

# Saint Nicholas Parish Newsletter

3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 7, 2010

**THE WAY OF THE CROSS** The Stations of the Cross are celebrated on Fridays at **1:30 p.m.** (with the school students). Traditional Stations of the Cross are celebrated at **5:15 p.m.** Stations of the Cross in Spanish are celebrated at **6:00 p.m.** On **Friday, March 26**, the Second Grade of St. Nicholas-St. Mary's School will present a Living Stations of the Cross at **1:15 & 6:00 p.m.** The Spanish language Stations will be at **7 p.m.** that day.



**LENTEN ROAD TO RESURRECTION** The W-B Deanery's *Lenten Journey* will continue on **Wednesdays, March 10, 17, and 24** at 7:00 p.m. Please join us as we celebrate this journey with members of our neighboring parishes. The schedule is as follows:



✠ **March 10** at Maternity BVM, Park Ave., W-B. The celebrant homilist will be Rev. John Terry.

✠ **March 17** at St. Therese, Old River Rd., W-B

✠ **March 24** at St. Mary I.C., S. Washington St., W-B

**DAILY EUCHARIST** Our weekday Masses *during Lent* are celebrated at **6:30 & 8:00 a.m. (Mon.-Fri.)**.

**LENTEN INFORMATION SERIES:** "*Journey of Hope*", our parish Social Concerns Committee's **Weekly Lenten Series**, is held every Thursday from **6:00-7:30 p.m.** in the Community Room. The guest speaker on **March 18** for our Lenten Series "*A Journey of Hope*" will be **Father Neil Connolly**. The theme for that evening is "Human Dignity". Fr. Connolly is Pastor of St. Mary's Parish (Grand St.) on Manhattan's Lower Eastside. He is a native New Yorker, ordained for service in the Archdiocese of New York. He served for over twenty years as the Cardinal Archbishop's Vicar in the South Bronx. Fr. Connolly has served as Pastor in two New York City parishes that experienced the influx of large numbers of non-English speaking parishioners. He will be sharing with us his thoughts on the theme of "*Human Dignity*".

**DAYS OF ABSTINENCE** On a day of abstinence, no meat may be eaten by anyone who is fourteen or older. **All Fridays in Lent are days of abstinence.**

**LENTEN SYMBOL** Our parish Lenten symbol this year is a small stone with a purple cross on it. Carry this stone with you and hold on to it for just a second to remind you that Jesus carried his Cross for you. Additional stones are available near the church exits.



**PRO-LIFE GROUP NEWS UPDATE** Your Parish Pro-Life Group met this past week and has begun laying the foundation for future Pro-Life Programs. Our next meeting will take place **Wednesday, March 24** at 6:00 p.m. We will meet at the Wyoming Chapter of PA for Human Life Offices on Hanover Street, with Betty Caffrey.

**THE LENTEN CARBON FAST PAPERS** are at the side entrances of the Church. If you are looking for ways to save money, especially with your electric bills, take a copy home & use it for an easy Lenten practice.

**FIRST COMMUNION PARENTS' MEETING** Parents of our 2nd grade students are asked to attend a meeting concerning **First Holy Communion** on **Monday, March 8, at 6:00 p.m.** in the Community Room. This meeting is a *Diocesan requirement*.

**BAPTISMAL PREPARATION MEETING** A preparatory session for parents of those to be baptized at St. Nicholas will be held **Sunday, March 14** at 12:00 noon in the Rectory. All parents who intend to have a child baptized here are required to attend one of these meetings prior to the baptism of their child. It is recommended that the parents attend during the time of pregnancy and that the Godparents attend with them when possible. **Please call the rectory (823-7736) to register.**

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES** are held from 10:15 to 11:35 a.m. Students from Pre-School to 8th Grade will gather in the School Gym. High School students will meet in the Church Community Room.

**CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES** serves the poor, those limited in power, voice, and access for generations. The need has never been greater and your generosity is critically important. God will always love the poor and this second collection gives each of us an opportunity to work hand-in-hand with Him to bring hope and His love to all His children. **Please respond generously to the second collection next weekend, March 13-14.**



**MEMORIAL GIFTS FOR THE NEEDY AND FLOWERS FOR EASTER** We are again accepting donations for your loved ones as Memorial Donations for the needy or for flowers in Church during the Easter Season. Donations may be made by placing \$15.00 in an envelope marked with the name of the person in whose memory it is donated and put the envelope in the collection basket or call the rectory by Monday, March 29.

**WEDNESDAY LENTEN PRAYER SERVICES** The downtown churches sponsor a Wednesday Ecumenical Lenten Service at St. Stephen's Episcopal Pro-Cathedral, 35 S. Franklin Street. Organ recitals at 11:30 a.m., precede the Community Worship Service at 12:00, followed by Soup/Sandwich Lunch (donation for lunch is \$4). This week's speaker is Diane Sickler. *Donations benefit the Wilkes-Barre Free Clinic.*

**AN ALTAR & ROSARY MEETING** will be held **Monday, March 8** at 1:30 p.m. in the Community Room. Plans to prepare and serve the Lenten Luncheon for the March 17 Ecumenical Prayer Service at St. Stephen's Church will be finalized. Volunteers are needed to help serve that day. Please come to the meeting on March 8 or call the rectory to volunteer.

**OPERATION RICE BOWL** Today we hear the call of Moses to lead his people from oppression to freedom. God promises to be with them as they journey to a new life. Our participation in Operation Rice Bowl unites us in prayer, fasting and giving with millions of people throughout the world who are oppressed by poverty, injustice, war, disease and lack of education and other opportunities.

# Eucharistic Celebrations

MONDAY MARCH 8	6:30 John & Mary Birmer <i>Req. by Family</i> 8:00 Robert Hines, Sr., 30 <sup>th</sup> Day <i>Req. by Family</i>	
TUESDAY MARCH 9	6:30 For the Living & Deceased of the Holy Name Society 8:00 Louise Fischer <i>Req. by Barbara Schaaf</i>	
WEDNESDAY MARCH 10	6:30 Franklin Dougher, Sr., Anniversary <i>Req. by Family</i> 8:00 Marguerite Ritz, 30 <sup>th</sup> Day <i>Req. by Family</i>	
THURSDAY MARCH 11	6:30 Margaret Weihbrecht <i>Req. by Mr. &amp; Mrs. Marino Simonetti</i> 8:00 <b>School Mass:</b> Martin Anstett <i>Req. by Jean Sgarlat</i>	
FRIDAY MARCH 12	6:30 Msgr. Peter C. Nagel, Anniversary 8:00 Frank R. Nickel, Anniversary <i>Req. by Wife, Dolores</i>	
SATURDAY MARCH 13	5:00 Mary Glawe, Anniversary <i>Req. by Family</i>	
SUNDAY MARCH 14	7:30 Sr. Celeste Demko, SCC <i>Req. by St. Nicholas Special Ministers of Eucharist</i> 9:00 Mary Frances Ott, 30 <sup>th</sup> Day <i>Req. by Family</i> 10:30 For the Living & Deceased of the Parish 12:00 Spanish Language Mass	

## TERMINATION OF FLU SEASON DIRECTIVES

Cardinal Justin Rigali has informed Bishop-Elect Joseph C. Bambera that effective Sunday, March 14, 2010, the exchange of the sign of peace and the distribution of the Precious Blood for the faithful will be reintroduced in the manner indicated by established liturgical norms. According to Cardinal Rigali, *"The information available from the Center for Disease Control confirms that the 2009 H1N1 Flu has significantly dissipated throughout the country and especially in our region. Individuals must still be encouraged to use good sense if they are ill and have flu-like symptoms when they are in group settings."*

**ST. NICHOLAS CEMETERY NOTES** The parish Cemetery Committee will meet **Tuesday, March 16** at 3:30 p.m. Any volunteers interested in doing some preliminary work before our cleanup day, scheduled for Saturday, April 24, should give Fr. Steve a call at the rectory. Parishioners who have put off ***purchasing a cemetery plot, or group of plots***, are encouraged to make their purchase **before** Memorial Day, 2010. After that date, prices for graves & openings will be raised to match that of the Diocesan Cemeteries. Our prices currently are the lowest of any cemetery in the area.

**SCHOOL PRE-REGISTRATION** Pre-registration for the 2010-2011 school year at **St. Nicholas-St. Mary's School** is held on school days between 8:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m. or at other times by appointment. St. Nicholas-St. Mary's School **will offer a Pre-School Program** for 4 year olds next school year. Please call the school office (823-8089) for information and pre-registration. ***St. Nicholas-St. Mary's School: Where Good Beginnings Last a Lifetime!***

**RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS** Please remember our RCIA Candidates for Full Reception into the Catholic Community in your prayers during these final weeks of their preparation for the Easter Vigil.

**AND THE WINNERS ARE!** The February winners of the Altar & Rosary Society monthly fund raiser were Marge Salata & Ethel Sromovski. Congratulations to the winners and thank you to all who support this effort.

## THE SPIRIT OF SAINT NICHOLAS

The long and vibrant history of St. Nicholas Parish dates back to December 1855. A group of German immigrants decided to form a parish to meet the needs of the new immigrants. They began to gather and celebrate the sacraments and planned immediately to build a church. As the community grew in number, the present large church was begun in 1883. From the beginning, the parishioners dedicated themselves and sacrificed to provide church, school, convent and rectory buildings and to develop opportunities and groups to meet the needs of the parishioners. The needs have continued to evolve and change. We have identified a number of projects that need attention in order to continue the great traditions and ***The Spirit of Saint Nicholas*** parish. New ministries have developed and the repair, preservation, and improvement of our parish buildings are always present. **A new Capital Campaign, THE SPIRIT OF SAINT NICHOLAS**, has been designated as a way for us to prepare for the future of our parish. A Committee has been meeting to formulate plans for the funding and completion of these projects.

## SUNDAY BREAKFAST SERVED BY THE HOLY NAME



Our Spring ***"All You Can Eat"*** Breakfast will be held on **Sunday, March 21**. The breakfast is sponsored by the St. Nicholas Holy Name Society and will be served in the school cafeteria from 8:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Donation: Adults - \$5, Children 6 to 12 - \$3, Children 5 & under - free. **Tickets will be available at the door.**

## MARRIAGE PREPARATION & PLANNING

Prior to setting a date for the wedding, couples are asked to contact the church. Couples planning to marry are asked to attend one of the Marriage Preparation Programs (Pre-Cana) at least six to nine months before the intended date. *For information and an up-to-date schedule, go to [www.dioceseofscranton.org/marriagepreparation](http://www.dioceseofscranton.org/marriagepreparation)*

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**  
**TUESDAY ~ 8:30 A.M.-4:30 P.M.**

### **CONGRATULATIONS BISHOP BAMBERA**

Bishop-elect Bambera will be ordained a Bishop, and installed as the tenth Bishop of Scranton on Monday, April 26 at 2 p.m. at St. Peter's Cathedral, Scranton. Bishop-elect Bambera is a native of the Scranton Diocese and has served as a pastor as well as in diocesan administrative positions during his 26 years of priestly ministry. Most recently, Bishop Elect Bambera has served as the Delegate of Cardinal Rigali during his time as the Apostolic Administrator of the Diocese of Scranton. Let us all pray & work together as we continue the renewal of our Diocese in our "Called to Holiness and Mission". Congratulations Bishop-elect Bambera!

**2010 ST. NICHOLAS BAZAAR** Our Annual Summer Bazaar will be held **July 15, 16, and 17, 2010**. Please put the dates on your calendar and plan to help. We look forward to new members of the parish joining in this effort. The Planning Committee has met to begin preparing for this important project.

**PARISH FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP** The weekend collection for February 20-21 was \$10,003.05. Thank you very much for your generosity. Thank you also for your response to the February Heat Collection.

**MOVING?** If you have plans to move to a new address, please inform the rectory so that we can keep our computer files updated. Thank you!

**CHILDREN'S BULLETINS** for our young members, ages 3-6 & 7-12, are available near the exits.

***TURN AWAY FROM SIN & BE FAITHFUL to the GOSPEL***

**REMEMBERING OUR PARISH** We are most grateful to the families of our parish who have designated St. Nicholas as a recipient of Memorial Donations for their deceased loved ones and to those who remembered the parish in their wills. These gifts are an important part of insuring the future of St. Nicholas Parish. Thank You!

**IN SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY** Please remember those serving in war-torn areas of our world, and who are separated from their families especially: Major Brian Halchak and Vince McCloskey who are serving in Iraq and M. Sgt. Michael Sanders serving in Kuwait. If you wish to add a name to this list, please contact the Rectory Office.

**SPONSORS FOR THE SACRAMENTS** One of the very important traditions and practices of the Catholic faith is the role of Godparents at Baptism and Sponsors for Confirmation. It is an honor to be asked to accept this role to be a very special example for the child or young person. To serve as a sponsor it is required that a person be at least 16 years of age, have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Holy Eucharist, Confirmation and if married, be married according to the regulations for marriage as provided by the Roman Catholic Church. Also, the sponsor is to be a weekly participant in the Sunday Eucharist and actively strive to live out their own baptismal commitment to Christ. (cf. Code of Canon Law, c. 874). Each sponsor is required to obtain a "sponsor letter" from their parish indicating that they fulfill the above requirements.

**CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD** Children, ages 4 & up, are invited to participate in the Children's Liturgy of the Word at the 9:00 a.m. Mass on Sundays when CCD is held.

**DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL** Thank you to the 211 donors who pledged to date. Currently we have received \$35,832.50 in pledges - 53.63% of our goal which is \$66,813. Please consider making a pledge to the Annual Appeal. If you have not yet pledged, please prayerfully consider helping our parish and diocese.

**SPIRITUAL READING** Check out our library which is located in the Community Room. Borrow a book! If you have any religious books you would like to donate, please put them on the bottom shelves.

**REMEMBERING OUR DECEASED** Each week, in the Prayer of the Faithful, we pray for those of our parish, their relatives and friends who have died in the previous week. We check the newspapers, but it would help us avoid missing anyone if you would call the rectory and give us the name.

**OFFERTORY PROCESSION** The presentation of the Gifts at weekend Liturgies is a symbol of our parish community's offering of their lives to our God. Volunteers are needed to sign up for the procession. We ask that all families who request a weekend Mass intention to inform us at the time of the request if your family wishes to bring the gifts up at that Liturgy. Parishioners are encouraged to sign-up to participate in bringing up the gifts.

**PARISH CEMETERIES** Lots for burial are available at our cemetery on Pioneer Avenue, Shavertown - call the rectory office for information. ***Please observe the regulations posted at the cemetery for planting. Please help us keep the cemetery litter-free by not throw bags, empty flower pots or other containers in the woods or leave them about on the property. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated and help with the up-keep of the cemetery.*** For entrance to the parish ***Darling Street Cemetery, come to the rectory office for a key.*** A deposit is requested & is returned when the key is returned.

**HELP WANTED** Readers to accompany Extraordinary Ministers to First Hospital and/or Clearbrook on Sunday mornings after 9:00 a.m. Mass. If interested, please call Monsignor at the rectory or Joan Brenzovich at 820-8485 and discuss it with them and ask any questions you might have. You would be assigned about every 6 to 8 weeks.

**PLEASE CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING** to help St. Nicholas Parish by sharing your gifts and talents with our parish community. There are many ways you can support our parish in its effort to be faithful in proclaiming the Good News. Assistance is needed with a variety of our Sacramental and Liturgical groups (Adult Altar Servers for Funerals, Ministers of the Eucharist, Lectors, Greeters at weekend liturgies), Religious Education Program, Scouting, Youth Ministry and others tasks which need your assistance. Contact Msgr. Rauscher for more info and possibilities. Please consider volunteering!

**NOTICE REGARDING SEXUAL ABUSE OF PERSON UNDER EIGHTEEN YEARS OF AGE BY ORDAINED OR LAY PERSONNEL OF THE DIOCESE OF SCRANTON**

Such an act should be reported to the Diocese by calling the Victim Assistance Coordinator (570-344-

5216) or the Chancellor (570-207-2216) or the Vicar for Priests (570-207-2269). Upon receiving a report of this kind, the Diocese of Scranton is committed to assisting victims or survivors of sexual abuse in their pursuit of emotional and spiritual well-being.

**SUNDAY MARCH 7**  
**3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT**  
**Eucharistic Liturgies: 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 (Eng.), 12:00 (Spanish)**  
 RCIA Catechesis 10:00 Rectory  
 CCD Religious Education Classes 10:15-11:35 School  
 Boy Scout Troop 43 Meeting 6:30 Community Room

**MONDAY MARCH 8**  
 Altar & Rosary Meeting 1:30 Community Room  
 Finance Council 5:15 Rectory  
 First Holy Communion Parents Meeting 6:00 Community Room  
 St. Nicholas Federal Credit Union 6:00-8:30 School  
 Parish Pastoral Council 7:00 Community Room

**TUESDAY MARCH 9**  
 Eucharistic Adoration 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Chapel  
 Miraculous Medal Novena 4:30 Chapel  
 Social Concerns Meeting 4:30 Rectory  
 Free Health Clinic 4:30-7:00 St. Stephen's Episcopal Church  
 Bingo 5:45 Cafeteria  
 Girl Scouts Troop #2903 6:00-8:00 Community Room

**WEDNESDAY MARCH 10**  
 Free Health Clinic 5:30-7:30 St. Stephen's Episcopal Church  
 CCD Parents (3-8) 1st Penance Make-up Mtg. 6:00-7:00 Cafeteria  
 School Sports Club Meeting 7:15 Cafeteria  
 Scout District Commissioner Service Mtg. 5:45-7:15 Comm. Room  
 Scout District Committee Meeting 7:15-9:00 Community Room  
 Lenten "Road to Resurrection Mass" 7:00 Maternity BVM, W-B

**THURSDAY MARCH 11**  
 Adult Education: A Journey of Hope 6:00 Community Room  
 Choir Rehearsal 7:00 Choir Loft

**FRIDAY MARCH 12**  
 Stations of the Cross 1:30, 5:15(English) - 6:00(Spanish) Church  
 Cub Scout Pack 43 Den Meeting 6:30 Cafeteria

**SATURDAY MARCH 13**  
 Al-Anon Meeting 9:00 Community Room  
 Confessions 4:00-4:45 Church  
**Vigil Mass for Sunday 5:00 Church**  
**Daylight Saving Time begins – set clocks ahead before retiring!**

**SUNDAY MARCH 14**  
**4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT**  
**Eucharistic Liturgies: 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 (Eng.), 12:00 (Spanish)**  
 RCIA Catechesis 10:00 Rectory  
 CCD Religious Education Classes 10:15-11:35 School  
 Girl Scout Sunday Celebration 10:30 Liturgy Church  
 Baptismal Preparation Session 12:00 Rectory  
 Boy Scout Troop 43 Meeting 6:30 Community Room  
 Pack 43 Committee Meeting 7:00 Rectory  
 Holy Name Meeting 7:00 Cafeteria



**WORD OF LIFE** The Second Vatican Council reminded the entire Church that we are to be a leaven for the world's transformation. ... Recently, we have tried to be such a leaven in the debate about health care. It is not for us to speak to particular means of delivering health care; it is our responsibility, however, to insist, as a moral voice concerned with human solidarity, that everyone should be cared for and that no one should be deliberately killed.

*Cardinal Francis George, Presidential Address to General Meeting of U.S. bishops, Nov. 16, 2009*

**A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE** Lent is a time for us to look at the ways in which God is calling us to grow. As we reflect on the readings today, let us ask God to show us what is holding us back, what is keeping us from surrendering to the One who created us...Control? Possessions? Fear? Prejudice? Self-righteousness?...

**CATHOLIC UNDERGROUND PA** will present Bob Halligan, Jr. of the Catholic Celtic group "Ceili Rain" at Holy Annunciation Church (formerly St. Gabriel's) in Hazleton at 8 p.m. on **Friday, March 12**.

**A BUFFET FISH DINNER** will be held at SS. Peter & Paul school auditorium, Hudson Rd., Plains on **Friday, March 12**. Cost for adults & takeouts \$8 – children \$4.

**YOUR CREDIT UNION NEWS** We are looking for a volunteer to fill an opening on our Credit Committee. This position requires availability on Monday evenings from 6:00-8:30 p.m. Please contact Cathy Rose at St. Nicholas-St. Boniface FCU at 825-2640, cell #709-9729 or fax 970-2895 if you are interested in helping out.

**FOOD BANK** Thank you for keeping the food supply coming. We need jelly, tuna, mac & cheese and pasta in a can. Since January we have given out 116 bags of food. Thank you for all you do for others.

**LENTEN FISH DINNERS** are held at St. Patrick's Church hall, Parrish St., W-B **every Friday** of Lent.

**4-YEAR FULL TUITION SCHOLARSHIPS King's College Scholarships** Open to students of Hispanic heritage whose parents did not attend college. Applicants must have a 3.2 high school GPA or higher, & demonstrate financial need. Applicants must be residents of Lackawanna or Luzerne County. Contact the McGowan Hispanic Outreach Program at King's College at 208-5900, Ext. 5466 for info. **The deadline has been extended to March 26.**

**A LENTEN MISSION** will be held on **March 9-11** at St. Ann Basilica, W. Scranton. The evening services begin following the 7:00 p.m. Mass. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available after each service.


**THE ANNUAL NOVENA** in-honor of St. Joseph will begin March 10 until March 19. Masses will be held daily at 10:30 am & 7 pm in the Oblates of St. Joseph Seminary Chapel, Rte. 315 Laflin. For more info, contact 654-7542.

**ST. MARIA GORETTI PARISH**, 42 Redwood Dr. in Laflin will be having a Lenten Potato Pancake Sale in its Banquet Hall from 4-7 p.m. on **March 12 & 26**. Takeouts will also be available. For more info, contact 655-8956.

**HAM & CABBAGE DINNERS** 1). **Holy Family Church Hall**, Main St., Sugar Notch -on, **March 13**, 4-7 p.m. -takeouts 3-5 p.m. Tickets are \$8—call Dorothy @ 822-1618 or Rectory @ 822-8983. 2). **St. Patrick's**, Parrish St., W-B on **Sunday, March 14** from 11:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Cost is \$8.50 adults, \$4.50 children age 12 & under.

**MASS/HEALING SERVICE** at St. Anthony Padua Church, Exeter on **Sunday, March 14** at 7:00 p.m. Alan Ames from Australia will share his conversion story and how he received the special gift of healing from God.

<b>ALTAR SERVERS FOR THE WEEKEND OF MARCH 13-14</b>	
5:00	Julia Wignot, Luke & Victoria Nealon
7:30	Michael Conway & Adam Pawlowski
9:00	Brandon Hannis, Cade & Chad Fahey
10:30	SCOUTS

<b>FINANCES</b>		
<b>FOR THE WEEKEND OF FEBRUARY 27-28</b>		
Adult Offering		\$7,679.99
Children's Offering		159.00
Loose Offering		1,386.51
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$9,225.50</b>
Dues		545.00
St. Vincent de Paul		11.00
Initial (5) & Heat (221) & CCD (7)		233.00
Religious Retirement Fund		25.00
Care of Priests		77.00
<b>Total Offering</b>	<b>THANK YOU!</b>	<b>\$10,116.50</b>

**HOLY NAME SOCIETY A. C. TRIP** on **Sunday, April 25** to Bally's Casino. Cost is \$30 per person - rebate TBA. Leave St. Nick's parking lot at 7 a.m. - leave Bally's at 6 p.m. All seats reserved. For reservations call Bud Holmgren at 826-1705.

**ROLL BAKING PROJECT** at St. John's Byzantine Church hall, W-B Twp. The cost is \$8 per roll - nut, poppy seed, apricot and lekvar (prune). **Orders must be placed by Sunday, March 7 and picked up on Wednesday, March 17.** To place your order, call St. John's Hall at 824-2527 or Ethel at 824-1970.

**A LENTEN ORGAN RECITAL** will be held today, **March 7** at 1:30 p.m. in St. Mary's I. C., S. Washington St., W-B. There is no charge & all are welcome.

**DESIGNER BINGO** will be held at St. Leo's/Holy Rosary Church, 33 Manhattan Street, Ashley, today, **Sunday, March 7** in the Church Hall. Doors open at 1 p.m. - bingo starts at 2:00. There will be food available.

**A LENTEN FISH DINNER** will be held on **Friday, March 19** from 3:30-7:00 p.m. at Little Flower Manor & St. Therese Residence, 200 S. Meade St., W-B. The menu is: fish (baked or fried), french fries, coleslaw, corn, dessert. Price: \$ 8.00. Eat in or take out will be available. For more info, or to purchase tickets, please stop by Little Flower Manor or call 823-6131. New England clam chowder will also be available for \$1.50.

**PLEASE BE CAREFUL! REMEMBER** to lock your car doors & do not leave any valuables in your cars.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for the W-B Free Medical Clinic.** The Clinic is open on Tuesdays from 4:30-7:00 p.m. and every other Wednesday (began December 30) from 5:30-7:30 p.m. This means we need additional volunteers to staff the Clinic. Needed are Wednesday evening volunteers - Registered Nurse, Nurse Practitioner, Pharmacist or Social Worker and volunteer receptionist(s). If interested or would like more info, call Lois Myers at 825-8721.

**NEED EXTRA MONEY?** The U.S. Census is hiring hundreds of employees in your area. Most jobs are where you live and pay \$11-\$14 an hour plus mileage - great for extra money. Hours are flexible and full-time or part-time. Call our Scranton office at 903-6000 or 1-866-861-2010 to schedule yourself for a simple test of basic skills. Visit the website at <http://2010.census.gov> for complete info.

**FURRY TAILS READING PARTNERS** Do you know a child who is experiencing problems reading? Furry Tails Reading Partners pairs children with therapy dog teams to encourage children to improve their reading

skills. The program runs all year and is free to children needing help. For info call Helene Skopek at 814-6078.

**FREE EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES Available For Children Birth Through Two**  
Are you concerned about your child's ability to move, see or hear? To talk or express needs? To relate to others? To think and learn? If you answered "YES" to any of the above, call now for a free screening and/or evaluation. Your child, ages birth through two, may be eligible for free early intervention services. No income guidelines. No insurance necessary. All information is confidential. Phone 826-3030 or 1-800-816-1880.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** 1). Days, evenings & overnight coverage needed for **Catherine McCauley Center, Plymouth** - call Sr. Marie Larkin at 779-2801. 2). **W-B Free Clinic** on Tuesdays & Wednesdays - call Pat Williams or Lois Meyers at 825-8721 or 793-4361. 3). **Ruth's Place** - call Julie Benjamin or Betty Magnum at 822-6817.

**TRANSPORTATION FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES** For questions/information on the Luzerne/Wyoming Counties Transportation Program call 288-8420 or 800-679-4135 or Hearing Impaired 825-1860. The program is funded, made available & regulated through the PA Dept. of Transportation.

**ANY SENIOR CITIZEN** Seniors who are homebound and living on their own may want to take advantage of a program called **RUOK**. **Helpline** will contact you once a week to check on you. For more information, call Sr. Nancy at 823-7736.

**SUPPORT GROUP** Divorced, widowed or separated individuals trying to cope with sorrow, doubt, anxiety or loneliness, can come to **The Beginning Experience monthly session on the third Friday of each month** from 7-9 p.m. at St. Ann's Parish Center, Scranton. For info call 489-7769.

**HEARTLAND HOSPICE** is looking for compassionate and caring people to work with terminally ill patients and their families throughout your local community. An educational training is provided at no cost. Volunteers offer the gift of their presence- by providing support and companionship to patients and their families. Volunteers are involved in office support and community outreach as well. The mission of Heartland Hospice is to provide quality hospice care to patients with a limited life expectancy and support to their caregivers. Hospice Care is a promise. ...a promise to patients who are facing the most difficult time of life. When choices seem few and patient and family are most fragile, you can make a positive difference in their lives. Please consider joining our Heartland Hospice Team by volunteering your time. For further info, please contact Shannon Pietroski, at 1-800-322-8585 or 762-7346.

**PROBLEMS WITH DRUGS?** For help call the Drug and Alcohol Counseling Center at 1-866-REFINE-U.

**A MONTHLY HOLY HOUR** (for priestly & religious vocations) is held **every first Thursday** at 7:00 p.m. at the Oblates of St. Joseph Seminary Chapel, Route 315, Laflin.

**TRAVELING?** Mass times & locations when

traveling - call 1-410-676-6000 or Internet at [www.Masstimes.org](http://www.Masstimes.org).