



# Happy Birthday!



- February 4 .....Zachary Humphries, Jennifer Link
- February 5 .....Kay Neugebauer (founder of the famous chocolate treat "Neugebauer Nuggets"), Nancy Witt
- February 6 .....Lauren Gunderman, Eric Hapner, Tina Hopper, Mary Hunt, Robert Lopez II, Mary Strain
- February 7 .....Colby Barber, Joslyn Rockey, Cailin Wehrung, Haylee Wehrung

- February 8 .....David Howell
- February 10 .....Megan Haver, Jeanine Powell
- February 11 .....Patrick Hughes
- February 14 .....Craig Barreras, Ryan Ludwick
- February 15 .....Olive Burwinkel, Carol Rooney
- February 16 .....Kati Burwinkel, Tom Moeller, Rose Rook, Quin Smart

## NEWS AROUND THE PARISH

1. Youth Group will meet February 17 in the Fr. Luehrmann Hall at 11:00 a.m. At the February 3 meeting, Kara Setty presented a talk on Camp Dove Tail for the youth. The group voted to donate money for this very worthwhile cause. All youth in grades 6 to 12 are invited to attend. Contact Ana Lopez for more info. (205-3071).
2. **FISH FRY – The Highland County Firefighters and St. Mary School will be having a Fish Fry every Friday during Lent. Dinners will be served from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Carry-outs are available. Mark your calendars. The first one is Friday, February 15th.**
3. The Triathlon Brothers, Roy and Troy Tesmer, will conduct a fitness group meeting in the gym at 6:30 p.m. every other Wednesday starting February 20th. It will last 30-45 minutes and is free to all! Call Troy Tesmer (937-205-3214) or Roy Tesmer (937-205-1781) for info. Thank you!

### "Plumber of the Year Award Goes To..."





*Very Classy!!!*



?!?



And the reason for the door is...  
???



PRIVACY



**Today's Short Reading from the Bible... from Genesis :**

**“And God promised men that good and obedient wives would be found in all corners of the earth.”**

Then He made the earth round .....and He laughed and laughed and laughed!

**Hypnotism at the Senior Center**

- > It was entertainment night at the Senior Center. Claude, the hypnotist, exclaimed: “I’m here to put you all into a trance – I intend to hypnotize each and every member of the audience.”
- > The excitement was almost electric as Claude withdrew a beautiful antique pocket watch from his coat. The polished metal gleamed in the light.
- > Claude, the hypnotist, said: “I want you each to keep your eyes on this antique watch. It’s a very special watch. It’s been in my family for six generations.”
- > He began to swing the watch gently back and forth while quietly chanting, “Watch the watch, watch the watch, watch the watch.”
- > The crowd became mesmerized as the watch swayed back and forth, light shimmering off its polished surface. Hundreds of pairs of eyes followed the swaying watch, until, suddenly, it slipped from the hypnotist’s fingers and fell to the floor, shattering into a hundred pieces.
- > “CRAP!” said the Hypnotist.
- > It took 3 days to clean up the Senior Center.

**FR. MIKE’S SERMON FOR 5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

Simon Peter was not the only one chosen by Jesus to “catch men.” We who follow Jesus are also chosen to bring others to the Lord. But how do we do that? I can answer that in one word: “virtue.” Virtue means to do the right thing, the good deed in every situation. When you do the right thing, especially when you have nothing to gain by doing it, you can actually lead others to Jesus. Jesus led people to His Father by the attractiveness of His virtue.

On December 2, 2012, a wonderful act of virtue took place that inspired people around the world.

A Spanish runner has shown the world that sometimes, just sometimes, winning *isn't* everything. Spanish athlete Ivan Fernandez Anaya impressed the world by giving up victory to do the right thing. It happened as the 24-year-old raced a cross-country event in Spain.

Far behind in second place to Abel Mutai, the Kenyan athlete who won a bronze medal in the London Olympics, Anaya suddenly had a chance to surge ahead. But how could this be, since he was so far behind? Mutai mistakenly thought the end of the race came about 10 meters (30 feet) sooner than it did, and he stopped running.

He expected for people to start clapping for his victory, but instead he “looked back and saw the people yelling at him to keep going.” “But since he doesn’t speak Spanish, he didn’t realize it.”

So when Anaya caught up with Mutai, he used signs to tell him the finish line is down there. Anaya made sure to stay behind Mutai as he guided him to the actual finish line where he won.

Anaya said, “I didn’t deserve to win it. I did what I had to do. He was the rightful winner. He created a gap that I couldn’t have closed if he hadn’t made a mistake. As soon as I saw he was stopping, I knew I wasn’t going to pass him.” Anaya’s coach was furious, but people around the world expressed an outpouring of admiration for his honesty.

On the very morning I read this story, God would later that afternoon put me to the test. Almost every Tuesday afternoon you will find me at the Eastgate Kroger where I buy supplies for my house in Batavia. I needed paper towels, but I hate to buy paper towels because they are so expensive. The Bounty 12-pack goes for \$13.79! But this is the brand I like to use to clean my glasses without leaving streaks.

What happened next is hard to believe, but I give you my word it is true. As I’m walking towards the Kroger door I saw an unopened package lying in the middle of the parking lot near the sidewalk leading to the door. I picked it up. It is eight Bounty paper towels, the fat size that equals twelve rolls. My first reaction was to joyfully throw them into the trunk of my car because they obviously fell out from the bottom of someone’s cart and there was no owner to claim them. Bounties from Heaven! With the money saved, I could splurge and buy some expensive King George sardines or an Angus steak or a 40 count shrimp plate, or a box of those vanilla cream puffs (I feel like Homer Simpson salivating over doughnuts). Then I thought of Anaya doing the right thing. Then I thought of Jesus sending me to Purgatory for a couple of days for ripping someone off of their paper towels. Paper towels for Purgatory are not a good deal.

So I took the Bounty and handed them over to Kroger Customer Care. He thanked me for being honest. As I left, an elderly, white-haired gentleman walked up to me. He said, “I saw what you did. It kinda restores my faith in humanity.” Then he looked at my Jesus shirt and asked, “Are you a minister or something?” I said, “I’m just a sinner trying to get to Heaven.” He responded, “Me, too. What you did kinda of woke me up a little. Maybe I should get back to Church.” It gratified me that Jesus used my honesty that day to maybe bring a lost soul back to Himself.

Jesus calls you to “catch men” for God. Even your smallest good deeds can do big things for the Lord.