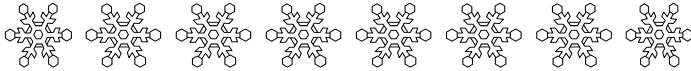


# THE BRIDGE

SAINT JUDE CHURCH

5924 BRIDGETOWN ROAD, CINCINNATI, OHIO 45248 (513) 574-1230



## HAVE FAITH

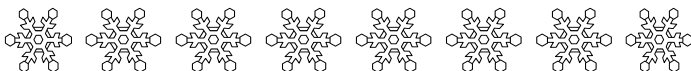
Again we greet a newborn year,  
With joyful celebrations,  
Good luck, good cheer, and endless hope  
For peace among all nations

We cannot see the days ahead,  
The path is overshadowed  
By fear of war and lack of faith  
As threat'ning swords are rattled.

We can't control the problems of  
A world engrossed in pleasure,  
Or change the minds of leaders who  
Make fear the threat they treasure.

But there is one whose strength we share  
Our God is always near us  
To lead us through life's trials and fears,  
For when we pray, He hears us.

**Lydia Brinker**



## PLEASE NOTE:

The church office will be closed  
January 19th for Martin Luther King Day  
Confirmation will be on March 8th, at 1:00 p.m.

## 2007 CONTRIBUTIONS

Once again parishioners will receive a letter in the mail regarding their donations. This includes Sundays, holydays, special collections, the Capital Campaign Fund 2008 and the CMA contributions. You DO NOT have to send in a self-addressed

## ADULT FAITH FORMATION

St. Jude invites you to attend the "Nuts and Bolts of our Faith" a series of talks about the Mass. Hosted by Fr. Eric

**January 15th**-The Mass part one:-Liturgy of the word.

**February 18th**-The Mass part two-Liturgy of the Eucharist.

**March 18th**-The Mass source and summit of our Christian Life.

All presentations will be held in church 7:00p.m.-8:30p.m. followed by Refreshments in the Vestibule.

## DEACON MARTY BACHMAN'S SEMINARY CORNER

*December, 2008*

This past month was hard but the first quarter finally ended. By the time you read this, the new quarter will be well under way. One of the classes this quarter is the class I have been waiting for 8 years. This class will teach us how to say Mass. I am honored and privileged to be called to celebrate such a sacred action and I will obviously do my best. I am also taking a class that, among other things, evaluates my Sunday Homilies.

This is going to be a tough quarter but I can see the light at the end of the tunnel. Also, there is the Christmas vacation in the middle of this quarter. That's a wonderful break, but it also tends to make this a long quarter.

Since the announcement of Archbishop Schnurr as the Co-Adjutor of the Archdiocese we learned he will be staying at the Seminary. I like the idea of having a bishop living at the seminary again. We all attended the Welcome Mass for him on December 7th.

Other events in December included the annual Lessons and Carols at the Seminary on December 7th in the evening at 7:30pm. This is always a beautiful evening. The next day, the Seminary will be celebrating the Mass of Candidacy. This involves the men in 1st Theology declaring before the Bishop that they intend to pray and discern about a vocation to the priesthood. This is a wonderful ceremony.

## A history of the Freedom of the Choice Act.

Jan 22 1973 was the date that legalized abortion in our country. This was bad law. The danger that faces our nation is that a bad court decision will be enshrined in bad legislation that is more radical than the 1973 Supreme Court decision itself. “In the last Congress, a Freedom of Choice Act (FOCA) was introduced that would, if brought forward in the same form today, outlaw any “interference” in providing abortion at will. It would deprive the American people in all fifty states of the freedom they now have to enact modest restraints and regulations on the abortion industry. FOCA would coerce all Americans into subsidizing and promoting abortion with their tax dollars. It would counteract any and all sincere efforts by government and others of good will to reduce the number of abortions in our country. (American Bishops statement)” I would like to offer a brief history of the Freedom of Choice Act and the impact it would have on our nation. Even before *Roe v. Wade* was decided in 1973, there were attempts by Congress to legalize abortion. For example in 1970, Senator Robert Packwood introduced the *National Abortion Act*, which sought to legalize abortion nationwide and preempt state laws restricting or regulating abortion. Although the *National Abortion Act* was unsuccessful, Senator Packwood later joined with Senator Alan Cranston to introduce the inaugural version of the *Freedom of Choice Act (FOCA)* in 1989. FOCA was introduced at a time when some in Congress feared that *Roe v. Wade* might imminently be overturned (as a result of on-going litigation over abortion-related laws and restrictions including those at issue in *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*), and were seeking a means to prevent states from enacting laws prohibiting or regulating abortion. FOCA’s main goals were to create a “fundamental right to abortion” and to eliminate any federal, state, or local government action (including the enactment of abortion-related legislation) that limited or “impeded” access to abortion. Relying on specific portions of the Supreme Court’s decision in *Roe*, abortion supporters argued that FOCA would protect a woman’s right to an abortion prior to “fetal viability or at any time...to protect the life or health of the woman” and that states could, within enumerated limits, enact protective laws that did not interfere with a woman’s right to abortion. Over the next several years, substantially-similar versions of FOCA were repeatedly re-introduced in Congress until 1993, when the

provision allowing states to enact protective legislation was removed. The 1993 version of FOCA instead included criticism of the Supreme Court for abandoning the “strict scrutiny standard” (of reviewing abortion-related laws) for the “undue burden” standard that had recently been announced in *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*. Notably, under the new “undue burden” standard, requirements such as informed consent, reflection periods, and parental involvement for abortion were deemed constitutional. After its subsequent re-introduction in 1995, FOCA was not again introduced until 2004 when it was offered by Representative Jerrold Nadler in the House of Representatives and Senator Barbara Boxer in the Senate. In her accompanying press release, Senator Boxer explained that FOCA would “supersede all other abortion related laws, regulations or local ordinances,” which included informed consent laws and any health and safety regulations imposed on abortion clinics. The most recent version of FOCA was introduced in April 2007, following the Supreme Court’s decision in *Gonzales v. Carhart*, upholding the federal ban on partial-birth abortion. This most-recent version was substantially similar to the 2004 version, but also included a section deriding the Supreme Court’s decision in *Gonzalez*. Specifically, FOCA mischaracterized the prohibition of partial-birth abortion as a “legal and practical” barrier that hindered “the ability of women to participate in the economic and social life of the Nation.” Further, drawing upon “abortion mythology,” this version of FOCA exaggerated the numbers of Americans who availed themselves of illegal abortions in the late 1800’s and early 1900’s, inflating the actual figure of less than one-hundred thousand to “over one-million.”

In elevating abortion to a fundamental right, FOCA poses an undeniable and irreparable danger to common-sense laws supported by a majority of Americans. Among the more than 550 federal and state laws that FOCA would nullify are:

*Partial Birth Abortion Ban Act of 2003*

*Hyde Amendment* (restricting taxpayer funding of abortions)

Restrictions on abortions performed at military hospitals

Restrictions on insurance coverage for abortion for federal employees

Informed consent laws  
 Waiting periods  
 Parental consent and notification laws  
 Health and safety regulations for abortion clinics  
 Requirements that licensed physicians perform abortions  
 “Delayed enforcement” laws (banning abortion when *Roe v. Wade* is overturned and/or the authority to restrict abortion is returned to the states)  
 Bans on partial-birth abortion  
 Bans on abortion after viability. FOCA’s apparent attempt to limit post-viability abortions is illusory. Under FOCA, post-viability abortions are expressly permitted to protect the woman’s “health.” Within the context of abortion, “health” has been interpreted so broadly that FOCA would not actually proscribe any abortion before or after viability.  
 Limits on public funding for elective abortions (thus, making American taxpayers fund a procedure that many find morally objectionable)  
 Limits on the use of public facilities (such as public hospitals and medical schools at state universities) for abortions  
 State and federal legal protections for individual healthcare providers who decline to participate in abortions  
 Legal protections for Catholic and other religiously-affiliated hospitals who, while providing care to millions of poor and uninsured Americans, refuse to allow abortions within their facilities  
 Notably, pro-abortion groups do not deny FOCA’s draconian impact. For example, Planned Parenthood has explained, “FOCA will supersede anti-choice laws that restrict the right to choose, including laws that prohibit the public funding of abortions for poor women or counseling and referrals for abortions.  
 In providing this lengthy article I am hoping to make you aware of the evil of the Freedom of Choice Act, because for the first time since 1989 when it was first introduced to Congress we have both a president and congress that support it being passed into law. I pray that as a Church we will do all in our power to prevent such an atrocity against life from becoming law.

**NEW PARISHIONERS**  
 M/M Michael Reckers 3052 Citation Lane  
 M/M Michael Holman 500 Green Acres Court  
 M/M Howard Walsh 5151 Carriage Hill

Our next Baptism Program will be Wednesday, February 4th, at 7:00 p.m. in the undercroft meeting room. Parents are expected to attend the class here at St. Jude before your child is baptized. It’s best to attend before the baby is born. If you have already attended the class here, you do not have to attend again. Call the church

**PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS**  
 Lord Jesus, we pray as a community for the grace to encourage all who choose a religious vocation. For those who have already chosen a vocation, we pray that they may have the grace to keep and nourish that commitment. Amen.  
*Serra International*

**CONFIRMATION RETREAT**  
 St. Jude Confirmation Candidates will be going on their retreat Saturday, February 7th promptly at 9:00a.m.-2:00p.m. in the church undercroft. The candidates should wear comfortable clothes and Lunch will be provided. As always we ask our parish family to pray for all of our candidates.

**ATTENTION LADIES**

St. Jude Rosary Altar Society will meet Tuesday, January 13, at 7:30 p.m. in the Undercroft. Don’t forget your Rosaries! Following the Rosary and our business meeting, your hostess committee will treat you to wonderfully home-made desserts to warm the cockles of your heart on what could be a brisk winter night. We will conclude the evening with a little bingo. If you need transportation call our Transportation Coordinator, Mary Ann Standriff, 598-1024. We wish everyone a very happy, healthy and blessed New Year!



**THANK YOU**

Kathy and Trish would like to thank the following people for helping with the mailing of the December BRIDGE: Jeanne Jaspers, Jeanne Rueve, Irma & Roger Sand, Alice Weyer, Vivian Swegman and Bill Ostertag

**BRIDGE GUIDELINES  
PLEASE NOTE CHANGE**

Inputs for the February edition are due on January 16th. Please email to: [trish.popov@thestjudeparish.org](mailto:trish.popov@thestjudeparish.org); typed or written input may be dropped off at the church office. Please include your name and phone number with all submissions. Contact Kathy or Trish with any questions 574-1230.

**COMMISSIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS**

Parish Council—Members at Large  
Please contact one of the Members-at-Large to discuss any concerns, ideas or suggestions:

Rob Reid-President	598-9753
Dan Meade-Vice-President	598-6323
Kathy Walsh-Secretary	598-6031
Dan Dalton-(At Large)	598-5566
Jim Wherle-(At Large)	514-1546
Kim Holiday-(At Large)	941-7443
Finance Comm-Dan Cole	574-8801
Education Comm-Jen Buse	574-9158
Worship Comm-Greg Williams	574-1230
Marriage Prep-Deacon Jim	574-1803
Rosary Altar Soc.-Joyce Franz	598-9643
St. Vincent de Paul	
Bob Meade & Bob Barry	574-1230
Boy Scouts-Frank Taphorn	574-5948
Girl Scouts-Kathy Davis	574-7216
Cub Scouts-Jim Batchelor	574-2332
Boosters-Scott Greiner	467-1369
Senior Citizens-Flo Knoepfler	574-7060
PTO—Jamie Singler	598-8313
Dan Meade-Web Page	598-6323
<a href="mailto:webmaster@stjudebridgetown.org">webmaster@stjudebridgetown.org</a>	



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