



St. Clement I Newsletter



October 18, 2011 † Volume 1, Issue 2



A message from our Coordinator of Religious Education

Hello, my name is Mary Bosley and I am the new Coordinator of Religious Education for Pre-K through 6th grade. I am happy to say that although Sister Elizabeth has stepped down from her full time position she will still volunteer with the program. I am genuinely excited to have this opportunity to work with you and your children to develop their Catholic faith.

It is our belief here at St. Clement that learning about our Catholic faith starts at home. Our program seeks to build upon the foundation that you have already set. We seek to cultivate and nourish your child's Catholic Faith through weekly classes. We strive not only to enrich your child's faith but also to prepare them for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Communion. Throughout the years of their education you can expect your children to learn about:

- God and His love for us
- Basic Prayers
- The Trinity
- The Sacraments
- Important stories and characters from the Bible
- God's Laws
- How to participate as a member of the Church community

If you have any questions about the program please feel free to email me at mcbosley@stclement1.org.

Spirituality and Prayer

Dr. Tom Little will continue his six week series on five spirituality themes. They include Benedictine, Carmelite, Dominican, Franciscan and Ignatian. Dr. Tom will look into the different ways of prayer, and then practice them. We will end the series with benediction which is another form of prayer. Come join us on Thursday evenings through November 3 at 6:30 pm in the church.

A faith-filled community, worshipping together since 1891

Youth News

The St. Clement's Youth Group has a lot of exciting plans as we finish up the year. Each month we're dedicated to having a Youth Night Event. At these Youth Nights we invite all young people ages 13-17 to join us at the **Leadership Through Athletics** gym facility (2900 Hammonds Ferry Road Lansdowne, MD 21227) for a night full of soccer, dodge ball, kickball, movies, pizza and all around fun. The Youth Group will also be doing some service projects as we get closer to the holiday season. The Youth Group will also be participating in a retreat this December for all young people who have already received the sacrament of Confirmation. The retreat will be held the weekend of December 9th. If anyone is interested in joining the Youth Group retreat, they should see Dan Miller or email him at dcmiller@stclement1.org before November 17th, 2011.



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Young Adult News

The St. Clement Community is attempting to build up its Young Adult program. In the past we had a flourishing young adult program that participated in softball games, retreats, mission trips, and hosting events that helped influence and guide youth group programs. We are looking to bring this program back. One way we're looking to do this is through a Bible study program. The program will not consist of classes, but rather a bit of instruction, much discussion, and fellowship. For information or suggestions for the parish's Young Adult group, please email Dan Miller (or find him and the group on Facebook) at dcmiller@stclement1.org.

Be Happy, Get Involved

A 2010 Gallup poll found very religious Americans have higher wellbeing than those who are moderately religious or not religious at all, boosted by their healthier behaviors, higher life evaluation, better work orientations, and higher emotional wellbeing. Very religious people are people for whom religion is an important part of daily life and church/synagogue/mosque attendance occurs at least every week or almost every week. Sooooo...., if you want to be happy go to church weekly. If you want to be even happier get involved in your church. We can certainly use your help.

Community Service Committee

50/50 Donors are Back

From September 24 until October 23, donations marked **50/50** will be matched dollar-for-dollar, up to \$1,500. You now have a choice: match your donation dollar-for-dollar with **50/50** or with the **Turkey Match**.

5 Years of Neighbor Helping Neighbor

Who Do We Help?

We serve over 400 families with about 1700 members. 45% are children and 12-15% are seniors. About 80% are from the 21227 zip code; nearly all of the remainder come from the immediate surrounding area.

How Do We Help?

Our Regular Pantry distributes Wednesday, 5-7pm, and Saturday, 10-12 noon. 120,000 pounds of food will be distributed this year.

The Farmers Food Pantry distributes 10,000 pounds of food in 2 hours to 150-200 families once a month. Farmer distribution occurs March to December. 100,000 pounds of food will be distributed this year.

School Food "BackPack" distributes 2 days worth of Breakfast and Lunch to up to 50 students each Friday after school. The students are selected by their school counselors. About 4,000 pounds of "BackPack" food will be distributed this school year.

The Food Pantry Dollar Multiplier

We work very hard to stretch all donations until they snap. Most charitable organizations have overhead; the best-run charities direct 80-90% of your donation to program use.

The Pantry at St. Clement has no overhead. In fact, we maintain a high multiplier dollar ratio of about 15 to 1. For each average dollar donated, we provide \$15 of Food Aid.

220,000 Pounds of Food Aid, Worth \$330,000

This is our projected Food Aid distribution. The Value is calculated at \$1.50/pound. Our projected budget is \$20,000. On average, every Food Pantry dollar is multiplied over 15 times. We achieve this efficiency with your donations with our partner's help, The Maryland Food Bank (MFB).

How do we do this?

Our current core menu includes pasta (12-18 cents), frozen chicken (30 cents, 3 lbs), and Tomato Sauce (32 cents, 26 oz). We make careful purchases from the MFB, at very low prices. You could spend \$3.00 for a box of generic cereal; or we can buy a case of cereal from the MFB. Every dollar spent at the MFB supports their mission of "Until Hunger Ends."