

# Our Sunday Visitor, Inc.

---

## Parish Life!



News and resources for your parish

April 2008

### Parish Life! from Our Sunday Visitor

Welcome to **Parish Life!** from Our Sunday Visitor. As a parish leader who has ordered from Our Sunday Visitor in the past, you're receiving this tenth edition of our special enewsletter just for parishes!

Be sure to visit our [Parish Resources pages](#). Newly updated for April, this material is written specially for YOU! Find Easter season and spring help for early childhood, elementary, adult, youth, catechists, and the workplace! It's free! [Help for your parish is here now»](#)

Each month you'll find timely content, practical information, and insightful inspiration delivered right to your inbox. We'd love to hear from you as well, so please e-mail us with questions or topics you would like to see discussed in future editions: [yyoung@osv.com](mailto:yyoung@osv.com).

To continue receiving this monthly enewsletter, you need do nothing. To unsubscribe, please follow the instructions at the bottom of the page.

Feel free to forward this email to a friend who might be interested.

---

---

# The Pope is coming, the Pope is coming!

By Lorene Hanley Duquin

If your parish is within driving distance of the Archdioceses of New York or Washington, you're probably caught up in the excitement surrounding the arrival of Pope Benedict XVI and the scramble to get tickets to different events.

If you're not on the East Coast, your parishioners may not think the Pope's visit is such a big deal.

But it is a big deal! It is the first time this pope will visit the United States, and there is no doubt that he will have important things to say.

Here are some ways to drum up a little enthusiasm for this historic visit of Pope Benedict XVI to the United States on April 15-20:

- Remind your parishioners through bulletin notices and lector announcements that the theme for this apostolic journey is "Christ Our Hope." The Vatican ambassador to the United States, Archbishop Pietro Sambi explained that the purpose of this visit will be "to strengthen the faith, the hope and love of the Catholic Church in the United States." The Pope will bring "a new wind of Pentecost ... a new springtime" to the people. He will bring the voice and the love of Jesus Christ.
- The Pope's visit will attract national attention. Encourage your parishioners to follow television, radio, Internet and newspaper accounts of his visit because it will undoubtedly come up in conversation at home, work, school and the community. They may find that people who are not Catholic, or Catholics who have fallen away from the practice of their faith, may ask them questions about things the Pope says or does. This may be their opportunity to share their faith with others.
- Pope Benedict XVI will be addressing the entire world at the United Nations and meeting privately with President Bush. This can be a teachable moment to help parishioners understand the global significance of the papacy and the universal nature of the Church.
- The Pope is the successor of St. Peter and the Vicar of Christ. Make this visit a springboard to explain the history of the papacy and the personal background of Pope Benedict XVI.

For your convenience additional information about the Pope's visit can be obtained at from the following sources:

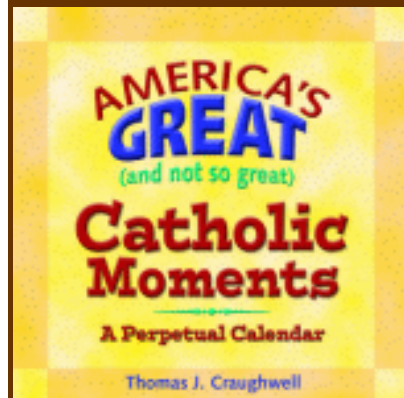
- Our Sunday Visitor has journalists covering the events in

## In This Issue

Christ Our Hope: Papal Visit 2008

A Steward Reflects  
Beyond Easter Sunday  
Take Five for spiritual uplift

## Catholic Moments



## April 8, 1808

### Pope Pius VII creates the Diocese of Boston

The entire United States was under the bishop of Baltimore until Pius VII made a separate diocese for all of New England. The new bishop, John Cheverus, found only three churches in his diocese: Holy Cross in Boston; St. Patrick's in Newcastle, Maine; and a log chapel among the Penobscot and Passamaquoddy Indians.

- From "America's Great (and not so great) Catholic Moments," by Thomas Craughwell (OSV). [Order it here»](#)

Washington and New York and will be posting live at [www.osv.com/papalvisit](http://www.osv.com/papalvisit). John Norton, editor of Our Sunday Visitor newspaper will also be blogging with a "man on the street" perspective. Also, all papal coverage by OSV newspaper will be free to all Internet users.

- EWTN Global Catholic Television Network will provide complete coverage of the Pope's visit. Live streaming of the EWTN coverage will also be available at [www.EWTN.com](http://www.EWTN.com) and at [www.Pope2008.com](http://www.Pope2008.com)
- The Official Papal Visit Site for the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops can be found at [www.uspapalvisit.org](http://www.uspapalvisit.org)

[Download a free poster from OSV Newsweekly about Pope Benedict XVI by clicking here»](#)

---

## A Steward Reflects

by Julie Kenney

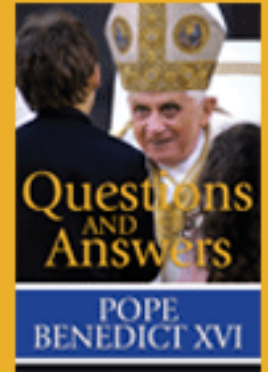
### ***A Steward Reflects ... the Bishop's Stewardship Pastoral Letter, Continued***

Chapter Two of **Stewardship: A Disciple's Response, "Jesus' Way"**, focuses on the example of Jesus as the perfect steward; He is our role model. As stewards, we are to care for all resources entrusted to us, using them wisely to achieve the best return possible for the Lord. Time is perhaps our most precious resource, and something I take for granted.

The Easter season is an opportune time to reflect on how we are living up to our role as disciples. The beautiful Triduum Masses with rich traditions are still fresh in our memory providing images of fresh, clean, a new start, and the awareness that life doesn't last forever. We've only been given a certain amount of time in life, and we don't know how much time that is. What can you do with your remaining time to better serve the Lord? Are there habits to forfeit or tasks you can delegate that now limit your contributions toward building the kingdom?

---

## Questions & Answers Pope Benedict!



978-1-59276-439-6, \$14.95

**Our Sunday Visitor**

Bringing Your Catholic Faith to Life  
[www.osv.com](http://www.osv.com)

**1-800-348-2440**

## Parish Life! Resources

Our Sunday Visitor's website offers monthly articles on early childhood education, elementary education, adult formation, spirituality at work, youth ministry that inspires and help for catechists. [To see the latest, click here»](#)

### Quick Links

[www.OSV.com](http://www.OSV.com)

Parish leaders' resources

Q&A with Dr. Joseph White

7 Steps to Becoming Financially Free Small Group Study Program

## Beyond Easter Sunday



Remember that Eastertide or the Easter season stretches for 50 days, from Easter Sunday to Pentecost (when the Holy Spirit descends upon the apostles - May 11 this year). This Easter season is marked by the joyful celebration of Christ's resurrection and the Church as witness to the Resurrection. Notice that the Sunday readings change during this season; the Old Testament reading is replaced by stories of the earliest disciples evangelizing in the Acts of the Apostles.

[Click here to print an Easter cross](#) that groups, individuals and teachers can use to encourage others to add good Easter deeds. Then, they can color the cross and hang it up as a reminder that we are an Easter people.

### Finding Joy, an Easter Message

- Begin each day by thanking God for all the good things in your life.
- Give God all of your fears and worries.
- Offer up all of the suffering and disappointments you experience.
- Do something nice for someone.
- Be a forgiving person. Let go of anger and resentments that drag down your spirit.
- Take a moment each day to appreciate the beauty of nature.
- Don't be afraid to make mistakes. Learn to laugh at yourself.
- Find ways to show family members and friends how much you appreciate them.
- Try to live more simply. Get rid of material possessions that are not essential to your happiness or your joy.
- End each day by thanking God for all the good things in your life.

- Adapted from [Take Out: Family Faith On the Go](#), OSV's family friendly mini-magazine.

New VBS program:  
Great Bible Reef

Register to win free  
programs and  
materials for YOUR  
parish

## Take Five

### TAKE FIVE

ON-THE-JOB MEDITATIONS WITH ST. IGNATIUS



MIKE AQUILINA & FR. KRIS STUBNA

Looking for ways to live the Gospel message more fully in your daily life: consider "[Take Five: On-the-Job Meditations with St. Ignatius](#)" (OSV). Here is one of 74 suggestions in the handy little book:

### Say "Thanks"

Gratitude can be the beginning of inner peace and many virtues - and an antidote to many vices: pride, resentment, and wrath, to name just a few.

St. Ignatius made the point in a letter to a

Portuguese Jesuit:

It seems to me in the light of the Divine Goodness ... that ingratitude is the most abominable of sins and that it should be detested in the sight of our Creator and Lord by all of His creatures who are capable of enjoying His divine and everlasting glory. For it is a forgetting of the graces, benefits, and blessings received. As such it is the cause, beginning, and origin of all sins and misfortunes. On the contrary, the grateful acknowledgment of blessings and gifts received is loved and esteemed not only on earth but in heaven. (Letters, 55)

### THINK ABOUT IT

- Ingratitude is the most abominable of sins, for it is a forgetting of the blessings received.
- I should keep a list of things for which I am thankful.
- I should say "thank you" many times a day, for all that pleases me and all that does not please me.

### Let us know what you think!

We hope you've enjoyed our Parish Life! newsletter! Let us know what you think--we appreciate your comments, questions, suggestions, and requests! Email York Young: [yyoung@osv.com](mailto:yyoung@osv.com).

[Forward email](#)

Email Marketing by

 **SafeUnsubscribe**®

This email was sent to cdee@osv.com, by [webmaster@osv.com](mailto:webmaster@osv.com)

Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe](#)™ | [Privacy Policy](#).



800-348-2440 | Our Sunday Visitor Publishing | 200 Noll Plaza | Huntington | IN | 46750