

Fiat Lux

January February 2009



Our Lady of the Holy Spirit Center News

From Fr. Joe



What is the Bottom Line?

As we experience the world-wide financial crisis, there is still a bottom line. What is the bottom line? It is a question you hear everywhere these days. There was a time when only the captians of industry and the brokers on Wall Street worried about such matters. Now, however, the CEO's of large corporations and the owners of small businesses are not the only ones who are concerned with profit and loss balance sheets. With more and more people investing in IRA's and CD's, a concern for the bottom line has spread to sales people and stay-at-home-moms. The average person knows more than ever about the intricacies of financial investing. Articles and books are published everyday on how to be a good manager of your resources. Everyone is interested in using money to make money. This is what the bottom line is all about. The "bottom line" has become our cultural vocabulary with a generic meaning. "What is the bottom line?" means cutting through the incidental and extraneous information and getting directly to the ultimate consequences or final conclusions of a matter under consideration.

Jesus talks about the bottom line, too, but His view of profits and losses is very different from our own. Listen to His formula for getting rich in the kingdom of God. "Those who want to save their life will lose it and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world and lose their life?" The stakes are higher and the rules are different on these profit and loss balance sheets. We are considering the loss or gain of our very selves. In this high stakes-game, the only way to show a profit is to show a loss. The only people who gain the world are those who give it away. This is the mystery of the spiritual bottom line. Jesus warns against getting the world and losing our souls...

Fr. Joseph Bruemmer

From the Director

One more year is history and Lent will begin in less than two months. I think it's high time someone figures out how to slow things down! But, I suppose that's not in God's plan

so we'll have to figure out how to hang on and go with it.

Programs around the Center are ongoing and we continue to add opportunities for spiritual growth. "Defending the Faith" and "The Faith Unplugged" have been receiving rave reviews and leaving people wanting more. "Defending the Faith" is a look at explaining the Catholic faith in terms that non-Catholics can identify with and are accustomed to seeing in their own churches. "The Faith Unplugged" series is designed to give younger folks a chance to deepen their faith with like minded individuals. I can't wait for the second installment. A new feature we're adding is private retreats. We are currently offering non-directed retreats to individuals who wish to spend some time in quiet contemplation.

We are also looking forward to spring bringing more elementary and high school retreats to the Center. As I've mentioned numerous times, there's nothing better than to see fresh young faces getting fired up about God. It gets a little noisy around here but I think it's more than worth the distraction to make sure we provide young people with what they need.

I hope your Christmas season and the start of the New Year were peaceful and full of blessing from above. Know that you are in our prayers. We hope we are in yours as well.

Tom Leibel



Steve Leverone leads the Rosary for the Unborn at the First Saturday gathering.

From the Development Office

The Faith in Our Future Campaign continues to go well. We have met our goal of \$750,000 in pledges and payments are coming in as scheduled.

The Development Committee is working hard at exploring alternate ways of raising funds. They recently met to research family foundations and are preparing to make calls. Please continue to give generously to the Annual Appeal; it is vital to the Center for operational funds. Most importantly, please continue to pray for Our Lady of the Holy Spirit Center. We will continue to pray for all of you.

Julie Nerl, Development

A Special Thank You to our Christmas Tree Sponsors! Please patronize our loyal supporters!

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Eucharistic Adoration

Last year in the August newsletter, I wrote about how amazing the Center is. I had not been to OLHSC for a few years and could not believe how much renovation had taken place since my last visit. Now, a year later, I'm writing about how the Center has transformed me. Shortly after I started to work here, I answered the phone; it was Keith Merz. He asked who I was and if I was new. I responded that I'd been here for a few weeks. He asked me if I would take a Holy Hour. Of course, I was much too busy. I replied that the only possible time I could manage was 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday morning. It just so happened that the slot was available. I told him that with small children I was not sure I could commit to an hour each week. He encouraged me to try it and let him know if it didn't work.

In the beginning, it was hard to concentrate; my mind would wander. I felt like I wasn't doing it right. But each week it became easier and I felt very peaceful. I have progressed to saying the Rosary, my favorite prayers, asking questions and waiting for answers. Now when I go into the chapel, no matter what kind of morning I've had, as soon as I enter and kneel down, all anxiety leaves me. I have never felt such peace.

I'm sure many of you know the search for peace. I've always thought it would come as soon as a task is completed, or when things at work slow down, or when the kids go to school. But the peace never comes. There is always more to do and more problems surface. Now, I feel God's peace always. I guarantee you will find peace, too, if you are willing to spend some time with God. I invite you to spend just one hour in Adoration. You may bring your own prayer book, say a rosary, read the Bible or just sit, relax and enjoy the sweet peace that comes from simply being in the Presence of God. Here at the Center our Adoration Chapel is open twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. There are one hundred and sixty-eight hours available for your choice of an hour to pray with our God.

Julie Nerl



To the left is Father Bruemmer blessing the Christmas trees. Above is the Regina Caeli Schola Choir singing at the Tree Lighting Ceremony.

From the Retreat Office

We have been blessed with four youth group retreats of varying ages, backgrounds and nationalities in the past month. From the USA to Asia, children and teens have discovered the tremendous spiritual benefits of Our Lady's House. We look forward to more adult and youth groups holding their retreats here at the Center. Do you know of a group needing a retreat space? Call us.

NEW! Starting this month, we are offering individual non-directed retreats here at OLHSC. Come to spend the night (or 2 nights) here in prayer, taking advantage of our retreat facilities. Call Linda Tracy at 513.351.9800 ext. 305 for more information or a brochure.

Linda Tracy, Retreats



This Gift of Time

Time sweeps by so quickly! We can't hold it, stop it, change it or repeat it - time keeps moving. How grateful we are to live in this time, 2009.

Time is a perfect free gift from God. In the Old Testament we read, "There is a time for everything." The Gospel of St. John recounts the well known quote of Jesus, "My time has come." A poet once said, "I have a golden minute and eternity is in it." St. Teresa of Avila made a vow never to waste a moment of time in her life.

What do we do in our daily time? The Catechism of the Catholic Church guides us on our path by stating that we are made to know, love and serve God and to be happy... Many of us have the opportunity to participate in daily Mass where we hear Father's clear call, "Go in peace to love and serve the Lord." We respond, "Thanks be to God." Thank you, Jesus, for this time to love and serve in your Name.

Let us encourage one another by offering an hour of Eucharistic Adoration for another who is ill, disappointed, solving a problem or one you can congratulate etc.

Jesus is our gift of love right here, right now. This is our time to give Jesus to another because we love Jesus and want to use His time to love others too.

Merrily use your time in the New Year!

Sister Mary Evelyn Hillebrand, RSM

From the Events Office

Gary Michuta has emboldened many to better express their Faith in his series of apologetics lectures. It is not too late to take advantage of these monthly Saturday sessions. The Eucharist, Mary and the Saints and Miscellaneous issues are still topics which will be studied. Call the Office for dates and times.



We continue to evangelize our youth through the series, "The Faith Unplugged" with Michael Walsh and Lee Roessler. The series is



free to teens and young adults. It is scheduled for the first Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m.

During this new year, we will have many more series and talks including a women's group and a Marian Conference.

Linda Tracy, Events



Retreatants are using the gym for their team building exercises.

The picture in the left column shows Deacon Gerry Flamm at the Children's Memorial Service.

Mark your Calendars

Jan 2 - Noon First Friday Mass
Jan 7 - The Faith Unplugged
Jan 10 - Apologetics Series
Jan 16 - Noon Right to Life Mass
Jan 23 - Noon Mass for Priests
Feb 4 - The Faith Unplugged
Feb 6 - Noon First Friday Mass
Feb 14 - Apologetics Series
Feb 20 - Noon Right to Life Mass
Feb 27 - Noon Mass for Priests

Adorers

Anyone interested in a one hour commitment to Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, please contact Keith Merz at 513.574.4522

Volunteers Needed

OLHSC is still very much in need of technology support help. Our web page needs design expertise and constant updating. Please contact us if you can help in these areas.

Cord Rosary Lessons

Anyone interested in learning to make cord rosaries, please join us on Jan. 22 from 10 - 11:30 AM in Room 113. Materials supplied. Parts are needed and can be brought to the Center. Contact: Ruth Ann 513.922.5756

Board of Trustees:

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CONTACTS:

OLHSC Hours: Telephone/Info. Office
Mon.-Fri. 9am - 4pm, Sat. 10am-2pm
513.351.9800

To schedule an Activity/Event Ext. 335
or email events@olhsc.org. **Retreats** ext.
305 or email retreats@olhsc.org

The Catholic Shop and Library Hours:
Mon.-Thurs. 10am-5pm. **Library** till 4pm.
Fri. 10am-7pm, Sat. 10am to 2pm.

Our Lady of Light Foundation: for Books
contact Ken Hinchey 859.341.5232; for
Our Lady of Light Prayer Cards and
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Our Lady's Prayer Line: 513.793.3829
or for requests for prayer to Melody
Osbourne, 7020 Fowler Ave., Cincinnati,
OH 45243 or email: prayers@olhsc.org

Development/Donations: Julie Nerl
Ext.334, Mon.-Wed. 9am-4pm. email:
Julie@olhsc.org

Mission Statement

The purpose of Our Lady of the Holy Spirit Center is to foster a deeper faith in God and love for Him and for our neighbor through the Holy Spirit and the Hearts of Jesus and Mary with obedience to the Magisterium of the Church under the authority of the Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI.



Our Lady of the Holy Spirit Center

5440 Moeller Avenue
Norwood, Ohio 45212
Tel: 513.351.9800 or 513.731.Mary
Fax: 513.351.9885
www.olhsc.org Email: info@olhsc.org

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Mass Schedule:

Sorrowful Mother Chapel

Mon. - Fri. 8:30AM

Mon. - Thurs. 7:15PM

Holy Rosary Chapel

Friday Evening Services

Rosary: 6:30 PM

Mass: 7:15PM

1st Sat. Mass: 9:30AM

Confessions:

Mon. and Tues. 3- 4PM

1st and 3rd Fri. 6:15-7:45PM

Rosary:

Every Tuesday

11:30AM-12:00 noon

Weekdays 6:20 pm

Chaplet of Divine Mercy:

Weekdays at 3PM