

FROM FATHER BILL: Our 185<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of St. Peter's Parish, last Sunday, was a stunning and sacred event. We're grateful for the fine turnout of people and clergy at both the Mass and the dinner. Special thanks to Michelina DeRubertis and Jim Canfield and their 185<sup>th</sup> TEAM for planning and producing this splendid moment in the history of our parish. The idea for our 185<sup>th</sup> Celebration was formally introduced by Maureen Noonan at a St. Peter's Pastoral Council meeting last Fall. We were all very happy and proud to be in attendance at this ceremony, held in our magnificent Church, St. Peter's, the MOTHER CHURCH of TROY. Again we congratulate those who received awards. Our great pastor, Father Thomas K. Flanigan, was remembered both at the Mass and dinner. And the Father Flanigan Band will keep his memory alive forever. A very generous gift was presented to the band, now located at St. Augustine's School, to insure a long and strong future. This was Father Flanigan's dream, that HIS BAND last forever. AMEN! We love you forever, Father T. K. Flanigan. MAY is the MONTH of MARY, OUR BLESSED MOTHER: Consider saying the Rosary often during this Month. OR just say a decade each day! Or, be sure you say ONE HAIL MARY each day. AVE MARIA!

PRAY: God grant me the SERENITY to accept the things I cannot change, the COURAGE to change the things I can and the WISDOM to know the difference. Grant me PATIENCE with the changes that take time, an APPRECIATION of all that I have, TOLERANCE of those with different struggles, and the STRENGTH to get up and try again, one at a time. AMEN!

God Bless JORDAN MICHAEL OGDEN who was also baptized at St. Paul's last weekend. Congratulations to his mom and dad, Robert and Meghan, and his honored God-parents, Brian and Ellon. The Lord also bless DOMINIC ANTHONY FIGUEROA, baptized at St. Paul's this weekend (Saturday). God grant Dominic a long, healthy, happy, holy life. Congratulations to his mom and dad, Joshua and Renee and to his honored god – parents, Travis and Kristy.

CALLED TO BE CHURCH – IMPLEMENTATION PHASE PRAYER: Loving God, you who are present with us in all of life's moments, make yourself known in these challenging times of parish closure, merger and linkage. Comfort those who mourn. Receive and transform the anger of those who feel powerless. Ease the minds of the fearful. Give wisdom to our leaders and patience and insight to your people. Help us to appreciate the way you are re-creating your Church. Make us partners with you in this effort. We pray this in the name of Jesus, who is Lord and brother through the grace of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

ST. PAUL'S PERPETUAL ADORATION DEVOTION will move to St. Augustine's Church, Lansingburgh, NY on Saturday, May 23, 2009. An 8:00 am Mass will be celebrated at St. Paul's Adoration Chapel on Saturday morning, May 23. Father Bill will be the celebrant and Father Jim Spenard, OSA, pastor of St. Augustine's, will concelebrate the Mass. Following the Mass, Father Spenard will lead a vehicle procession, with the Blessed Sacrament in the lead vehicle, to St. Augustine's church. Eucharistic Adoration will begin immediately at St. Augustine's upon the arrival of the Blessed Sacrament there. We are grateful for the 26 years of Perpetual Adoration here at St. Paul's and we pray that it will continue for a long, long time at St. Augustine's Church. *O COME LET US ADORE HIM!*

MAYDAY! MAYDAY!! MAYDAY!! - LEGISLATION UNFAIRLY TARGETS CHURCH: The NYS Legislature is considering a bill that would allow individuals to file civil lawsuit claiming abuse at any time in the past. The bill does not apply evenly to all victims and institutions. It is selectively targeted at the Catholic Church and other private organizations. Significantly, it would not apply to public school or other public entities. The proposal would rescind the statute of limitation of abuse-related lawsuits for one year, rejecting a legal doctrine respected by generations of judges and legislatures that civil claims should be brought in a timely fashion to ensure a fair and just resolution based on the facts. The NYS Catholic Conference and other religious organizations have urged the Legislature to adopt alternative legislation that treats all victims and institutions fairly and evenly. The unfair legislation, if enacted, could imperil all the Church's missions and ministries in NY State. For more information and to contact your legislators about this important issue, please visit [www.protectnychildren.com](http://www.protectnychildren.com).

PLEASE SIGN UP FOR THIS OR PART OF IT - SPRING ENRICHMENT – The annual diocesan Spring Enrichment is Monday, May 11 – Thursday, May 14 at the College of St. Rose. Brochure, etc. were in the March 19<sup>th</sup> issue of The Evangelist and may also be downloaded from the diocesan website at [http://www.rcda.org/spring\\_enrichment.html](http://www.rcda.org/spring_enrichment.html). This year's theme: “The Word of God in the Life & Mission of the Church.”

“CLOTHE THE NAKED” COMMISSION on ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY-CLOTHES CLOSET. When you are doing your spring cleaning this year, remember that the CEO's “Clothes Closet” can take your unused items and get them to someone who is desperately in need of a wardrobe to wear in an office environment. Often one of the obstacles when people start a new job is having the proper wardrobe for the everyday work environment. The Clothes Closet offers these clothes at little or no cost. The Closet can use clothes for men and women, all sizes, as well as shoes, pocketbooks, attaché cases and jewelry. Call Clothes Closet at 272-6012.

“FEED THE POOR” ROARKE CENTER FOOD PANTRY: “I was hungry and you gave Me to eat.” Blessings on each of you who so faithfully remember your less fortunate brethren again asking of your generosity to bring the following items, according to Sister Linda's advice, to make sure that the children get sufficient protein: canned meats like hash, beef stew, chicken Spam, turkey Spam, or canned fish like tuna. Also pasta products with meat or fish, like tomato sauce with clams. Always, the following can be used: pasta, spaghetti sauce (meat sauce), coffee, toilet paper, personal hygiene products of all types, laundry detergent, dish soap, canned vegetables, fruit and soups, in cans with pull tops. You may bring the foodstuffs directly to the Roarke Center.

## CONCERNING OUR CLOSING MASSES

- There will be NO COLLECTION TAKEN UP at St. Paul's and St. Peter's closing Masses on May 30 and 31. If you wish to place your May 31 regular offering envelope in the basket, please do so on Sunday May 24, along with your other envelopes.

- There will be NO PARISH BULLETIN printed for the Final (Closing) Masses at our Parishes.
- Please DO NOT LIGHT any devotional candles on Saturday, May 30 or Sunday May 31.
- THE BLESSED SACRAMENT will be removed from the Tabernacle at the end of the closing Masses.
- Father will not lock the doors of our Churches immediately following the Closing Masses.
- Father will wait for about an hour before carrying out this task.
- Photographs may be taken during the Final Closing Masses.

MAY CROWNING of THE BLESSED VIRGIN: Today, at all of our weekend Masses.

FIRST COMMUNION at ST. PETER's will take place, Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup> at the 10:30 am Mass.

CLOSING (FINAL) MASSES AT OUR PARISHES

St. Peter's – Sunday, May 17 – LAST TRIDENTINE MASS AT ST. PETER'S - NOON

St. Paul's – Saturday, May 30 - 4:00 pm Mass for all parishioners and former parishioners.

NO MASS at St. Paul's on Sunday, May 31, 2009.

St. Peter's -10:30 AM English Mass for all parishioners and former parishioners, Sunday, May 31.

ST. PETER'S CEMETERY MEMORIAL DAY MASS will be celebrated at 9:00 am on Monday, May 25, 2009.

This Mass is open to the PUBLIC. Everyone is invited. Please bring your own sturdy lawn chair.

THE PRAYER of ST. FRANCIS

*Lord, make me a channel of your peace;  
that where there is hatred, I may bring love;  
that where there is wrong, I may bring the spirit of forgiveness;  
that where there is discord, I may bring harmony;  
that where there is error, I may bring truth;  
that where there is doubt, I may bring faith;  
that where there is despair, I may bring hope;  
that where there are shadows, I may bring light;  
that where there is sadness, I may bring joy.*  
*Lord, grant that I may seek rather to comfort than to be comforted;  
to understand, than to be understood;  
to love, than to be loved.*  
*For it is by self-forgetting that one finds.  
It is by forgiving that one is forgiven.  
It is by dying that one awakens to eternal life. AMEN.*

PRAYER IN TIME OF CHANGE:

Beloved Jesus, anoint us to do your will.  
May the joy of your dwelling in us draw us closer to each other,  
Expand our vision to recognize your plan;  
Warm our hearts by the flame of your love;  
Open our lips so that we can embrace each other as your people; speak to us so we can discern the role you have for us,  
Your body, your Church.  
Fill us with your Holy Spirit,  
Empowering us to become a vital expression of growth  
In your changing Church.  
Your Kingdom is now!  
Help us to discover and live your will. AMEN.

VOCATIONS – “God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power.” Are you being called to proclaim the new life of the resurrected Christ to the world with His Spirit and His Power? Talk to your pastor or visit [www.myvocation.net](http://www.myvocation.net).

NO ONE HAS RESPONDED!! ANY COMMENTS?? “Studies have indicated that the largest Christian denomination in the US is Roman Catholicism and the second largest Christian denomination (approximately 18 million people) is made up of lapsed or non-practicing Catholics. How do we dray them back?” Please E-mail Father Bill with your comments.

PRAY for the SOUL of Robert P. Murray Jr. God grant him Eternal Life.

*VOLUNTEERS - Hands That Serve - Hearts That Love!*

EVANGELIZATION: “Christ lives today.....Cristo vive hoy.”