

St. Joseph School News

Everyone is encouraged to come to the **Lenten Luncheon on Wednesday** to listen to our children!! You will also have the opportunity to make a contribution to benefit COS. (totally voluntarily)

We are still collecting Box Tops for Education. Boxtops do have expiration dates on them. Best Choice UPCs are still being accepted. No more Campbell labels, please.

Great occasions for serving God seldom come, but little ones surround us daily.

St. Francis de Sales

HAPPY BIRTHDAY this week to Mary Martin, Randy Koch, Michael Elsen, Beth Ullrich, Kecia Schluterman, Gerhard Nehus, Stephanie Barnett, Teddy Schluterman, Eric Cauthron, Ina Gack.

March 3 collection: Adult env (59) \$3137. Children: \$6. Loose: \$206. Total: \$3349.
Misc Income: Mass stipends: \$270. Votive candles: \$15.

There are quite a few dishes left from funeral dinners in the Sisters house.

The public is invited to a reception honoring H.C. and Sylvia Varnadore as he retires after MANY years as pastor of First Christian Church. The drop-in event will be held in their fellowship hall at 120 E. Walnut St. on Sunday, March 24, from 2-4 in the afternoon.

Some grandparents moved to Paris recently to get their grandchildren out of foster care. Several furniture items have been given to them, but they are in need of a twin bed frame. If anyone has one they are not using, please contact the church office.

Arkansas Catholic is holding its annual contest to choose a photo for the cover of the 2020 diocesan directory. Any professional or amateur photographer in AR can enter their photo of a Catholic Church or institution in the diocese. The first prize is a free copy of the directory and a subscription to AR Catholic. March 29 is the deadline to enter. For complete rules and an entry form, visit arkansas-catholic.org.

St. Scholastica Gift Shop has gifts for First Communion, Confirmation, RCIA, Lent, and basically every occasion. Open M,W,F 9:30-3:30. Sat. 12:30-3:00. Closed T&Th & 2nd Sat of the month. 783-4147.

Summer Camp at Subiaco Abbey, for boys 9 - 13, is an active all boys camp with fishing, archery, riflery, go-carts, boating & tubing, climbing wall and more. Operated by the Subiaco Alumni Association and the Benedictine Monks of Subiaco Abbey. June 16 - 22 or June 23 - 29. www.CampSubiaco.org or 934-1001

POST-ABORTION SUPPORT GROUP: Do you feel alone, hurting or unforgiven from a past abortion? The Respect Life Office, through Project Rachel, is starting support groups **in March, meeting once a week for 8 weeks indifferent locations throughout Arkansas.** All names and meeting places are **strictly confidential.** 501-663-0996 or email: hevans@dolr.org. for information.

On Wednesday we walked around with ashes on our foreheads, reminding of us of our mortality and our need for God's forgiveness. Don't lose an opportunity to strengthen your marriage or seek reconciliation with a loved one during Lent. **What have you done for your marriage today? foryourmarriage.org**

"I have now brought you the first fruits of the products of the soil which you, O Lord, have given to me." (Deuteronomy 26:10)

This line from the Old Testament offers two challenges.

First – do I give to God from my “first fruits,” the **best** I have to offer, or do I give from what is left over?

Second – do I recognize that everything I have has been given to me by God? Ask God for a grateful and generous heart.

In all circumstances. Every day. Always.

Many people have shown up at the church door in the past two weeks, sometimes two or three in one day, needing assistance with food, utilities, gas, apartment down payments, etc. Thanks be to God we have had generous donors to help cover these expenses, so the assistance that has been given has not been a financial burden on the parish. The Mother's Society asked for donations at their Christmas potluck, a donor continues to stop by periodically to contribute to our “special needs” fund, and in February someone from outside our parish - outside our state! – heard about this fund and contributed \$300 specifically to be used for those who come to the door.

THIS is *giving from “first fruits” not from what is left over.*

