

**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Sat., Nov. 28 to Sun., Dec. 6, 2009

- Saturday Vigil, Nov. 28:** 4:30 PM Church
Agnes Fedio (Terry)
- Sunday, Nov. 29:** 7:30 AM Church
Parish Family of Saint John of God
- Sunday, Nov. 29:** 9:30 AM Chapel
Joseph Ferraro, Sr. (Wife, Marge & Family)
- Sunday, Nov. 29:** 11:30 AM Church
Celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation

WEEKDAYS — 9:30 AM CHURCH

- Monday, Nov. 30:** Anniv - Anna Marie Ciramella (Mother & Father)
- Tuesday, Dec. 1:** Julia Boburka (Allene & Jaime Slavinsky)
- Wednesday, Dec. 2:** Edna Cavanaugh (Mary Ann & Dick and Family)
- Wednesday, Dec. 2:** Mary W. Cook (Lydia & Bill Burgunder)
- Thursday, Dec. 3:** Anna & Adam Maksin and Family (Daughter, Margaret Roberts)
- Friday, Dec. 4:** Harry Wagner (Wife & Family)
-
- Saturday Vigil, Dec. 5:** 4:30 PM Church
Anniv - Joe, Ken & Kenny Jr. Delach (Marilyn)
- Sunday, Dec. 6:** 7:30 AM Church
Mary C. Beasock (Husband & Family)
- Sunday, Dec. 6:** 9:30 AM Chapel
Patsy & Mary Aluise and Bill Stropkaj (Family)
- Sunday, Dec. 6:** 11:30 AM Church
Dorothy Triscila (Nell Sabol)

Readings for the Week of November 29, 2009

- Sunday:** Jer 33:14-16/1 Thes 3:12-4:2/Lk 21:25-28, 34-36
- Monday:** Rom 10:9-18/Mt 4:18-22
- Tuesday:** Is 11:1-10/Lk 10:21-24
- Wednesday:** Is 25:6-10a/Mt 15:29-37
- Thursday:** Is 26:1-6/Mt 7:21, 24-27
- Friday:** Is 29:17-24/Mt 9:27-31
- Saturday:** Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8
- Next Sunday:** Bar 5:1-9/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6

† † † † † † † † † †

“YEAR OF THE PRIEST” PARISH PRAYER**God, give us worthy priests in sufficient numbers.****Parish Office Hours:****9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. (Monday thru Friday)****CONFIRMED IN CHRIST**

Bishop Lawrence Brandt will administer the Sacrament of Confirmation to our students in the Confirmation Program in St. John of God Parish and St. Catherine of Siena Parish this Sunday, Nov. 29, 2009 during the 11:30 A.M. Mass in St. John of God Parish, the Church at St. Mary's. We offer heartfelt congratulations to those confirmed. The parish family of St. John of God and St. Catherine of Siena prays that these young men and women will always be open to the presence, love, wisdom, guidance and power of the Holy Spirit in their lives.

Congratulations To:

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| <i>Gary Anderson, Jr.</i> | <i>Grace Klimek</i> |
| <i>Nicholas Bane</i> | <i>Joshua Knupp</i> |
| <i>Matthew Barone</i> | <i>Kimberly Lawrence</i> |
| <i>Mark Bartus</i> | <i>Rianna Lewis</i> |
| <i>Russell Basalyga</i> | <i>Matthew Norris</i> |
| <i>Eric Dickinson</i> | <i>Jordan Parkes</i> |
| <i>Paul Dickinson</i> | <i>Samantha Ramsey</i> |
| <i>Maria DiSanto</i> | <i>Jason Rippole</i> |
| <i>Vincent Garuccio</i> | <i>Alexander Scrabis</i> |
| <i>Todd Gillie</i> | <i>Joshua Sicilia</i> |
| <i>Amanda Halliwell</i> | <i>Karley Sulkowski</i> |
| <i>Annie Heisler</i> | <i>Daniel Taravella</i> |
| <i>John Hetzer</i> | <i>David Taravella</i> |
| <i>Adam Hines</i> | <i>Brittani Vescio</i> |
| <i>Hayden Keefer</i> | <i>Anja Weisser</i> |
| <i>Matthew Keefer</i> | <i>Dominic Weisser</i> |
| <i>Angelina Kelly</i> | <i>Hayley Weisser</i> |
| <i>Cameron Kelly</i> | <i>Katherine Wilson</i> |
| <i>Alexandra Kleer</i> | <i>Ronald Ziccardi</i> |

PLEASE NOTE

In your December packet of envelopes you will find a Christmas message, a listing of the Christmas Masses and a Penance Service to be held on Dec. 14, 2009 (stay tuned to the bulletin for more info on the Penance Service). Keep this handy reference in a convenient place so you can plan your Christmas accordingly.

ADVENT EVENING OF REFLECTION

The Ladies of Charity of St. John of God Parish invite everyone to an Advent Evening of Reflection on Thursday, Dec. 3, at 7 PM conducted by Father Joseph Markalonis, T.O.R. in the Gathering Place. In order to have the proper amount of materials needed, we ask that you R.S.V.P. to Sr. Theresa at the parish office, 412-771-5646.

Bulletin Deadline: Tuesday Noon

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

All teens in grades 9-12 are invited to play **Flag Football** on Monday, Nov. 30, at 1:30 PM at Fairhaven Park! All you need to participate is a completed permission form. Blank forms are available at the Youth Office, the back of the Chapel, or can be downloaded from the parish website. Are you ready for some football?

The Youth Group will deliver Christmas flowers to area nursing homes after school on Friday, Dec. 18 (meet at the Youth Center at 3:15 PM with your permission form). All teens in grades 9-12 are encouraged to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to help others! For more information, contact Steve at 412-331-8573 or sigyouthmin@yahoo.com.

**PARISH WEEKEND ATTENDANCE
Nov. 14 / 15**

Saturday	313
Sunday	804
Total Weekend Attendance.....	1,117

**PARISH FINANCIAL TOTALS
For the Weekend of Nov. 14 / 15**

Regular Offertory Collection\$ 5,459.50

(This is ordinary income from contributions for the general running of the parish. It is subject to a 17.6% tax to the Diocese of Pittsburgh.)

PARISH SHARE PROGRAM

PSP Assessment for 2009	\$93,361.00
Contributions to date	\$104,768.30
Excess Parish Share (Thank You!).....	\$11,407.30

We have successfully raised and paid off the Diocese on our PSP assessment for this year! Thank you for your generosity. From this point on, we get to keep for ourselves all PSP contributions to the end of the year, and tax-free at that. Please continue to use your monthly envelopes at the same rate - it is a year round campaign for us. God bless you for your cooperation.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Retirement Fund for Religious\$3,196.75

(These collections are mandated by the Diocese for specific purposes. These moneys are remitted in total to the Diocese and are not taxed)

SANCTUARY CANDLE - WEEK OF NOVEMBER 22

ST. MARY'S - IN MEMORY OF NICK URICH BY WIFE AND FAMILY
MOTHER OF SORROWS - SPECIAL INTENTION FOR THE 40TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF RICHARD AND JANET GERWELL BY WILIAM AND ELIZABETH GERWELL

ST. JOHN OF GOD SCHOOL NEWS



BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

Hosted By

St. John of God School &
 Stowe Twp. Volunteer Fire Department
 Sunday, December 13, 2009
 9 AM to 2 PM

St. John of God Social Hall

Adult Breakfast \$5.00 & Children \$3.00

Tickets are available at the school office or at the door.

Includes Pancake and Sausage breakfast and age appropriate gift ~~ Picture with Santa available
 All proceeds benefit families in need.

HOSPITAL

Please pray for all parishioners who are in the hospital, especially: **Caring Heights** - Howard Beasock
Broadmore Assisted Living - Stephanie Domka
Also for all those ill at home, in nursing homes, and shut-ins; that they may continue to receive the Lord's Blessings.

SYMPATHY

We wish to extend our sympathy to all Families who have lost loved ones this past week. Please remember them and all our dearly departed and their families in your prayers.

"May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace."

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Tuesday, Dec. 8, is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception and a Holy Day of Obligation. Following is the Mass schedule in St. John of God Parish for this day:

Dec. 7, Monday Vigil, 4:30 PM, Church

Dec. 8, Tuesday, Holy Day: 9:30 AM Church,
 11 AM Chapel and 6:30 PM Church.

TOWN HALL MEETING

Following the 6:30 PM on Tuesday, Dec. 8, in the Church at St. Mary's, there will be a Town Hall Meeting in the Church. All parishioners are invited and encouraged to come hear the Pastor's report and participate in this form of governance of the parish.

SANCTUARY CANDLE - WEEK OF NOVEMBER 29

ST. MARY'S - IN MEMORY OF HARRY WAGNER BY WIFE AND FAMILY
MOTHER OF SORROWS - IN MEMORY OF JOSEPH FERRARO, SR BY WIFE, MARGE AND FAMILY

DECEMBER, 2009

Dec. 5 - 6	Sat 4:30 PM	Sun 7:30 AM	Sun 9:30 AM	Sun 11:30 AM
Lector	Charlotte Schriener Ann Tkacik	Tami Ivosevic Mary Ann Scrabis	Children's Mass Children's Mass	Donna Klocek Spohn Nicole Scialabba
Altar Server	Elizabeth Diehl Victoria Diehl Brian Benedetti	Tim McGuillan Dallas Woods	Eric Hall Jared Hall Kevin Barbour	Michael Dorrenbacher Wesley Dorrenbacher Christopher Linnert
Euch. Min.	Christina Phillips Tom Phillips Donna Placon Carole Yunker Gerrie Bayer Terry Fedio	George Wolf Ron Amity Sr. Claudia Hemphill Mark Honath	Angela Ciccone Dominic Puppo Eric Hall Kelly Hall Theresa Davis Margaret Ferraro	Edward McNabb Gloria McNabb Patrick O'Connor Eleanor Vith
Dec. 12 - 13	Sat 4:30 PM	Sun 7:30 AM	Sun 9:30 AM	Sun 11:30 AM
Lector	Tom Burgunder Terry Fedio	Tami Ivosevic Michael Ivosevic	Children's Mass Children's Mass	Joanne Malenock Julienne Giuliani
Altar Server	Anna Marie Kilonsky Michael Roussey Brian Benedetti	Tim McGuillan Dallas Woods	Emily Halbedl Jacob Scott Christopher Cercone	Elizabeth Diehl Victoria Diehl Christopher Linnert
Euch. Min.	Ellie Brown Rosemarie Litterini Mike Tomsco Gerrie Bayer Charlotte Schriener Carole Yunker	Nina Ivosevic Ron Amity Sr. Claudia Hemphill Mark Honath	Al Condeluci Liz Condeluci Frank Troff Mary Ann Scrabis Angela Ciccone Anne Lutz Zacharias	Gizella Fedorka Patsy Mance Wanda Mruzcek Tracy Olanyk
Dec. 19 - 20	Sat 4:30 PM	Sun 7:30 AM	Sun 9:30 AM	Sun 11:30 AM
Lector	Patricia Golembiewski Ann Tkacik	Tom Burgunder Donna Klocek Spohn	Children's Mass Children's Mass	Nicole Scialabba John Friel
Altar Server	Alex Adams Tom Adams Brian Benedetti	Tim McGuillan Dallas Woods	Cassandra Cropper Wesley Cropper Jared Hall	Elizabeth Diehl Victoria Diehl Christopher Linnert
Euch. Min.	George Wolf Gerrie Bayer Terry Fedio Rosemarie Litterini Charlotte Schriener Mike Tomsco	Ron Amity Sr. Claudia Hemphill Mark Honath Julienne Giuliani	Kelly Hall Eric Hall Theresa Davis Margaret Ferraro Dominic Puppo Angela Ciccone	Edward McNabb Gloria McNabb Patrick O'Connor Eleanor Vith
Dec. 26 - 27	Sat 4:30 PM	Sun 7:30 AM	Sun 9:30 AM	Sun 11:30 AM
Lector	Terry Fedio Patricia Golembiewski	John Friel Joanne Malenock	Lou Lacivita Al Condeluci	Mary Ann Scrabis Wanda Mruzcek
Altar Server	Anna Marie Kilonsky Michael Roussey Brian Benedetti	Tim McGuillan Dallas Woods	Kevin Barbour Eric Hall Jared Hall	Alex Adams Tom Adams Christopher Linnert
Euch. Min.	Ellie Brown Carole Yunker Gerrie Bayer Rosemarie Litterini Charlotte Schriener Mike Tomsco	Michael Ivosevic Nina Ivosevic Ron Amity Sr. George Wolf	Steve Tomsco Mark Honath Theresa Davis Liz Condeluci Eric Hall Kelly Hall	Gizella Fedorka Patsy Mance Tracy Olanyk Patrick O'Connor

Win FREE Bingo Admission for ONE YEAR!

That's right, our SIXTH ANNUAL BINGO BONANZA! This year we are, once again, giving away a Bingo Pass for the entire year of 2010. Join us for Bingo on the following Wednesdays – DECEMBER 2, DECEMBER 9, DECEMBER 16 and DECEMBER 30 to be eligible for this spectacular give-a-way. On Wednesday, December 2 each Bingo player will receive their registration card. Our doors open at 5:00 PM each week with Early Birds playing at 7:00! Our One-Year Free Admission Prize will be awarded on Wednesday, December 30. To be eligible for this fabulous prize, you must have played Bingo with us each of the Wednesdays listed, registered with us and be present on December 30 to win! Come join us for lots of fun and win some extra Christmas cash. We give away a \$1,000.00 jackpot each week. Bingo will be closed on Wednesday, December 23. See you at the Bingo!

CHRISTMAS WAFERS (OPLATKI)

The Christmas Wafers (Oplatki) are available after all Masses or at the parish office. The cost is \$3.00 for a package of four.

SAINT JOHN OF GOD STEEPLE CHASE DRIVE TRIP #2

Sunday, December 6, 2009

Depart St. Mary's Church 9:30 AM

Return approximately 8:00 PM

\$90 Per Person Includes:

- Deluxe Motor Coach Transportation
• Lunch & Show @ Ramada Inn in Ligonier
• Ligonier Festival of Lights & Shopping in the Town Square
• Musical Holiday Revue @ Ligonier theatre w/Valley Player
• Overly Lights, Live Nativity, Trains, and much more

Reservations/Questions Call:

Terry @ 412-331-3443 or Charlotte @ 412-331-2453

Steeple Chase Drive - Ligonier Holiday Lights

Please Print, Drop in Collection Basket or Mail Slot at Parish Office or Mail to: St. John of God Parish 1011 Church Avenue McKees Rocks, PA 15136 ~~ Print LIGONIER LIGHTS on envelope.

Checks payable to ST. JOHN OF GOD PARISH - NOT REFUNDABLE IF YOU CANCEL

Number @ \$90 Enclosed is \$

Name

Phone

STEELERS FOOTBALL POOL WINNERS



November 22, 2009

Steelers vs. Chiefs

Half Time Score: Steelers 17 Chiefs 7

Rose Marty owned by Rose Martonik \$100

Steve Safko owned by Stephen Safko \$100

Final Score: Steelers 24 Broncos 27

Josephine Frankl owned by Josephine Frankl \$150

Ziggie & Snuggles owned by Eleanor Mrozowski \$150

CONGRATULATIONS and LET'S GO STEELERS!

STEEPLE CHASE SUPER BOWL FOOTBALL POOL

Regular season football is still underway, and we don't know who will play in this year's Super Bowl yet. But, we do know the game is scheduled for Sunday, Feb. 7, 2010 between the AFC and the NFC. We hope the AFC team is the Steelers, but even if it isn't, we are offering two versions of a Super Bowl pool. There are 100 blocks in each pool. One pool will cost \$30, will have two payouts for a total \$1,500: \$500 half time, \$1,000 final. The other pool will cost \$100, will have four payouts for a total \$5,000: \$500 1st quarter, \$1,000 half-time, \$500 3rd quarter, \$3,000 final. (Payment plan available for \$100 pool only) The names and numbers for each pool will be randomly drawn in advance. You will receive a copy of your completed pool prior to the Super Bowl. Purchase a square for yourself or partner with a friend to buy one. Consider buying some as gifts. Name your block and fill out the form below. Go Steelers! Questions call Terry 412-331-3443 or Charlotte 412-331-2453.

SUPER BOWL POOL

PLEASE PRINT, FILL OUT COMPLETELY, DROP IN COLLECTION BASKET OR PARISH OFFICE MAIL SLOT, OR MAIL TO: SJOG PARISH, "SUPER BOWL POOL," 1011 CHURCH AVE., MCKEES ROCKS, PA 15136

(PAYMENT PLAN AVAILABLE FOR \$100 POOL ONLY)

_____ Square(s)@\$30/square (\$1,500 payout) =\$_____ (AMOUNT ENCLOSED)

_____ Square(s)@\$100/square (\$5,000 payout) =\$_____ (AMOUNT ENCLOSED)

I would like to name my square(s) _____

Name _____

Full Address w/ZIP _____

Phone _____

PASTOR'S CORNER
Fr. Lou Vallone

Today begins a new Church year, the first Sunday of Advent. Advent is meant as a time of anticipation and preparation. And we are used to the secular cycle of preparation: Christmas decorations, sales, and songs have been bombarding us since Labor Day it seems. We are all already in the mode of a "holly, jolly Christmas". (With all due respect to Burl Ives, I can't abide that song!)

But if pay attention to the Church, preparation is far from jolly. Advent is like Lent a season of penance, a definite downer. And the readings and prayers seem less anticipatory than foreboding. The tenor of Advent is eschatological - it talks more about the end of time than the beginning of birth. The theme is most often: "Beware, ye know not the hour nor the day!"

Because Thanksgiving was this past week, our normal deadline of Wednesday was moved up considerably. For quite a while, I knew both the hour and the day that I had to submit this Corner to the secretaries to send off to be in time for publication. What I did NOT know was that the early Monday hours I had planned to write it were going to be taken away "like a thief in the night" because I have been called for jury duty in criminal court and must leave the rectory early in the morning.

(How a prosecutor can approve a priest whose job is forgiveness to sit on a jury, or a defense attorney who knows that said priest has been a police chaplain for decades with a sister who is commander of a police zone to sit on a jury, is beyond any rationality that I can summon!)

But there it is! I am totally unprepared to write a Pastor's Corner because I was caught unaware! And so there won't be a Pastor's Corner in the bulletin this week, except for what I always say:

"Jesus is the reason for the season, and it ain't Christmas till it's Christmas."

**BAPTISMAL PROGRAM FOR NEW
AND EXPECTING PARENTS**

The next class will be held on Sunday, December 13, from 1:00 to 4:00 PM in Mother of Sorrows Chapel. To register or for more information, call John Fatula at 412-331-8573.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Nov. 30 (Mon.) - Miraculous Medal Novena Prayers recited in St. Mary's Church - Rosary begins 6:30 PM.

Dec. 1 (Tues.) - St. Anthony Novena Prayers recited following the 9:30 AM Mass in St. Mary's Church.

Dec. 2 (Wed.) - **WEDNESDAY NIGHT BINGO** in MOS Social Hall - Doors open at 5 PM Early Birds, 7 PM and Regular Games begin at 7:15 PM

Dec. 4 (Fri.) - Mother of Sorrows Novena Prayers recited following 9:30 AM Mass, St. Mary's Church.

Dec. 4 (Fri.) - **PIZZA KITCHEN and IT'S FALAGONE FRIDAY!** To order please call 412-331-8530 on Fridays, 8 AM - 1 PM. Orders must be picked up by 3:30 PM.

ANGEL TREE

We once again have an Angel Tree in the Church at St. Mary's and the Chapel at Mother of Sorrows as a sign that St. John of God Parish is a caring community.

1. Come to the tree and take an Angel ornament. Purchase and wrap the gift in Christmas paper. No bows please. Save the Angel and after wrapping the gift, attach the Angel to the gift. This ensures proper delivery to the person.
2. When you have filled the request, come back to the tree with your tagged gift and place the wrapped gift under the tree.

Important: Be sure to bring your gift back to the same tree at the same place that you took it from with same Angel attached. All gifts must be returned by Dec. 13.

OLD TESTAMENT BIBLE STUDY

A Bible Study to study to explore some of the major people of God and themes of the Old Testament will be held this **Tuesday, Dec. 2**, from 6:30 PM to 8 PM in the Sacristy at Mother of Sorrows Chapel led by John Fatula. All are welcome. Info: 412-331-8573

St. John of God Parish Membership Form



Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

CHECK ONE:

- New Registration Change of Address Moving out of Parish Want Envelopes

Please drop Membership Form into the offertory basket or mail to Rectory.