



## Coming Events



**Mercy Sunday**  
April 18

*see page 2*

**Also coming on**  
April 18

**First Annual**  
Health Fair

Kent Center  
8:00 a.m. to noon

*free health*  
*screenings*

## Speaker Series

April 21

**Rob Garavaglia**  
"Solidarity"

May 19 - Jane Lewis  
"Honor the Gift:  
Caring for God's  
Creation"

## Together We're Better!

**The same dollars you spend each week to run your household can also be used to help Incarnate Word. And it won't cost you a cent more!**

Every month we buy gas, groceries, gifts, and clothes for our families. We eat out, go to the movies, and buy other entertainment, spending hundreds of dollars on these items. Now there's a way to make the same dollars that support our families help our parish as well. This is all possible through Together We're Better, or TWB/Scrip, one of Incarnate Word's new ministries.

### How TWB/Scrip works

With TWB/Scrip, instead of paying at the counter when you buy these items, you pay up front by purchasing a coupon for a specific dollar amount, using either cash or check. The amount you buy and the amount you get a coupon for are of equal value. You receive exactly the same amount for merchandise or services. It costs nothing to participate in the TWB/Scrip program.

### How TWB/Scrip benefits Incarnate Word

Merchants who participate in TWB/Scrip have agreed to return to Incarnate Word a pre-specified percent of the coupon's face value. The percent returned varies according to merchant. Incarnate Word uses this money to directly pay down the principal on the parish debt. So far, since the inception of TWB/Scrip this fall, over \$12,000 has been raised. This amount and future money raised through the TWB/Scrip program will be used for this pur-



From left: Connie Stocker, Sue Bollinger, and Margaret Davies sell coupons to Debby Becker for the week ahead.

pose. Wouldn't it be great to reduce this debt by \$25,000, or even \$50,000 in one year? This is entirely achievable if you and other parishioners participate in the program at least some of the time.

### Almost 100 merchants participate

Coupons are sold after the 5:00 p.m. Mass on Saturday. On Sunday, they're sold after the 7:15, 8:45, and 10:30 a.m. Masses and before the 12:15 p.m. Mass. At these times, TWB/Scrip volunteers are in the school lobby ready to help you. They keep many coupons on hand. However, if the coupon you want is one that needs to be ordered, it will be ready for pick-up on the following weekend. As almost 100 area merchants participate in TWB/Scrip, you have several opportunities each week to assist your parish.

*continued on page 3*

# April 18 - Divine Mercy Sunday

“Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the Fount of My Mercy.”

(diary entry 699)



*Image of the  
Divine Mercy*

The first Sunday after Easter, April 18, is Divine Mercy Sunday, the day Christ instructed St. Faustina to establish as the Feast of Divine Mercy.

Christ asked all people to seek His mercy, especially on this day. In His words: **“On that day, the very depths of my tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those who should approach the Fount of My Mercy. The soul that will go to confession and receive**

**Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment.”** This was recorded in the diary of St. Maria Faustina as entry 699.

## **Incarnate Word’s celebration**

On April 18, Incarnate Word will celebrate the Feast of Divine Mercy from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., with Msgr. Ted Wojcicki, President and Rector of Kenrick Seminary, officiating. The celebration will begin with the blessing and veneration of the Divine Mercy image, followed by exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and recitation of the Divine Mercy chaplet. Then Msgr. Wojcicki will deliver a ten-minute presentation on Divine Mercy. Benediction and Mass follow his presentation. What makes Incarnate Word’s Divine Mercy celebration different this year is that Mass will begin at the three o’clock hour, the hour of great mercy.

In addition, confessions will be heard throughout the celebration, and plenty of priests will be available.

## **How to celebrate this great day**

To receive the plenary indulgence (elimination of the punishment for your sins) as Christ promised, this is what you must do:

1. Celebrate the Feast of Divine Mercy on the Sunday after Easter.
2. Sincerely repent of all your sins.

3. Place your complete trust in Jesus.
4. Go to confession during Lent or on that day.
5. Receive Holy Communion on the day of the feast.
6. Venerate the image of the Divine Mercy.
7. Ask for God's mercy and make a personal commitment to Christ to be merciful to others through your actions, words, and prayers on their behalf.

## **How to prepare for the Feast of Divine Mercy**

The Novena of Divine Mercy is an extraordinary way to prepare for the Feast of Divine Mercy. Short and simple, each day of the Novena focuses on a specific group of souls. The first day of the Novena is Good Friday; the last day is the Feast of Divine Mercy itself.

Booklets containing the Novena of Divine Mercy will be available in the Church vestibule during the week before Good Friday. They are free to all.

## **Our Lord’s unfathomable mercy**

Throughout her diary, St. Faustina recorded Our Lord’s words. He repeatedly spoke to her of his “unfathomable mercy,” asking mankind to trust in Him: **“The graces of My Mercy are drawn by means of one vessel only, and that is trust. The more a soul trusts, the more it will receive. Souls that trust boundlessly are a great comfort to Me, because I pour all the treasures of My graces into them. I rejoice that they ask for much, because it is My desire to give much, very much.”** (diary entry 1578)

and

**“I have opened My Heart as a living fountain of mercy. Let all souls draw life from it. Let them approach this sea of mercy with great trust. Sinners will attain justification, and the just will be confirmed in good. Whoever places his trust in My Mercy will be filled with My Divine Peace at the hour of death.”** (diary entry 1520)

## **Please come**

Through the gift of Our Lord's Divine Mercy, we have an opportunity to go back to the sinless state we knew at Baptism. Please come to Incarnate Word's Divine Mercy celebration to obtain this wonderful gift. You will find peace and joy.

# Archbishop Burke Celebrates Life Teen Mass at Incarnate Word

Incarnate Word was honored to have Archbishop Raymond Burke celebrate the Life Teen Mass on February 29. Late in February, the Archbishop asked to visit this group and officiate at their Mass, and Father Vowels gladly agreed.

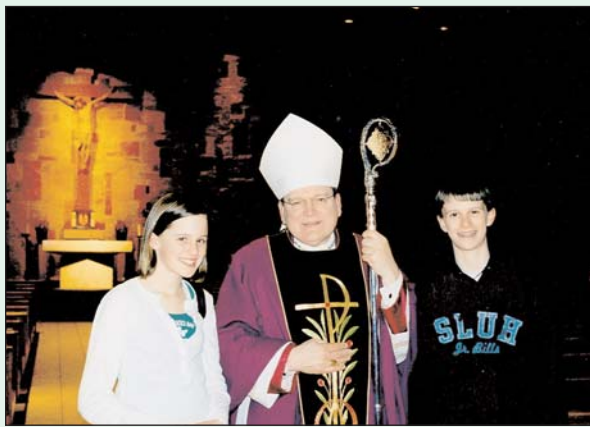
After Mass, His Eminence participated in Life Night, the special teen program that follows. He told our teens how important they are to him and the Church and let them know that he is behind them. He then invited them to ask him questions.

For those who aren't familiar with this ministry, Life Teen is a special organization just for high schoolers. They meet each Sunday at 6:00 p.m. for Mass. Following Mass, the group gathers in the multi-purpose room for Life Night,

a get-together that allows teens to discuss “hot” issues or other topics that are important and relevant to their age group. Life Night provides an opportunity for teens to talk about subjects they normally don't have a chance to discuss or subjects they may be apprehensive about. It also allows them to learn more about their Catholic faith.

Dan Huss, Life Teen Director, says that each week five to ten new teens show up for Mass and Life Night. Life Teen is open to all teens in grades 9-12, whether they attend public or Catholic high schools. Dan says both groups are about equally represented at Incarnate Word.

Joining Life Teen is easy. Those who wish to become part of this energetic group should simply show up for the 6:00 p.m. Life Teen Mass on Sunday. They will be very welcome.



*Katie and Jack Reichenbach  
Meet Archbishop Burke*

*continued from front page*

## **TWB/Scrip works year-round**

TWB/Scrip is a ministry that works for Incarnate Word year round. All parishioners (and non-parishioners) can be part of this ministry by buying coupons for the items they'll use during the week ahead. But if you would like to do more for this ministry by participating in the coupon sales effort, call Kathie Robinson at 314-439-9238. Kathie has about 130 volunteers now working in this program. Working as a TWB/Scrip volunteer does not take much time, and it's a good way to become involved and meet other parishioners.

This ministry can accomplish much good for our parish if we all participate.

## New Presentations on Social Justice Scheduled

The Catholic Church has a long history of promoting social justice. In keeping with this tradition, Incarnate Word's Social Justice ministry engages speakers who help parishioners learn more about the social issues that confront them today.

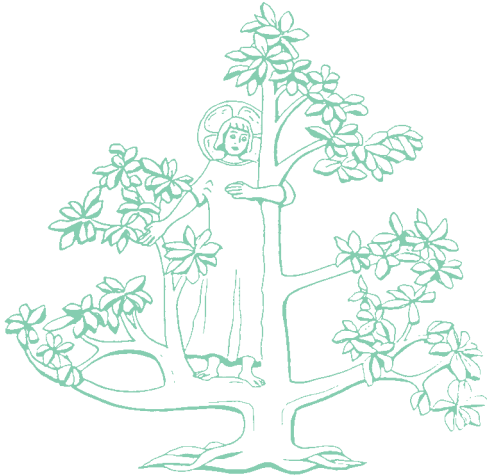
Two more speakers have been scheduled for Spring, Rob Garavaglia and Jane Lewis. Rob will speak on “Solidarity” on April 21 at Incarnate Word. He has a B.A. in finance from St. Louis University and an M.A. in religious education from Fordham University. Rob teaches theology at St. Louis University High School and moderates Amnesty International and Teens Acting for Peace.

On May 19 Jane Lewis will speak on “Honor the Gift: Caring for God's Creation.” Jane is the former chairman of the Environmental Concerns Committee for the Archdiocese. She has also served on the Stewardship for God's Creation Committee at her own parish. In addition, she has planned 8-10 Creation masses for her parish school and the Archdiocese.

Both presentations will be held in the lower Church hall at 7:00 p.m. Reservations are not required, and all are welcome.

Church of the Incarnate Word  
13416 Olive Boulevard  
Chesterfield, MO 63017

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## Ministries in Action



“Yes, We Can!” volunteers collect gifts from Incarnate Word parishioners for delivery to local food pantries. Pictured above: Keith Plein and Karen Erlinger. To the left are Mike Roberts, Sarah Esslinger, Bridget Kinealy, Laura Marxkor, and Laura Bruce.



Above: Sydney Benson, Alex Weber, Maggie Lessel, and Natalie Opich

Right: Back of table - Incarnate Word school principal Michael Welling, seminarian Aaron Nord, Alicia Wherle, Scott Laurentius. Front of table, back row - Mary Liese, Jorde Manse; front row - Anneliese and John Wilmsen



## Knights of Columbus and the Ladies Auxiliary Enjoy a Holiday Celebration



The Knights of Columbus and the Ladies Auxiliary gathered together at the Norwood Hills Country Club on December 7 for a holiday luncheon. This was a great opportunity for the two groups to celebrate all they achieved during 2003.



*The closer you get to God, the happier you become.*