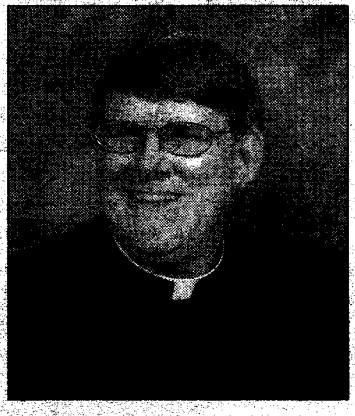
Dear Friends,

"It was the best of times; it was the worst of times…" Charles Dickens said that many years ago, but it seems like we're living it out in our country right now. We have the freedom to pick our next President and a democracy that allows us to choose those who will lead our country for the next four years. Many countries do not. We have candidates who are vastly different and will soon elect a black President or a woman Vice President. Either will set new directions for our country. It's fair to say that we are polarized by the decision and who knows for sure what will happen on November 4th.

We thought the issues were Iraq, use of power, terrorism, treatment of prisoners of war, environmental issues – going green, and, as always, the life issues. It seems that the real issue now – the one that needs to be addressed by all candidates for any public office – is the economy. There is a real lack of confidence in the stock



Monsignor John Enzler

market, our banking institutions, and our own investment advisors and, maybe more importantly, we wonder whether our Government can solve economic problems of such magnitude.

Many of us have been living very well for a long time and find it very difficult to pull back on our spending and become evermore conscious of how we use the many blessing God has given to us. Here at Blessed Sacrament, we are trying to be much more careful about our spending and are watching our pennies as best we can. We are no different than other parishes and, certainly, no different than almost every reader of Our Parish Times.

In these difficult times, even as we tighten our own belts, let us not forget that there are people far less fortunate who depend upon our generosity for the very sustenance of their lives. While we may make choices that mean waiting another year before buying a new car, many people are deciding what they can afford at the grocery store and whether they can afford to put food on their table for their family.

As you work on your own family budget, please make sure that you leave something for the poor and less fortunate. Also, be an advocate for the less fortunate in our own local legislatures to be sure that as cuts are made here in the County, there is a preferential option towards those less fortunate.

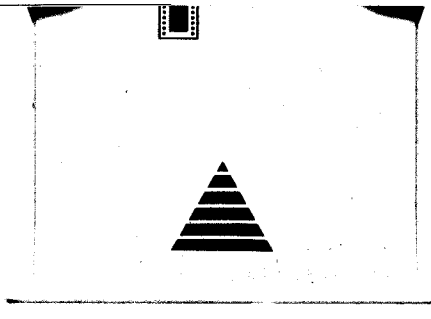
Above, Ladies – Dosidos – and I don't mean Cookies!

At left, Square Dancin' Brownie Buddies

Square Dance

The Blessed Sacrament Brownies held its lively annu-

St. Thomas More School Supply Drive



arrival of new supplies, clothes and shoes was a true blessing. Because of the happiness we know we have brought to many children in Haiti, St. Patrick's has decided to work very closely with

is the peace in our hearts, faith in the Lord, love for one another, and the hope for our brothers and sisters that lead us to touch others.

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columbus, at St. Patrick's Parish Hall on Sept 14, 2008.

Photo by Tom McManus.

and then just sat around. The next morning, we woke up, made breakfast, cleaned up, and sat around some more. Around 11 o'clock, we went to Aquatics for our swim test and almost everyone

ing, fishing, tubing, and waterskiing. Later in the month, a group flew down to Fort Lauderdale, and then we drove down to the Boy Scout