

JMJ

Dear Parishioners,

The altar is of course and essential part of every Church, this week we will look into the history of the altar. In the primitive times there were two kinds of altars.

- The *arcosolium* or *monumentum arcuatum*, which was formed by cutting in the tufa wall of the wider spaces in the catacombs, an arch-like niche, over a grave or sarcophagus. The latter contained the remains of one or several martyrs, and rose about three feet above the floor. On it was placed horizontally a slab of marble, called the mensa, on which Mass was celebrated.

- The altar detached from the wall in the *cubicula*, or secular chapels surrounded by *loculi* and *arcosolia*, used as places of worship in the catacombs or in the churches erected above ground after the time of Constantine. This second kind of altar consisted of a square or oblong slab of stone or marble which rested on columns, one to six in number, or on a structure of masonry in which were enclosed the relics of martyrs. Sometimes two or four slabs of stone were placed vertically under the table, forming a stone chest. In private oratories the table was sometimes made of wood and rested on a wooden support. Within this support were placed the relics of martyrs, and in order to be able to expose them to view, folding doors were fixed on the front.

The *Liber Pontificalis* states that Saint Felix I, decreed that Mass should be celebrated on the tombs of martyrs. This no doubt brought about both a change of form, from that of a simple table to that of a chest or tomb, and the rule that every altar must contain the relics of martyrs. Usually the altar was raised on steps, from which the bishop sometimes preached. Originally it was made in the shape of an ordinary table, but gradually a step was introduced behind it and raised slightly above it. When the tabernacle was introduced the number of these steps was increased. The altar is covered, at least in basilicas and also in large churches by a canopy supported by columns, called the ciborium, upon which were placed, or from which were suspended, vases, crowns, baskets of silver, as decorations. From the middle of the ciborium, formerly, a gold or silver dove was suspended to serve as a pyx in which the Blessed Sacrament was reserved. Veils or curtains were attached to the columns which supported the ciborium. The altar was often encircled by railings of wood, or metal, called *cancelli*, or by low walls of marble slabs called *tranennae*. According to the present discipline of the Church, there are two kinds of altars, the fixed and the portable. Both these denominations have a twofold meaning, i.e. an altar may be fixed or portable either in a wider sense or in the liturgical meaning. A fixed altar, in a wider sense, is one that is attached to a wall, a floor, or a column whether it be consecrated or not; in the liturgical sense it is a permanent structure of stone, consisting of a consecrated table and support, which must be built on a solid foundation. A portable altar in a wider sense is one that may be carried from one place to another in the liturgical sense it is a consecrated altar-stone, sufficiently large to hold the Sacred Host and the greater part of the base of the chalice. It is inserted in the table of an altar which is not a consecrated fixed altar.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Father Newcomb

Fr. Newcomb will be having discussions on Symbolon Part II in the Parish Office Building in the Saint Peter and Saint Paul Meeting Room @ 6:30pm the following Mondays:

- 13 February** Session 1: The Sacraments
- 20 February** Session 2: The Eucharist
- 27 February** Session 3: Walk through the Mass
- 6 March** Session 4: Penance & Anointing of the Sick
- 13 March** Session 5: Matrimony & Holy Orders
- 27 March** Session 6: A Catholic Moral Vision
- 3 April** Session 7: A Love that Lasts
- 17 April** Session 8: A Love that Lasts
- 24 April** Session 9: Catholic Social Teaching
- 1 May** Session 10: Catholic Social Teaching

The second collection this weekend is for Peter's Pence.
Please give it your prayerful consideration.



F.A.I.T.H. is hosting a
Double Feature Movie Day
Saturday, February 11th
Doors Open at 12:00 p.m.
Showtime 12:30 p.m Finding Dory
6:30pm Miracles from Heaven

Drinks and movie popcorn will be provided
Kindly RSVP by
Wednesday, February 8th
daninyg89@frontiernet.net
Please include the number of
people attending

Little Lambs Little Caesars Pizza Fundraiser

Just in time for Lent...Stock up on Frozen Cheese Pizza Kits for
your meatless Fridays. Sale starts NOW! All online orders are
due by February 15th.

Go to PizzaKit.com to register. Click on "Products,"
then "Shop."

Enter our online Fundraiser ID #: 327984 and start
shopping.

All products can be shipped directly to you, or delivered to Little
Lambs. Pick up your order on March 3 between 1-2:30 p.m.
Little Lambs is working towards renovating the school kitchen
and downstairs bathrooms. Thank you.

Fat Friday Fun

All children in grades 5 through 8 are invited
to join the members of G.E.M.S. on **Friday,**
February 24th from 5pm until 7pm in the
church hall. We will have a pizza party, ac-
tivities, and video games for all to enjoy.
Come learn about our youth group while hav-
ing fun. Please call the parish office for more
information and to **RSVP by February 17th.**



Upcoming Faith Events

Saturday, March 4th Lenten Event
Friday, April 7th Fish and Chips Dinner
Saturday, April 22nd 2nd Annual Parish Dance

Save the Date! FUN RAISER Wine Tasting. Friday, April 28th
from 6pm to 9pm. In the church hall. Tickets \$20/pp

Banns of Marriage

David Martz III



Kristen Gaesser

ANNOUNCED MASSES

Monday, February 6 (Paul Miki and companions, martyrs)
9:00am Dennis Simmons, by Lefty and Marie Barth
Nicholas Pinkala, by Declan and Mary Carroll

Tuesday, February 7
9:00am Frank Semerano, by Bob and Dianna Witherow

Wednesday, February 8 (Jerome Emiliani; Josephine Bakhita, virgin)
9:00am Edward Sierra, by Sophie Crawford-Rosso

Thursday, February 9
9:00am Kevin Cunningham, by Steve and Jeri Riordan

Saturday, February 11
4:00pm Mary Oliver, by the family

Sunday, February 12
8:30am Louis and Josephine Peloso, by Joseph and Angela Portella
11:30am The parishioners of St. Mary's Anne Morey, by Dr. Jane Brooks

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:

Joann Wilcox, Nick Moscatiello, Jackie Mundy, Theresa Fuller, Donald Wolff, Walter Szpakowicz, Frances Brennan, Jose Ramos, Aedan Roach, Jim Roach, Robyn Radzikowski, Joseph Brennan, Betty Brennan, Richard Samek, Sandy Osbourne, John McKeon, William Lincoln, Michael Barnes, Jeanine Lincoln, Mary Platania, Angela Grillo, Ruth Lewis, Anthony Medaglia, Maureen Hildebrandt, Robert Cinerar, Andrea Fedoruk, Angela Portella, Pauline Portella, Steve Wilkinson, Grace Maillet, Joseph Cox, William Gaide, Jacqueline Hamilton, Ashley Avella, Christina Greeves, Amelia Quinn, Marianne Ripel, Joseph Livingston, Donna Bancala, Teddy Mead, Pat Arnold, Angela Lillo, Pat Muller, Debi Cotugno, Tom Earley, Conner McHugh, Bobby Fett, Sue Arnold, Dennis Perrin, Josephine Fiorillo, Carol Tufano, Jacqueline Leggett, David M. Phillips, Laney Carnahan, Elizabeth Startup Jones, Michael Costescu, Lisa Baisley, Scott Smith, and Jim Muller.

The collection for January 28/29 was \$5,095.50
Thank you for your continued generosity.

Liturgical Ministers for February 11/12

MASS	LECTOR	MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION	ALTAR SERVERS
4:00PM	B. HECKMAN	H. ECKES, J. FLYNN, W. PONDS	J. KLOTZ, S. KLOTZ, D. KLOTZ
8:30AM	J. HENDRICK	A. STASILLI, N. STASILLI, J. TAYLOR	T. LAMOREAUX, S. PHILLIPS
11:30AM	H. MARINARO	J. SNELLINGER, M. ADAMCIK, N. SMITH	Z. ADAMCIK, S. CUELLO, J. EDWARDS, A. ST. LOUIS