

ANNOUNCEMENTS

JANUARY 27, 2008 - SEXAGESIMA - ST JOHN CHRYSOSTOM, BPCD

Catechism classes are at **10:35 AM**. *Christmas Hymns with Hands & Voice*: Two Offerings from Our Sunday School Kindergarten Class will be held in **Helfta Hall at 11:10 AM**

Vespers and Benediction are at **1:10 PM**.

TUESDAY: FEAST OF ST. FRANCIS DE SALES Tuesday is the Feast of the Patronal Saint of the Diocese of Cincinnati, St. Francis de Sales, whose meekness and gentle strength are the embodiment of devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Please join us for two special Masses in honor of our Patron; One at 11:25 AM and an evening Mass at 5:00 PM.

FIRST FRIDAY

Friday is the First Friday of the month. *The intention for the All Night Adoration is: In Reparation to the Sacred Heart, for our young people.*

The schedule is as follows:

- 11:00 AM** - Confessions
 - 11:25 AM** - High Mass & Benediction
 - 5:15 PM** - Rosary & Confessions
 - 5:35 PM** - INFANT OF PRAGUE NOVENA
- Our novena in honor of the Divine Infant continues. Come with confidence to honor our loving little King.

5:45 PM - Low Mass, followed by the SORROWFUL MOTHER NOVENA

Our Novena to the Sorrowful Mother with the Blessing of the Sick. Call or write in to the office the *first names* of those for whom you would like us to pray, as well as the names of your sick.

Sorrow is the sister of Joy, and they walk the world closer together than many think. For—

*"Tears are the Vespers of Gladness—
Life's Matin-Laudate scarce ends
Ere a psalm all a-shrilling with sadness
From the lips of the singer ascends."*

The novena is followed by,

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT,
First Friday Devotions, Sacred Heart Novena & Confessions

ADORATION CONTINUES ALL NIGHT

- 7:15 PM** - Parish Potluck Supper
- 8:00 PM** - Rosary Confraternity Holy Hour

(First Saturday Schedule found on Page 3)

RAFFLE RESULTS

With all of the joys and successes of Christmas we have not reported to you on the terrific results of our Christmas Craft Sale, Raffle and Bake Sale. All total, over a period of two weeks, (thanks to the weather) we raised a total **\$1828.64**. Some lovely and truly creative hand-made items drew great interest. Creative, too, was the individual-item raffle procedure we employed this year. Talk about using your imagination! Thank you to everyone for a wonderful, fun and very profitable Advent fundraiser. **The list of raffle winners is posted on the Book Store door.** If you have not yet collected your prize please see Connie Wozny. Thanks again to everyone for a typically Gertrudian take on the old-style craft sale and raffle. Let's do it again next year.

—BISHOP DOLAN

PRAYER TO SAINT PAUL

O glorious Saint Paul, from a persecutor of the Christian name, thou didst become an Apostle of burning zeal, and in order that Jesus Christ might become known to the furthestmost bounds of the earth, thou didst joyfully suffer imprisonment, scourging, stoning, shipwreck, and every kind of persecution. Obtain for us now the grace to pray at all times for those who have not as yet been blessed with the gift of faith. Help us to use all our strength for the conversion of those who have not as yet heard the Name of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

Wishers

FEBRUARY 3, 2008

- 7:30 AM John Wiesman, Kent Maki, Joe Andreotta, Tom Kamphaus
- 9:00 AM Jim Gebel, Richard Smith, Dale Wilker, Bernie Brueggemann
- 11:30 AM Bob Uhlenbrock, Kirby Bischel, Dennis Hille, Tim Carney
- 5:45 PM John Seyfried

Servers

JANUARY 28 - FEBRUARY 3, 2008

- MON 01/28 5:00 PM LOW: G. Keaveney
- TUE 01/29 5:00 PM LOW: J. Bayer
- WED 01/30 6:30 AM LOW: T. & C. Simpson, Sr.
5:00 PM LOW: G. Keaveney
- THU 01/31 5:00 PM LOW: C. Ritze
- FRI 02/01 5:45 PM LOW: G. Keaveney, J. Bayer, C. Ritze, M. Derksen
- SAT 02/02 6:30 AM LOW: C. & T. Simpson, Jr.
7:40 PM BENEDICTION: G. Keaveney, J. Bayer
9:00 AM PONTIFICAL HIGH: MC: R. VandeRyt, J. Lotarski
& ALL AVAILABLE SERVERS. PLEASE SEE SCHEDULE POSTED IN SACRISTY.
- SUN 02/03 7:30 AM LOW: D. & S. Brueggemann
9:00 AM HIGH: CHAPLAINS: T. Simpson, J. Lotarski; TH: D. Poeppelman; ACS: F. Puglielli, G. Wnck; TORCH: N. Puglielli, N. McClorey, S. Aringhaus, P. Duff
11:30 AM LOW: M. & J. Brugger
5:45 PM LOW: G. Miller

Collection Report

SUNDAY, JANUARY 20, 2008 \$5152.19

**Thank you for your generosity!
Remember St. Gertrude's in your will!**

POETRY CORNER

CECIDIT, CECIDIT BABYLON MAGNA!

BY THEODORE MAYNARD

The aimless business of your feet,
Your swinging wheels and piston rods,
The smoke of every sullen street
Have passed away with all your Gods.
For in a meadow far from these
A hodman treads across the loam,
Bearing his solid sanctities
To that strange altar called his home.
I watch the tall, sagacious trees
Turn as the monks do, every one;
The saplings, ardent novices,
Turning with them towards the sun,
That Monstrance held in God's strong hands,
Burnished in amber and in red;
God, His Own priest, in blessing stands;
The earth, adoring, bows her head.
The idols of your market place,
Your high debates, where are they now?
Your lawyers' clamour fades apace—
A bird is singing on the bough!
Three fragile, sacramental things
Endure, though all your pomps shall
pass—
A butterfly's immortal wings,
A daisy and a blade of grass.



THE FOLDED FLOCK

BY WILFRID MEYNELL

I saw the shepherd fold the sheep,
With all the little lambs that leap.
O Shepherd Lord, so I would be
Folded with all my family.
Or go they early, come they late,
Their mother and I must count them eight.
And how, for us, were any heaven
If we, sore-stricken, saw but seven?
King Shepherd, as of old Thou'lt run
And fold at need a stragglng one.



What can be lacking the soul in which God continually dwells, which purifies itself with full purpose of heart, and which wipes itself clean with the broom of confession so that it might become a dwelling place of God? —ST. THOMAS OF VILLANOVA

DEVOUT PRACTICES

The faithful who, during the month of January, perform some special act of devotion in honor of the Holy Name of Jesus are granted an indulgence of 7 years on any day of the month. A plenary indulgence may be gained on the usual conditions.

✠ THE CALENDAR

✠ BISHOP'S CORNER



MON	01/28/08	ST PETER NOLASCO, C - ST AGNES (THE SECOND TIME) 11:25 AM Requiem High Mass <i>Purgatorial Society</i> 5:00 PM Low Mass <i>Special Intention for Mom (GPK)</i>
TUES	01/29/08	ST FRANCIS DE SALES, BPCD PRINCIPAL PATRON OF THE ARCHDIOCESE 11:25 AM High Mass <i>In Honor of St. Francis de Sales, for the Conversion of Cincinnati</i> 5:00 PM Low Mass <i>In Honor of St. Francis de Sales, for all of the Priests of our Salesian Society</i>
WED	01/30/08	ST MARTINA, VM 6:30 AM Low Mass <i>Robert Kuebler (Kueblers)</i> 11:25 AM High Mass <i>Ms Sharon Patton-Special Intentions (Dale Wilker Family)</i> 5:00 PM Low Mass <i>Those Who Prayed for Noah's Recovery (Kuebler Family)</i> 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal
THUR	01/31/08	ST JOHN BOSCO, C 11:25 AM High Mass <i>Special Intention (H.O. & Becky Hinton)</i> 5:00 PM Low Mass <i>Intention of the Margaret Kinnett Family (A Friend)</i> 7:00 PM Compline
FRI	02/01/08	ST IGNATIUS, BPM - FIRST FRIDAY - ST BRIGID, V 11:00 AM Confessions 11:25 AM High Mass & Benediction <i>Mr. Victor Ritze - Birthday (The Hille Family)</i> 5:15 PM Confessions & Rosary 5:35 PM Infant of Prague Novena VI 5:45 PM Low Mass, Sorrowful Mother Novena III & Blessing of the Sick, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, First Friday Devotions & Sacred Heart Novena, Confessions <i>Bernard & Rita Brueggemann (Diane & Family)</i> 7:15 PM Parish Potluck 8:00 PM Rosary Confraternity Holy Hour ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT CONTINUES ALL NIGHT
SAT	02/02/08	PURIFICATION OF OUR LADY - CANDLEMAS DAY - FIRST SATURDAY 6:30 AM Low Mass <i>Our Children & Godchildren (M/M A. Capetillo)</i> 7:10 AM First Saturday Devotions 7:40 AM Benediction, Confessions 8:30 AM Confessions 9:00 AM Blessing of Candles, Procession, High Mass, followed by Winter Soup Lunch & Mardi Gras Desserts <i>In Honor of Our Lady of the Light</i> Decorations Down following Lunch
SUN	02/03/08	QUINQUAGESIMA - ST BLAISE, BPM HOLY FACE SUNDAY BLESSING OF THROATS AFTER ALL MASSES SHROVETIDE CONFESION SUNDAY 7:30 AM Low Mass <i>So My Family Gets Back to God & True Church (Charlene Bloemker)</i> 9:00 AM High Mass <i>Fr. Markus Ramolla-May Our Lady Guide & Protect You Always (Kathy, Sam & Seth Cozzens)</i> 11:30 AM Low Mass <i>†Ciro R. Amico - Anniversary (Fran Amico)</i> 5:45 PM Low Mass <i>For the People of St. Gertrude the Great</i>

The 35th anniversary of the legalized murder of babies in our land finally passed quite quietly. Saturday week I was on my way to Milwaukee in the morning. I imagine some of you went to the downtown Rosary/Rally. At least one devout soul discreetly passed out its handsomely printed promotional leaflets. But most went about their business as usual, and little notice was taken.

Still, Tuesday the 22nd started expectantly quiet and white – what a contrast with the bloody business in our midst of baby murder! The “city was surplised in white,” as Fr. Ryan says it, perhaps preparing for prayer, the solemn adoration of its Infant God, hidden and exposed in the white Host.

A handful heard the Holy Masses, and a little trickle kept watch with our school children and clergy before the altar of reparation. The Rosary had just enough to make the responses. Life – for those not murdered that day by the law of the land – went on pretty much as usual. It had snowed a bit, recession was in the air, and there were primaries to follow... the routine of daily life. How blessed are ye – and we all – when at least the daily rosary is as automatic, but heartfelt, and honored, part of the daily routine. All is saved, and will be well.

Christmas ends this week as February begins, with First Friday and First Saturday, the All Night Adoration and the Candle Mass for Our Lady's Purification. It's time for our winter soup – this year – lunch, and a little Mardi Gras as well. Lent has sneaked up on us, and a little Shrovetide merriment is in order before fasting starts.

I have never experienced Christmas pass so quickly. I'm sure it is the combination of Forty Hours, and all the rest, along with Lent, looming just on the next leaf of the calendar. May all these days and times bring you graces, and bring you to God.

Our great patron saint, Francis de Sales, comes Tuesday. Already today we conclude the consoling devotion of the Mother of Good Counsel, who so kindly assists us. On Fridays we find solace for our sorrows in Our Lady's, and pray for our absent and sick.

Late January always brings us a bite of real winter. Remember to pray for an early Spring to match our early Lent.

With a blessing,

—Bishop Dolan

✠ READY FOR YOUR READING

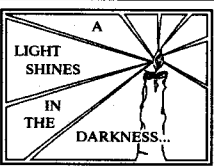
This is the season to be looking up good books for Lenten reading. Have you visited the Book Store? Wonderful reprints of classic books for Christian mothers and fathers are available, true gems of spiritual reading and prayers. Many, during Lent, find helpful a “page a day” format for spiritual reading. This year we are offering such a book by the great Catholic convert and writer G. K. Chesterton. Be sure to pop in to the Book Store this Sunday for some good ideas for an essential part of Lent - your reading!

✠ ANNOUNCEMENTS (CONT'D.)

✠ VOTIVE CANDLES

The suggested donation for a seven day votive candle is \$5.00. The suggested donation for 6-hour votives is 50 cents.

We also offer the practice of making a memorial donation to cover the extremely expensive cost of our Sanctuary light. This light is made of 100% beeswax, and olive oil, representing the purity of Our Lord. It is beautifully sweet-smelling and burns for a fortnight. We are offering the privilege of burning this visible mark of the Real Presence for a suggested donation of \$25.00. For two weeks your prayers, petitions and remembrances for your loved ones will burn continuously in the presence of Our Lord. Envelopes for this privileged donation are available in the vestibule. Your intention will be listed in the bulletin.



✠ FIRST SATURDAY *(Cont'd. from Page 1)*

Reparation Intention: For immodest fashions and sins of the flesh.

- 6:30 AM Low Mass
- 7:10 AM Rosary & First Sat. Devotions
- 7:40 AM Benediction & Confessions
- 8:30 AM Confessions
- 9:00 AM:

SATURDAY - FEBRUARY 2ND - CANDLEMAS
Join us for the **Blessing of Candles, Procession & "Mass of Candles"** at 9:00 AM, followed by our annual *Winter Soup Lunch & Mardi Gras Desserts* - bring some soup or dessert.

Plan to spend this lovely feast of Our Lord and Our Lady with your "church family." **Parents, bring your children to take part in the procession.** After Mass we will share a family lunch of bread, wine, soup and desserts.

As you did last year, bring your *favorite* soup in a crock pot, and the church will supply a variety of tasty breads and wines. You may wish instead to bring some delicious dessert — it's almost Lent! In any case, do come!

In the spirit of the feast, *present* yourself and your children, as Our Lady presented her only Son. Make the *offering* of your delicious soup or dessert as St. Joseph offered two doves. Your extra effort for God and your "church family" will not be forgotten by Him.

✠ NEXT SUNDAY

Next Sunday is the First Sunday of the Month. Our **Special Second Collection** is for *Our Seminary*. It is Holy Face Sunday and the **Opening of our Triduum in Honor of the Holy Face**, and also the feast of St. Blaise. The **Blessing of Throats** follows all Masses. **Shrovetide Confessions** - Shrovetide, will be heard during the morning services.

Set your missal: February 3rd, Quinquagesima, with the commemoration of St. Blaise, BpM, and Our Lady and all the Saints. Preface of the Trinity.



✠ UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday - February 6th: Ash Wednesday - already!

✠ LENTEN PLANNING

Ash Wednesday Masses are at 6:30 AM, 11:30 AM and 5:45 PM.

Ashes will be given out before and after all morning Masses; *following* Children's Stations, *after* the 5:45 PM Mass.

Each Friday we offer our traditional "evening of recollection" with 5:45 PM Mass, the Parish Potluck *Plus* Supper, a short Stations service, short Sermon, Benediction and a brief Sorrowful Mother Novena service, with Blessing of the Sick and Holy Communion.

At 3:00 PM on all the **Wednesdays in Lent**, the traditional **Children's Stations** round out our offerings.

✠ LENTEN POTLUCK PLUS SUPPER

Each year on the Friday nights in Lent we offer a Parish Potluck *Plus* Supper following the Mass and before the Stations of the Cross.

Wednesday - February 20th: Children's Day of Recollection

In a little while, the scrutiny of each one of us will take place, when we all stand before the dreadful tribunal of Christ, clothed with our own deeds.

—ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM



✠ THE PASCHAL SACRAMENTS

First Testing & First Confessions: Saturday, April 12th. (Baptismal Certificate must be presented before testing, and form filled out.)

- **Obligatory Day of Recollection for all First Communion Children:** Thursday, May 8th.

- **Confirmation:** Saturday, May 10th.

- **First Holy Communion:** Sunday, May 25th.

Parents, please remember to submit to the Office *by March 11th*, the Baptismal certificates of children not baptized at St. Gertrude the Great. If your child is not enrolled in the school or Sunday School, please let us know if you are planning on bringing him to be tested in April. Unless we have the Baptismal certificate, we will be unable to do the necessary testing. Sometimes it is difficult to tell if a child is ready for the Sacraments. Please consult the priest. The Church earnestly desires all children to receive Our Lord as soon as possible.

✠ THE YEAR IN REVIEW

FOR ST. GERTRUDE THE GREAT

HOLY COMMUNIONS: 24,000 (approx.)

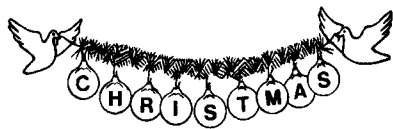
MARRIAGES: 2

BAPTISMS: 15

CONFIRMATIONS: 19

FUNERALS: 1

Decorations Down Day



On Saturday, February 2nd, following the 9:00 AM **Blessing of Candles, Procession, the Mass-of-Candles** and our *Winter Soup Lunch and Mardi Gras Desserts*, we will begin taking down the remaining Christmas Decorations. This project will take the cooperation and effort of many volunteers. Eldon and Ernie will need men to help take down the Christmas trees, the decorations in the sanctuary, the decorations in the side chapel, and the outside decorations. Ladies are needed to remove the delicate items and prepare them for storage. Of course, all this disruption will make everything very dirty, and we will *all* be needed to clean the church and prepare it for Sunday and *Ash Wednesday, only 4 days later!*

We have already taken down the angels and wreaths, the decorations on the side altars and around the doors. We also need to put up the Pieta, the Scourged Christ and some of the Lenten drapings. We need *everyone* that can help. Come help—*it's fun!*

ACT OF REPARATION OF HONOR - TO OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

In the Most Adorable Sacrament of the Altar

(Official Act for Members of the Guard of Honor)

In the name of the Father, etc.

Most adorable Saviour; by the most wonderful prodigy of Thy love for us, Thou dost remain hidden in the Most Blessed Sacrament of the Altar, in order to be the perpetual sacrifice of the New Law, the innocent victim for our sins, the celestial food of our souls, our kind physician, our good master, our powerful mediator, and our loving father. But, alas, with what ingratitude, on our part, Thine infinite kindness is repaid!

Prostrate before Thine altar, where Thou art as really present as in the highest heavens, we come to make reparation for all the injuries and for all the ingratitude inflicted on Thy loving Heart in this sacrament.

O divine Jesus, grant us to make a fitting reparation for all blasphemies, all profanations, and all sacrileges ever committed, for the want of devotion and neglect of preparation for Holy Communion, for the little fruit we have drawn from it.

Pardon, O Lord, pardon, for so many Christians, who know Thee not and who offend Thee; for so many heretics who insult Thee, for so many impious men and apostates who persecute Thee. By the fervor of our love we would wish to make amends to Thee for all their contempt and for all their sacrileges.

How happy should we be, O Jesus, could we but make reparation to Thy glory by our respect, by our zeal, aye even by the shedding of our blood. At least, most adorable Saviour, grant us the grace to love Thee in the most holy Sacrament of the Altar, with the most tender, the most generous, the most perfect, the most constant love.

Virgin most holy, by thy holy and Immaculate Heart, make us enter into the adorable Heart of thy divine Son, Jesus Christ.

MY SUNDAY AFTERNOON CATECHISM FOR SEXAGESIMA

The name Sexagesima has been explained in the instruction of last Sunday. The Introit of the Mass is taken from the forty-third psalm: "Arise; why sleepest Thou, O Lord? Arise, and cast us not off to the end; why turnest Thou Thy face away, and forgettest our trouble? for our soul is humbled down to the dust; our belly cleaveth to the earth. Arise, O Lord, help us, and redeem us for Thy name's sake. We have heard, O God, with our ears; our fathers have declared to us."

PLEASE READ SUNDAY'S EPISTLE: II Cor. xi. 19; xii 9

Prayer

Grant me, O God, Thy grace, that I may in these evil days keep steadily to Thy holy doctrine, and never be seduced from obeying it, either by the allurements of the world, or the reproaches of the wicked. Amen.

PLEASE READ SUNDAY'S GOSPEL: Luke viii. 4-15

Why is the word of God here compared to seed?

Because as good fruits spring from good seed, so do good works from the word of God; and as it is impossible for any soil not sown to produce good fruits, so neither can men produce the fruits of the Spirit without the seed of the divine Word.

Why did Our Saviour cry out, "He that hath ears to hear, let him hear"?

To declare the necessity of heeding the word of God, since without the instruction in our holy religion which we derive from that word we cannot know what we must do to please God, and save our souls.

How, then, does it happen that, notwithstanding the excellence of the divine word, there are so many bad Christians?

The fault is with men, who, though they hear the word of God, hear, read, and meditate superficially. The divine seed finds no moisture or root in their hearts; they are overgrown with the piercing thorns of cares, riches, and sensual lusts, so that the seed of the divine word is choked up, and can neither grow nor bear fruit.

What is the effect of the word of God when heeded?

To wash away sin, implant virtue, and create the world anew. Jeremias says: "Are not My words as a fire" (Jer. xxiii, 29) which bursts out from within, consuming the vapors of sin, drying up the marshes of vice, and killing the deep roots of bad habits? Again, it is "a hammer," breaking in pieces the rocks of hardened hearts. St. Paul says: "It is living and effectual, and more piercing than any two-edged sword: reaching into the division of the soul and spirit, of the joints also and the marrow"

(Heb. iv, 12)—that is, cutting away from the spirit sensual lusts. St. James calls it a mirror, in which a man beholding himself and his sins becomes ashamed, and tries to get free from them (James i. 23). It is, finally, the good seed, which, falling upon good ground, yields fruit a hundredfold.

What must we do before a sermon?

St. Chrysostom asks, "Who pours a precious liquid into an unclean vessel, before he has washed it?" We should, therefore, cleanse our hearts before a sermon by contrition, "for wisdom will not enter into a malicious soul" (Wis. i. 4). As the ground to be sown must first be prepared, so must our hearts be cleansed, and made ready by a holy desire of learning what is good.

What must we do during a sermon?

We must listen attentively and respectfully, for it is God Who speaks to us through the preacher: "He that heareth you, heareth Me" (Luke x. 16). If an ambassador reading the letters of his king is listened to with great attention, quiet, and respect, says St. Chrysostom, how much greater veneration should we not pay to the minister of God announcing His holy will? Be careful, therefore, not so show contempt for the preacher, for that will reach back to God, Who has said, "He that despiseth you, despiseth Me" (Luke x. 16). Be careful not to apply what is said in the sermon to others, but rather "take heed to thyself" (I. Tim. iv. 16). If you are free from those sins which the sermon points at, thank God, and pray that you may not fall into them.

What must we do after a sermon?

We must endeavor to practice what we have heard: For God justifies, not the hearers of the law, but only the doers (Rom. ii. 13) of it. In order to practice what we hear in the sermon it is necessary, in the first place, to keep it in our minds, to ponder it carefully and remember it. Christ, therefore, blesses those who hear the word of God and keep it (Luke xi. 28.) The seed cannot bring forth fruit if not well covered with good ground, warmed by the sun, moistened by the rain and dew, and cared for in other ways. Finally, pray often to God, that He may keep alive in you the divine truths which you have heard.

Prayer

O my God, I am covered with shame, because the seed of Thy divine word, which Thou hast so abundantly sown in my heart, has brought forth so little fruit. Have mercy, O Lord, and change my heart, that it may become good ground, in which Thy word may take root, thrive, grow, and finally bring forth the fruit of salvation, which Thou requirest of me. Amen.

FEAST OF THE PURIFICATION / CANDLEMAS / MARDIS GRAS
WINTER SOUP LUNCH

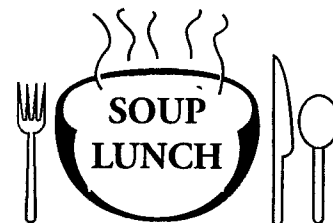
WHEN: February 2nd

TIME: Immediately After 9:00 AM Mass

WHERE: Helfta Social Hall

WHAT: Soup or Dessert

WHO: Everyone in the Parish



Everyone is invited to join Bishop Dolan, Father Cekada, and Father Ramolla for a casual, relaxing, warm winter get-together of bread, wine, soup and dessert. This family-style lunch marks the joyful end of the Christmas season, and the celebration of *Mardi Gras*, with Lent just days away. Bishop Dolan is making soup and invites you to share your favorite soup, too! If you don't have a favorite soup, bring a delicious dessert. The church will supply the bread and wine, other beverages and paper supplies. As we did last year, for the sake of convenience bring your soup in a crock pot so there will be a way to keep it hot.

