautman, every parish, and the entire Diocese of Erie is so proud of them. That is a huge victory for them. Villa beat York Catholic by only 5 points, after losing the State Championship to the same team only 2 years ago. It is amazing that Villa has been to the State Championship four times since 2002! That is an amazing accomplishment! It reminds me of Mercyhurst Prep winning the State Basketball Championship for BOTH the boy's AND girl's team in 1991 . . . and, Cathedral Prep going to the State Championship three times in four years, winning it in 1993. Our Catholic high schools have done wonders for the Erie community over all these many years. We have much to be proud of! Congratulations, Villa . . . and, THANK YOU!!!

This championship reminds me of a great story from 1982 . . . the first time Villa was in the State Championship, but got blown out by Lancaster McCaskey by 26 points. At the time, my father, Art Detisch, was Millcreek Township Supervisor and Commissioner of the Millcreek Police Department. I knew a bunch of the girls on the team at the time, and asked Dad if he could arrange a police escort for the team bus as it came back to Erie, even though they lost. So, Dad contacted Chief Bud Dever, who picked the both of us up in his squad car, along with his son, Jody. The Chief had Millcreek squad cars waiting at the Interchange at the Kearsarge exit and on the 26<sup>th</sup> Street exit, since I-79 didn't go through to 12<sup>th</sup> Street yet. We were sitting at the Interchange of I-79 & I-90, waiting for the bus to pass, so the Chief could lead it in, and give the signal to the waiting officers. A bus passes us, and it looked empty; so, we kept waiting. An officer comes over the radio later, and informs us that the bus just pulled into Villa. The bus that passes us *was the team bus!* All the girls had their seats back, because they were sleeping . . . and, we couldn't see them!!! I couldn't believe it! My father and Chief Dever thought it was rather funny. I was livid! So much for me being the "hero" for all the Villa girls!!

Congratulations to Sacred Heart parishioner John Ehrman! John, along with Dan Shipley, are being honored this weekend as "2009 Distinguished Alumni" for Cathedral Prep. At the same time, the Erie Knights of Columbus Councils honored the late Bernie Loney at the annual Chalice Dinner.

Next Sunday is Palm Sunday, the beginning of the Holiest Week of the year. I would like to suggest to everyone to spend this week getting done all kinds of things that you can do, so you won't have to during Holy Week. I think it is so important NOT to be distracted with the mundane things of daily life during the holiest week of the year, in order to truly spend those sacred days in prayer and reflection. Next Sunday night is the Lenten Reconciliation Service, and we will have about 6 priests joining us for confessions. Please make it a priority . . . especially, if you have children . . . so that we can all be in a state of absolved grace in time for Holy Week. Remember, if we are not in a state of grace, we cannot receive the Eucharist. So, there will be great opportunities to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation, be freed from all sinfulness, and fully prepared to receive the presence of Christ in Eucharist during the Triduum and Easter!

It is now Spring! The snow just may be gone for the season!

Mowing is coming soon! Say "good-bye" to the shovels!

Have a great week! Be prepared for Holy Week, and make plans to come to the Easter Vigil!

Fr. D.

**WEEKLY COLLECTION REPORT:**

	Mar. 22, 2009	Mar. 23, 2008
Repairs & Improvements	\$91.00	\$45.00
Easter Flowers	\$418.00	\$65.00
Sacrificial Giving	<b>\$6,027.39</b>	\$7,927.34
Amount Needed	<b>\$7,250.00</b>	
Over/(Short)	<b>(\$1,222.61)</b>	

(\*includes loose money). Last week, out of 680 families of the parish, 330 envelopes (49%) were used, with an **average** Sacrificial Giving donation of **\$18.27**. Your parish depends on you for your weekly donation. *Thanks for your sacrifice.*

**ATTENTION LADIES OF THE ALTAR SOCIETY**

**Notice:** Because of Holy Week, we will assemble on Wednesday, April 1st (no fooling) for our spring tureen dinner at 6:00PM in the audi. (The board will meet at 5:30).

A delightful buffet (prepared by us) will feature many flavorful and yummy dishes from your own recipe boxes.

**PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN TABLE SERVICE!**

Last names starting with A to K are asked to bring a hot dish, such as beans, German potato salad, mac & cheese, rigatoni, etc. Whatever your specialty is, we'd love to try it.

Names starting with L to Z are asked to bring a cold dish, such as relishes, cheese, fruit, deviled eggs etc. Surprise us!

Remember your donation to the food pantry (**canned soup**).

The word is out . . . the dates for the **Rummage Sale** are **June 11th, 12th, and 13th**. Please remember us when you do your spring cleaning and save those paper grocery bags for this annual event.



**ANNUAL SPRING CLEANING OF THE CHURCH**



Saturday, April 25th *Cleaning Teams 1 & 2,*

led by Lorraine Squeglia and Marilyn Sharp will participate in a **Spring Cleaning of the Church**.

We will need additional men and women to help with this annual cleaning. Please join us on April 25th at 8:30am. Please bring a bucket and a cloth. With enough help, we will be able to finish by noon.

If you have any questions, please call Rebecca Flynn at the rectory at 456-6256, ext. 110.

**\*\*If you are a high school student or Confirmation candidate in need of service hours, this is an excellent opportunity!**

**PARISH PENANCE SERVICE** - Our Parish Penance Service will be on Palm Sunday, April 5th, at 7:00PM in church. We will have priests available for confession until all are heard. All are welcome.



† † † Masses  
For The Week

**Monday, March 30th**  
8:30 - John Scalzitti - Family

**Tuesday, March 31st**  
8:30 - Ethel Hauser - Ann and Tony Canella

**Wednesday, April 1st**  
8:30 - Julia Berarducci - Kathleen and Kent Sivillo

**Thursday, April 2nd**  
8:30 - Nancy Schlegel - Family

**Friday, April 3rd - First Friday**  
8:30 - Pauline Leone - Family  
12:15 - Stations of the Cross

**Saturday, April 4th - St. Isidore - First Saturday**  
4:30 - Lawrence Brei - Tom Yeager

**Sunday, April 5th - Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion**  
9:30 - For the Parishioners of Sacred Heart Church  
11:30 - Florence and William Scheffner - Family

**Priest Schedule for April 4th and 5th**

**Saturday, 4:30PM** - Fr. Detisch  
**Sunday, 9:30AM and 11:30AM** - Fr. Detisch

The Sanctuary Candle is burning in memory of †**Mr. and Mrs. Marcel Klemen** and †**Mr. and Mrs. Mike Viglione** by Mary Klemen and Family.

The Bread and Wine are given in memory of †**Jasper** and †**Mary Sember** by Art and Rose Mary Sementelli.

**Scripture Readings for Next Week**

Isaiah 50: 4-7    Philipians 2: 6-11    Mark 14: 1 - 15: 47

<p><b>CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL</b></p> <p>Diocesan Goal: \$45,166 Parish Goal: \$90,000</p> <p><b>Pledged to Date: \$106,210</b></p> <p>235% of Diocesan Goal 118% of Parish Goal</p> <p><b>300 contributors = 41% of Parish</b></p>
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**Welcome to the new members of our parish family** - Mary and Timothy Barrett and children, Sara and Raymond; Amanda Rae Bowen; Jeanette and David Case; Cynthia Jimerson and daughter, Lori; Angela and Tom Kownacki and daughters, Laren and Elisa; Donna Larson; John Malene; Janice and Jeffrey Ortiz; Kelly Reynolds; and Rose and Arthur Sementelli.

Please remember in your prayers our departed:  
†**Evelyn Coverdale**; and †**Leonard Ekimoff**,  
husband of Chris Ekimoff, and father of Christine Porada.



Lenten  Schedule

**Monday - Boy Scout Meeting** at 6:00PM in the audi.  
**Monday Night Scripture Group** at 7:00PM in the sacristy.  
**Tuesday** - The **Rosary** will be prayed at 2:00PM in church.  
**Wednesday** - **Altar Society Spring Tureen dinner** at 6:00PM in the audi. *The Board will meet at 5:15PM.*  
**Thursday** - The **Golden Hearts** will meet at 12:30 in the audi for lunch and their meeting. Lunch will be \$2.  
**Friday** - **Stations of the Cross** will be prayed at 12:15PM in church.  
**Saturday** - Church Cleaning **Team #3** (Annette and Mike Ahrens team) is scheduled for Saturday, April 4th.  
**Sunday** - **Coffee & Donuts will not** be served today because it is Palm Sunday. It has been rescheduled for Sunday, April 19th following the morning Masses.  
**Parish Penance Service** at 7:00PM in church.

**BIG GIVEAWAY NEWS**

In just three days, the first drawing for the new Big Giveaway year will take place. Have you purchased your ticket yet? If not, a call to Jim Nuber at 864-9838 or Norm Zambrzycki at 835-5096 will get prompt action; you'll have a ticket within 24 hours.

Sellers, be sure to have your sold tickets turned in by Tuesday, March 31st, in order for the committee to determine who the first winner might be.

After only three turn-ins (that is as of March 17th), 396 have been entered as sold. And, once again, while that number may seem small, it exceeds the number of tickets sold last year on a comparable date. We will continue to let you know on a weekly basis as to how tickets are going.

The promised concert starring Norm Zambrzycki on Saint Patrick's Day did not occur. It was the fault of Jim Nuber who failed to hire musical accompaniment. Fortunately, the turn-ins did not seem to be affected by Norm's failure to perform.....

The next Big Giveaway turn-in will be on Tuesday, March 31st, from 7:00 to 8:00 PM, in the Auditorium.

**YOUTH GROUP NEWS - Attention all youth!**

On Saturday, May 2nd we will be leaving for our semi-annual Steubenville Trip. We will be leaving from the Sacred Heart Parking lot at 11:30AM and arriving back in Erie around 1:00AM. On route we will be stopping at the Grove City Outlets for lunch. After our shopping experience, you will have some time to walk around the beautiful Steubenville campus. We will be concluding our event with a powerful adoration and worship service. Over 3,000 Catholic youth come to this festival of praise since it is the last one of the year. The cost of the trip is \$20 per person. Last time we took 75 youth with us to this wonderful trip, please e-mail me at catholicconnection@gmail.com if you would like more information about this event. I will be giving out permission slips these next few weeks at youth group and I will need a final count by April 15th. Peace. Jesse

