



PASTOR'S CORNER

And ... What of Modern Education?

Here are some rather “hefty” thoughts on thinking, education and the human person from the late philosopher, Allan Bloom. All parents, in particular, should take heed ...

“Fathers and mothers have lost the idea that the highest aspiration they might have for their children is for them to be wise----as priests, prophets or philosophers are wise. Specialized competence and success are all that they can imagine.”

“Freedom of the mind requires not only, or not even specially, the absence of legal constraints but the presence of alternative thoughts. The most successful tyranny is not the one that uses force to assure uniformity but the one that removes the awareness of other possibilities.”

The Closing of the American Mind

“True openness is the accompaniment of the desire to know, hence of the awareness of ignorance. To deny the possibility of knowing good and bad is to suppress true openness.”

“The end result is that there can be no more truth or goodness and no need or even ability to make tough choices. Where the purpose of higher education once was to enable the student to find truth, the modern university teaches that there is no truth, only 'lifestyle.’”

The Closing of the American Mind

“The most striking fact about contemporary university students is that there is no longer any canon of books which forms their taste and imagination...This state of affairs itself

Mass Intentions

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time February 18, 2017

Saturday–Feb 18th –

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat Vigil: 4:00PM – Edward J. Ferenchak
by Wife, Lucille
7:00PM – Joan Patterson (B)
by Irene Vomero

Sunday – Feb 19th –

8:30AM – Patrick J. Hutnick
by Carole Houghton
10:30AM – Elsie Kroboth (L) Health
by Daughters

Monday – Feb 20th – St Eucherius

8:00AM – Paul Houghton
by Robert and Jean Strohl

Tuesday – Feb 21st – St Peter Damian

8:00AM – Joseph Chabak and Pat Dopsovic
by Wife and Aunt, Agnes Chabak

Miraculous Medal Novena after Mass

Wednesday – Feb 22nd –

The Chair of St Peter the Apostle

6:00PM – Constantine Georgescu
by Louisa Levine

Thursday – Feb 23rd – St Polycarp

8:00AM – Rev. Michael J. Briggman
by Rev. Eric J. Gruber

Friday – Feb 24th – St Ethelbert

8:00AM – Bob Spengler and Bernadine Wehr
by Ann and Dale

Saturday–Feb 25th – St Tarasius

8:00AM – All St. John Fisher Parishioners

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat Vigil: 4:00PM – Donald N. Knarr
by Ferenchak Family
7:00PM – Petie Muschko (B)
by Mom and Dad

Sunday – Feb 26th –

8:30AM – William J. Molchany, Sr.
by Paul and Dorothy Holaska
10:30AM – Joseph J. Holena
by Deacon and Mrs. Jack O’Connell

reflects the deeper fact of the decay of the common understanding of - and agreement on - first principles that is characteristic of our times.”

Shakespeare's Politics

Without education from a Judeo-Christian perspective, our culture, that worships personal freedom above everything else, is DOOMED to perpetual cycles of violence. Why? Because, if truth is *relative* to the individual and not *objectively* acknowledged, then the culture becomes a product of the ideas and actions of the most powerful, that is, those who can impose their take-on-“truth” on others. And civilized humanity once again finds itself in the wild, in the jungle. I thought education was supposed to free us and not re-enslave us? Pray with a purpose,
Fr. Eric.



Pray the Rosary each Sunday
8:15AM and 10:15AM

OFFERTORY COLLECTION



Plate Collection

\$3,146.00

Save the Date

Friday, March 24th – Our Annual Fish Fry Dinner.
More information will follow.

Strudel Roll Sale

Once again we are sponsoring an Easter Strudel Sale. The strudels are made by *Country Cottage Bake Shop* in Tamaqua. Orders are due by **Sunday, March 26th**, via the collection basket. Cost is \$15.00 a roll, and available in the flavors listed below. Delivery is **Wednesday, April 12th, from 5:00pm to 7:00pm** in the church hall. Any questions, call Mary Beth at 610-264-4494 or Peggy at 610-264-0307.

NAME _____ PHONE # _____

Nut: _____ Poppyseed: _____ Lekvar: _____

Apricot: _____ Raspberry: _____ **Total: \$** _____



FIRST PENANCE

Our Sacramental Class is preparing for the Sacrament of Penance, which they will receive for the first time **this Thursday, February 23rd at 7:00PM at the former St. Lawrence Church**. Please keep our students in your prayers as they continue their preparation and receive the Sacrament of Penance.



CONFIRMATION

Our Sacramental Class is preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation, which they will receive on **Wednesday, March 8th at 4:30pm, at Queenship of Mary Church**. Please keep our students in your prayers.



NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE

	Servers	Lectors	E.Ministers
4:00PM	J.Strohl M.Hosni	J.McAllister	Deacon Jack
7:00PM	S.DeLong M.Druckenmiller	J.Yanek	Deacon Jack
8:30AM	D.Popovic M.Popovic	B.Molchany	J.Ottinger
10:30AM	D.Sullivan A.Gorr	J.DeLong	F.Hutterer

PARISH RETREAT

Life is not perfect every day. Sometimes it feels as if life gives up lemons. Join your fellow parishioners for our second annual parish retreat where we will enrich our daily lives through the power of prayer during this Lenten Season. The retreat will take place on **Saturday, April 1st**, at the St. Michael Center on Main Street in Northampton. **The day will begin with Registration at 8:00am and will conclude at 2:30pm**. A continental breakfast and lunch will be provided. Please fill out the below form and place in the collection basket.

PARISH RETREAT REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Suggested Donation - \$20.00

Attending: _____ Total Enclosed: \$ _____

SCHOOL HALL PIEROGIES



Come to the school hall on **Saturday, March 11th**, ready to make our delicious Lenten pierogies. If possible bring some kitchen towels to replenish our supply. In addition, if you have any slightly used cloth tablecloths, we could also use them. See you on the 11th!

SLOVAK FOUNDATION

It is our privilege to continue to offer St. John Fisher parishioners of Slovak ethnic backgrounds the opportunity to give to the Slovak Federation. It had been the annual custom to hold a collection at St. Andrew's on the feasts of Ss. Cyril and Methodius in February, but this year envelopes for this collection -- benefitting the unifying and promotion of Slovak ethnic identity for second, third, fourth generations and beyond, -- can be picked up at the doors of the Church and deposited in any Sunday collection of January or February.

CYO Spring Sports Signups:

Baseball – 7th and 8th grade boys - \$65.00

Co-ed Track – 5th to 8th grade - \$50.00

Co-ed Volleyball – 5th to 8th grade - \$50.00

Please visit their new website:

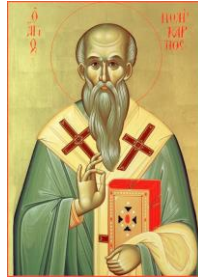
<http://tshq.bluesombrero.com/default.aspx?portalid=21527> for registration and payment. CYO is available for all the children of our parishes.

Incarnation of Our Lord Church

617 Pierce Street, Bethlehem

Their Mardi Gras Bingo is being held on **Sunday, February 26th**. The doors open at 12:00pm and bingo starts at 2:00pm. This fundraiser benefits the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Ticket donation is \$20.00 in advance and \$25.00 at the door. Call 610-866-3391.

Saint Polycarp



Polycarp was one of the “Apostolic Fathers”, those Fathers of the Church who learned the faith directly from the Twelve Apostles. In his youth, Polycarp heard the preaching of Saint John. During his years as bishop in Smyrna, he wrote many pastoral letters, only one of which survives, a missive to the faithful at Philippi. According to Saint Jerome, this letter was still being read in the churches of Asia almost three hundred years after Polycarp’s death. Of Polycarp, Saint Irenaeus of Lyons attested, “At all times he taught the things which he had learnt from the Apostles, which the Church transmits, which alone are true.” Polycarp suffered martyrdom around the year 155. ~*Magnificat*, February, 2017

Good Shepherd School

Their Early Childhood Education Preview will be held on **Saturday, March 4th from 10:00am to 11:00am** and is for parents and their children who will be entering Preschool, Pre-K, and Kindergarten. Parents meet our accredited faculty and children enjoy story time, a craft, and snack! Please RSVP by calling 610-262-9171.

Now Enrolling ~ Good Shepherd Catholic School is currently enrolling new students for the 2017-2018 school year in Preschool through 8th Grade. Call 610-262-9171 or email mrspoccia@ptd.net for more information.

Shepherd Gift Card Sales ~ Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:00am to 11:00am and Wednesday evenings from 5:00pm to 7:00pm in the school lobby.

Salem UCC, 615 Third St., Catty

Their Mardi Gras Flea Market will be held on **Saturday, February 25th from 9:00am to 1:00pm**. Join us for food, flea market, basket raffle, fun and games.