

Most Precious Blood Church Bulletin

A Little Italy Newsletter

July 5, 2009

Special Collection Next Sunday

Black & Indian Missions

In a letter sent to us this past week, Archbishop Dolan of New York asked us to include the following letter in our weekly bulletin this week. He writes:

Dear friends in the Lord:

Our Holy father, Pope Benedict XVI, reminds us that this special year is an invitation to join "The Apostle of the Gentiles," who dedicated himself to the spreading of the Good news to all peoples.

Today, I invite YOU to become a co-missionary, following in the footsteps of St. Paul, for the Church. One significant way you can do so is by making a sacrificial offering to the National Collection for Black and Indian Missions in the United States.

Last Year, this collection supported local evangelization programs and pastoral activities for our Black and Indian Catholic communities in 131 dioceses across this nation, from the inner cities of the rural south and the deserts of the southwest to the cold wilderness of Alaska. With your support and prayers, during this year of St. Paul, we can do even more in serving the neediest in our midst. Please be as generous as you can, and be assured of my heartfelt gratitude for all that you do.

With prayerful best wishes, I am

Faithfully in Christ
Timothy M Dolan
Archbishop of New

This collection will be taken up next Sunday at all of the Masses, and we cannot stress enough importance of our Collection. The last special collection that we had was so very little. Please try to be a little more generous

Fund Raiser Raffle

Our Fund Raiser Raffle is doing quite well considering the fact that basically only two people have taken it upon themselves to sell our tickets on week-ends during the Mall hours, and so far they have sold over \$1,500. Worth of raffle tickets to complete strangers who visit us on week-ends. We hope that this year's raffle will be more lucrative than last year's and that more of our own will take it upon themselves to buy and even sell some tickets. If you wish to buy tickets or sell some tickets for us, please see Fr. Fabian or Angela.

Our Week-end Mall

We want to thank all those of our workers who have been doing their best to help us in our sale of religious items on week-ends during the Mall. We

have helped the church immeasurably by their untiring efforts, and are doing their best to keep OUR church afloat, for the simple reason that our church

At the present time, our church is in great need of some basic repairs, especially to the outside walls which consistently absorb much of the rain water that we have been experiencing during this past spring and even up to this past week. The job of coating the exterior is a major one and the redecoration & repainting of our interior cannot be considered until the exterior problems have been solved and taken care of. It is important that for the sake of our continued existence, we become a little more conscious of these problems and cooperate as much as possible in their solution.

Bus Ride To Atlantic City

On Wednesday, July 15, Mary Frattini will be sponsoring her usual bus ride to Atlantic city. If you wish to take advantage of this, please give Mary a call at 212-242-0195 and she will be happy to give you a seat.

Mary has also made a donation to Most Precious Blood Church of the proceeds she receives from these bus trips. We thank Mary for her generosity to Most Precious Blood and will keep her in our prayers

Parish Sick & Deceased

We ask your prayers for all the sick and deceased of the Parish and especially for your own sick and deceased. We ask you in your charity to remember Mr. Frank Calamita in your prayers. Frank has been a special benefactor of the Parish all his life, and at the time of our renovation back in the late '90's he was a principal donor to our cause. His mother and father were parishioners here at one time, and Frank himself was baptized in our church. Since I have been here, Frank has always been a continuous donor to our Church and always presented himself first in line to help us in any way possible. Frank was visiting his son in London when he passed away suddenly in his sleep suffering a heart attack. Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord and Let perpetual life shine upon him. May his soul rest in peace.

The Sack Lunches

offerings do not suffice to cover our expenses and we need all the help we can get from outside sources.

I put my carry-on in the luggage compartment and sat down in my assigned seat. It was going to be a long flight. "I'm glad I have a good book to read and perhaps I will catch 40 winks," I thought.

Just before take-off, a line of military men came down the aisle and filled all the vacant seats, totally surrounding me. I decided to start a conversation. I asked the soldier seated nearest to me "Where are you headed?"

"Petawawa. We'll be there for two weeks intensive training and shove off to Afghanistan."

After flying for about an hour, an announcement was made that sack lunches were available for \$5.00. It would be several hours before we reached the east and I quickly decided that a lunch would help pass the time.

As I reach in my wallet I overheard a soldier ask his buddy if he planned to buy lunch. "No, that seems like a lot of money just for a sack lunch. Probably wouldn't be worth 5 bucks. I'll wait until we get to base." His friend agreed. I looked around at the other soldiers. None of them were buying their lunch. I walked back to the end of the plane and handed the attendant a \$50. Bill. Take a lunch to all those soldiers. She grabbed my arms and squeezed tightly, her eyes wet with tears. She thanked me. "My son, was a soldier in Iraq, it's almost like you were doing it for him." Picking up 10 sacks she distributed them to the soldiers, stopped at my seat and asked me which I preferred, Beef or chicken. I said "chicken." She returned in a minute with a plate from first class. "This is yours, with thanks."

After we finished eating, I got up to go to the men's room. A man stopped me. "I saw what you did and I want to be a part of it. Here." He handed me \$25.00

After I returned to my seat, I saw the Pilot coming down the aisle looking at the aisle numbers. As he walked, I hoped he wasn't looking for me, but he did stop, smiled and held out his hand and said: I want to shake your hand. I was a soldier once and somebody bought me a lunch. It was an act of kindness I never forgot. I was embarrassed as applause was heard from all of the passengers.

On my way out of the plane when we landed, two other men came up to me and handed me \$25.00 each telling me that they also wanted to be a part of this.

Upon entering the terminal I saw the soldiers gathering for their trip to the base. I walked over to them and handed them the \$75.00 that was given me. I told them: "Here, it will take you some time to get to your base. It will be time for a sandwich. Thank you and God Bless you.

Ten young men left that flight feeling the love and respect of their fellow travelers. As I walked briskly to my car, I whispered a prayer to God for their safe return. These soldiers were giving their all for their country. I could only give them a couple of sandwiches. It seemed so little to give them in return for so much that they do for us! Happy 4th of July

Our Economy In A Nutshell

It is a slow day in the town of Drumheller. It is raining and the little town looks totally deserted. Times are tough; everybody is in debt and everybody is living on credit.

On this particular day, a rich tourist from the East is driving through town. He enters the only Hotel in this sleepy town and lays a \$100. bill on the desk, stating that he wants to inspect the rooms upstairs first to pick one to stay in for the night.

As soon as the man walks up the stairs, the hotel proprietor picks up the \$100. bill on the desk and runs next door to to pay his debt to his butcher.

The butcher takes the \$100. bill and heads off to pay his debt to the supplier of feed and fuel.

The guy at the farmer's coop takes the \$100. bill and runs to pay his debt to the local prostitute, who has also been facing hard times and has lately had to offer her services on credit.

The hooker runs to the hotel and pays off her debt with the \$100. bill to the Hotel Proprietor for rooms she rented when she brought clients to the establishment

The proprietor then lays the \$100. bill on the table so that the rich guy from the East will not suspect anything when he returns from inspecting the rooms.

At that moment, the traveler from the East walks back down the stairs, he picks up the \$100. bill stating that the rooms are not satisfactory, pockets the money, walks out the door and leaves town as fast as he entered it. No one earned a thing.

However, the whole town now is out of debt and looks to the future with a lot of optimism.

That, ladies and gentlemen is how the US government is conducting its business today. If that doesn't scare you, I don't know what will.

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