

LAST WEEK'S INCOME

Our Lady of Lourdes Church

Envelopes \$1,455.00
Youth 8.25
Plate 159.00
TOTAL \$1,622.25
Special Collection \$637.00

Saint Joseph's Church

Envelopes \$642.00
Plate 27.00
TOTAL \$669.00
Special Collection \$358.00

RESULTS FROM OUR CENSUS

Two months ago letters were sent to known year round and summer residents asking them to complete census forms in order that our two parishes and the Diocese of Ogdensburg could make a determination about pastoral assignments in the future. To date 134 responded from Our Lady of Lourdes and 57 from Saint Joseph's. Thus far 106 have not returned their census forms from Our Lady of Lourdes and 33 from Saint Joseph's. Very shortly a letter will be sent to those not responding asking them to return their census forms. It cannot be emphasized enough the importance of having a realistic number of those claiming to be parishioners of our two parishes. Incidentally, current records indicate 180 households claim Our Lady of Lourdes as their parish and 98 at Saint Joseph's.

RESPONSES TO ADULT EDUCATIONAL AND FAITH ENRICHMENT NEEDS

When the census forms were mailed, included was a questionnaire asking adult parishioners to indicate interest in programs that might be offered to them. Bible study and discussion of Sunday readings at Mass seemed to top the list of areas parishioners were interested in furthering their knowledge. An in-depth study of basic church teachings as contained in the New Catholic Catechism as well as an understanding of beliefs of other Christian denominations sparked an interest in respondents to the questionnaire. Weekday evening and sessions after Sunday Mass seemed to be the predominant times people were interested in attending. Hopefully, after the holidays we will begin to address the areas of interest. Summer residents also expressed a desire for further enrichment of their faith.

BISHOP'S FUND APPEAL FOR 2009

Thus far we have received from the Bishop's Fund Office in Ogdensburg the following report on this year's campaign. At Our Lady of Lourdes 86 parishioners have either contributed a one-time gift or made a pledge for a total of \$10,147.50 to the appeal. This represents 83.35% toward the parish goal of \$12,175.00. At Saint Joseph's 47 have responded to the appeal with a total of one-time and pledged gifts of \$8,269.00. This is 91.86% toward the goal of \$9,000.00. Thanks to those who have contributed thus far. Hopefully, we will reach our two goals before the end of the fiscal year.

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES

In preparation for the coming Feast of Christmas, on the Third Sunday of Advent, December 13th, a Communal Penance Service is scheduled for Saint Joseph's at 2:30pm and at Our Lady of Lourdes at 4:30pm. Neighboring priests will again be present to assist in hearing Confessions.

ADVENT POTLUCK SUPPER

Again this year on Sunday, December 13th, following the Penance Service at Our Lady of Lourdes there will be a gathering for a meal. There will be a signup sheet located on the table in the back of the Parish Center for those planning to attend.

PASTORAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETINGS

The council at Saint Joseph's will meet in the Parish House on Monday, December 7th, at 7:00pm and those at Our Lady of Lourdes on Friday, December 11th, at 7:00pm in the Parish Center.