



Birthdays

November 23

Walter Paraniuk
Joann Davis
Patty Reinholz
Koy Shea
Tammy Wells

November 24

Emily Shanahan
Joan Wright

November 26

Ben Howland

November 27

Ray Berwanger



NEWS AROUND THE PARISH

We are in desperate need of Bingo workers for a particular team. We do not have enough parent volunteers to fill this team. They meet once a month. Right now we have 3 parents working and they need at least 6 to be able to sell tickets and work the floor. Please call the school office and talk to Linda or Michelle for details at 937-840-9932.



LAUGHTER IS GOOD

A first grade teacher collected old, well-known proverbs. She gave each kid in her class the first half of a proverb, and had them come up with the rest. Here are the results:

- * Better be safe than ...
Punch a 5th Grader.
- * It's always darkest before ...
Daylight saving time.
- * You can lead a horse to water,
but ... How?
- * You can't teach an old dog ...
Math.
- * Love all, trust ... Me.
- * The pen is mightier than the ...
Pigs.
- * You get out of something what
you ... See pictured on the box.
- * When the blind leadeth the blind
... Get out of the way.
- * There is no fool like ...
my brother.

Love Rules



You do not know me but I saw that you needed some tires for your truck and I wanted to do something nice for a stranger because one day a stranger did the same for me. The receipt is in the envelope and all you have to do is go by Warehouse Tire on 3rd Street and ask for Steven Hodges and they will be put them on for free. All I ask is that one day you do something nice for a complete stranger.

FR. MIKE'S SERMON FOR CHRIST THE KING

I was deeply touched this week to pray with a man who has only two months to live. The only thing he fears is leaving his wife of 46 years. They have done everything together. Now she will be alone. I assured him he will still be part of her life even after leaving this earth. I believe this so strongly because of those who shared with me the great gift of what the next life is like. They clinically died but came back here one more time before entering the next step of their eternal journey to God.

All of them told me about how after they went through the tunnel, they emerged on the next side to find a brilliant light like Peter, James and John saw in Jesus at the Transfiguration. They described that the light filled them with great joy and complete love. The light made them feel comforted and accepted. Then they met people who greeted them. Some they did not know, but the greeters all knew them. The greeters made it quite evident they knew everything that was going on in their lives on earth. I believe this to be true because when those who crossed over came back they attested to see family members who imparted to them unknown facts that they never knew on earth. Like the little girl with cancer who came back and reported to see a man who said he is her grandfather though he died decades earlier. He revealed the secret nickname he called her mother. The girl calmly looked at mom and said, "Grandfather called me 'little pumpkin' just like he called you." The mother told me that was indeed her dad's nickname for her as a child. She broke down in tears.

St. Paul himself had an experience of the next life when he wrote "And I know that this man -- whether in the body or apart from the body I do not know, but God knows -- was caught up to paradise. He heard inexpressible things, things that man is not permitted to tell." (2 Corinthians 12:3-4) St. Paul had what we call today a "life after life" experience.

I am comforted to know that I have people up there in Heaven praying for me, helping me, pulling for me like cheerleaders at a High school football game. I pray often through the intercession of my sainted grandmother who promised me before she died that she would pray I be a good priest. She never lived to see my ordination in this world but I know she rejoiced in the next. I do not want to disappoint her.

I believe these things so strongly, not just because of personal witness, but because of what the Bible says. What a wonderful promise Jesus gives to the repentant thief: "Amen I say to you, *today* you will be with me in paradise." Do you know how important this is for us? It means that we are still conscious after we leave here, that my soul can still remember who I am, and I can think, and I can love and know those who loved me. At death your soul does not go to nothingness, but your soul goes immediately to Jesus where you will see Him and your loved ones "face to face."

The man who will soon be leaving this world has lived a virtuous, loving and good life. It was an honor for me to administer the Sacrament of Holy Communion and Confession. I told him jokingly, "You just got your bus ticket to Heaven." This man really wants "in" to God's Kingdom, just like the believing thief who could look past the nails, the wounds, the blood and see Jesus as the King of a better world to come. Today, get ready for tomorrow which promises many "todays" of indescribable joy. When your time on this earth is done, may you hear Jesus speak to you these words, "Yes, you'll be with me there – today in paradise. We'll go together, you and I." Goodbye....