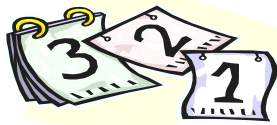
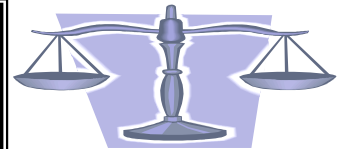


Peace & Justice Newsletter



Catholic Community of St. Jerome
July, 2008



WE ARE CALLED TO FAITHFUL CITIZENSHIP



DATES TO NOTE

FRIDAY,
JULY 4TH
4TH OF JULY MASS



MONDAY,
JULY 14TH
PEACE & JUSTICE
MINISTRY MEETING

SUNDAY,
JULY 20TH
VOTER
REGISTRATION



SAVE THE DATE

SATURDAY,
AUGUST 16TH
FAMILY MOVIE
NIGHT

In its *Forming Conscience for Faithful Citizenship* statement, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) issued a call for all Catholics to participate in the political process noting,

"In the Catholic Tradition, responsible citizenship is a virtue, and participation in political life is a moral obligation."

In response to this call, St Jerome's has made a commitment to encourage participation in the political process. Because more than fifty million eligible Americans are not registered to vote, our initial project will be to conduct a non-partisan voter registration on Sunday, July 20th, from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

WHAT IS NEEDED TO REGISTER??

Proof of citizenship will be required only if you are

- Registering to vote for the first time in Arizona **OR**
- Re-register because you have moved from one Arizona county to another

Only one acceptable form of proof of citizenship is needed to register to vote.

The following is a list of acceptable documents to establish your citizenship:

- An Arizona driver license or an Arizona non-operating identification issued after October 1, 1996
- A legible photocopy of a birth certificate that verifies citizenship and supporting legal documentation (i.e. marriage certificate) if the name on the birth certificate is not the same as your current legal name
- A legible photocopy of pertinent pages of a United States passport identifying the applicant
- Presentation to the County Recorder of United States naturalization documents or the number of the certificate of naturalization in box 20 on the front of this form
- The applicant's Bureau of Indian Affairs Card Number, Tribal Treaty Card Number, or Tribal Enrollment Number in box 16 on the front of the voter registration form
- A legible photocopy of a driver license or non-operating identification from another state within the United States if the license indicates that the applicant has provided satisfactory proof of citizenship
- A legible photocopy of a Tribal Certificate of Indian Blood or Tribal or Bureau of Indian Affairs Affidavit of Birth.

ST. VINCENT'S CORNER



The funds used by the Society of St. Vincent de Paul (SVDP) Conferences in parishes throughout the world is primarily raised within the parishes themselves.

At St Jerome's, SVDP is supported by donations to the Poor Box, gifts from individual benefactors and a second collection taken up at Masses four times a year.

There will be a second collection at all Masses on June 28th and 29th to benefit the work of our SVDP. The need among our neighbors is growing rapidly. They are in desperate need of help to prevent evictions and utility turnoffs. More and more of the people seeking assistance are a matter of days away from becoming homeless or trying to live through our 110°+ days without electricity or water.

****VOP REPORT****

Voice of the Poor (VOP) is the advocacy arm of SVDP. As followers of Christ, we are challenged to create conditions for marginalized voices to be heard, to defend the defenseless and to assess policies and social institutions in terms of their impact on the poor.

All issues advocated by VOP members are always approved by the National and/or Diocesan Boards of SVDP and always supported by Catholic Social Teaching.

At their May 31st meeting, the Diocesan Board of SVDP approved a position of the issue of predatory lending, an issue which negatively impacts the poor served by the Society.

The Payday Loan industry is currently gathering signatures for an initiative to be placed on the November general election ballot. This initiative calls for various "reforms" that are supposed to make payday loans more responsible. The truth is very different. If their initiative passes, it will do absolutely *nothing* to eliminate the Payday Loan Debt Trap. The only aim of this initiative is to eliminate their 2010 termination date in Arizona law, so they can continue to gouge working Arizonans forever.

You are strongly urged by SVDP and many other organizations serving the poor not to sign the petitions supporting this initiative.

JustFaith

Empowering People of Faith to Develop a Passion and Thirst for Justice

September is just around the corner and that is when our 4th group of friends and neighbors will begin their JustFaith journey. Will you be one of them?

The JustFaith journey guides participants to a new view of our society through the lens of Catholic teaching, and helps them identify where they are being called to serve.

There will be an informational meeting in August for those interested in the JustFaith experience. Please call the Parish Office at 942-5555, and leave your name and contact information. One of the many JustFaith graduates will be happy to call you and share their experience and help you decide whether this is the opportunity for which you have been waiting.

YOUR LOVE FOR GOD IS ONLY AS GREAT OF THE LOVE YOU HAVE FOR THE PERSON YOU LOVE THE LEAST

DOROTHY DAY

WHAT CAN YOU DO????

Please continue to leave the following items under the SVDP food box in the church vestibule. They will be distributed to the homeless in our community:

- Bottled water
- Flip Flops
- Hats
- Sun Block
- Individually packaged foods appropriate for lunch sacks

