

## Office Telephones

Parish Office/Residence .....	412-771-5646
Parish Fax .....	412-331-0678
Religious Education (Sunday School).....	412-331-8501
Youth Ministry .....	412-331-8525
Religious Ed/Youth Ministry Fax.....	412-331-8500
Bingo (Social Hall/Mother of Sorrows).....	412-331-8530
Cemeteries (St. Mark's/St. Mary's).....	412-331-1309
Pizza Kitchen (Fridays) .....	412-331-8530

## Mass Schedule

<b>Saturday Vigil</b> .....	4:30 PM Church - (St. Mary)
<b>Sunday</b> .....	7:30 AM Church
	9:30 AM Chapel - (Mother of Sorrows)
	11:30 AM Church

### Weekday Schedule

Monday–Friday .....	9:30 AM Church
Confessions: Saturday 3:30 PM to 4:15 PM and 5:30 PM	

## Celebration of the Sacraments

**Infant Baptism:** Call office to schedule.

**Adult Baptism:** The R.C.I.A. program sees to the needs of adults who wish to become Catholic.

**Reconciliation (Confession):** 3:30 PM to 4:15 PM (Church) and following the 4:30 PM Mass (Church) and by appointment.

**Holy Eucharist:** Available for those who are sick and confined to home. Call the Parish Office and we will bring the Eucharist to you.

**Anointing of the Sick:** Available for those who are seriously ill or anticipating surgery after the 7:30 a.m. Mass every Sunday at the Church at St. Mary's, and by request.

**Marriage:** Anyone who wishes to marry should contact the Office at least six months prior to the desired date.

**Inactive Catholics:** Are lovingly welcome back to the faith. **New Parishioners** are joyfully invited to join our community. Please call the Parish Office.

## Parish Clergy

Rev. Louis F. Vallone      Rev. Regis J. Ryan  
Rev. Robert J. Zajdel      Deacon Robert J. Stein

## Staff

Mr. John Fatula, *Director of Religious Ed.*  
Ms. Elna Johnson, *Director of Music*  
Mrs. Mary Ann Jones, *Director of Finances*  
Mrs. Janice Lipa, *Parish Secretary*  
Mr. Andrew Burkholder, *Cemetery Manager*  
Mr. Wayne Summers, *Maintenance Supervisor*  
Mr. Steven Swank, *Youth Minister*

## Safe Environment Coordinators

Mr. John Fatula, *Sunday School*  
Mr. Steven Swank, *Parish*



**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT****MASS INTENTIONS**

*Sat., Dec. 3 to Sun., Dec. 11, 2011*

- Saturday Vigil, Dec. 3:** 4:30 PM Church  
In Honor of the Infant Jesus (Rosemarie)
- Sunday, Dec. 4:** 7:30 AM Church  
Louis & Josephine Demmel (Son, Don)
- Sunday, Dec. 4:** 9:30 AM Chapel  
Anniv - Joseph, Frank & Beatrice Spadaccia (Angela & Marian)
- Sunday, Dec. 4:** 11:30 AM Church  
Anniv - Carl T. Wincalow (Bobby & McKenzie Wissner)

**WEEKDAYS — 9:30 AM CHURCH**

- Monday, Dec. 5:** Harry Wagner (Family)
- Tuesday, Dec. 6:** Madeline Pandocchi (Sister, Angela)
- Wednesday, Dec. 7:** Thomas "Bull" Brennan (Children)

**FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

**Wednesday Vigil, Dec. 7: 4:30 PM, Church**  
Mary Mell (Family)

**Thursday Holy Day, Dec. 8: 9:30 AM, Church**  
Parish Family of Saint John of God

**Thursday Holy Day, Dec. 8: 6:30 PM, Church**  
Butch Smarra (Family)

**Town Hall Meeting Following 6:30 PM Mass**

- Friday, Dec. 9:** Anniv - William Weisser (Wife, Gen)
- Saturday, Dec. 10, 1:00 PM, St. Mary Cemetery Chapel**  
*Mass celebrated for all our beloved dead of our parish  
and those buried at our cemeteries*

- Saturday Vigil, Dec. 10:** 4:30 PM Church  
Anniv - James Mars (Family)
- Sunday, Dec. 11:** 7:30 AM Church  
Edward E. Martonik (Children)
- Sunday, Dec. 11:** 9:30 AM Chapel  
Anniv - Mary Aluise (Family)
- Sunday, Dec. 11:** 11:30 AM Church  
Anniv - Charles Butter (Family)

**Readings for the Week of December 4, 2011**

*Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8*

*Monday: Is 35:1-10/Lk 5:17-26*

*Tuesday: Is 40:1-11/Mt 18:12-14*

*Wednesday: Is 40:25-31/Mt 11:28-30*

*Thursday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Eph 1:3-12/Lk 1:26-38*

*Friday: Is 48:17-19/Mt 11:16-19*

*Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Mt 17:9a, 10-13*

*Next Sunday: Is 61:1-11/1 Thes 5:16-24/Jn 1:6-8, 19-28*

**FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**

This Thursday, 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, Wednesday Vigil, 4:30 PM, Church**

**Dec. 8, Thursday, Holy Day:**  
9:30 AM Church and 6:30 PM Church.

**TOWN HALL MEETING**

Following the 6:30 PM this Thursday, 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.

**STEEPLE CHASE  
BOUNTIFUL HARVEST RAFFLE**

All 1,000 tickets were sold. We definitely have a winner, however, we are unable to announce the winner this week due to bulletin deadline. Our thanks to all the sponsors, the dedicated sellers and buyers of the tickets. Watch for next week's bulletin for the name of the winner and the seller of the winning ticket. Thanks for your support!

**ANGEL TREE:  
Reminder To Those Who Took An Angel**

All gifts must be returned by next Sunday, Dec. 11. Thank you.

**GREAT GIFT IDEA**

Super Bowl Square(s) . . . can be used as a stocking stuffer or a grab bag gift or that gift for someone who has everything. See the bulletin for complete details. Remember we will even gift wrap.

**BAPTISMAL PROGRAM FOR NEW  
AND EXPECTING PARENTS**

The class will be held next Sunday, Dec. 11, from 1:00 to 4:00 PM in Mother of Sorrows Chapel. To register or for more info, call John Fatula at 412-331-8501.

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS:**  
**9:00 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M. (MONDAY THRU FRIDAY)**

**Bulletin Deadline: Tuesday Noon**



**YOUTH NEWS**

Teens in grades 8-12 are invited to visit the Pittsburgh Crèche (the world's only authorized replica of the Vatican Crèche) and then go ice skating at the PPG Rink on Friday, Dec. 23. Rink admission is \$7 per person plus \$3 for skate rental. Sign-up deadline is Monday, Dec. 19. To sign up, contact Steve at 412-331-8525 or [sigyouthmin@yahoo.com](mailto:sigyouthmin@yahoo.com).



**R.C.I.A. NEWS**

The Rite of Acceptance into the Order of Catechumens and the Rite of Welcoming for those already Baptized will be celebrated this Sunday, Dec. 4, during the 9:30 AM Mass in Mother of Sorrows Chapel. We offer our special prayers for those entering the Catechumenate: *Christina Adams, Charity King, Alyssa Stangl, Sidney Stangl, Elton Worthington* and for our Candidates already Baptized: *Michael Adams, Lisa Adomites, Carolyn Kilonsky, John West, Jr.*

May God's loving guidance be with them as they continue their journey into full initiation into the Catholic Church.

**REPORTING CHILD ABUSE**

As you have seen in the bulletin, SJG has a "Parish Protocol for Reporting Suspected Child Abuse." Please keep in mind that this is the protocol if you *suspect* child abuse. If you *witness* child abuse, or if you believe that a child is in immediate danger, **call 911**.

Detailed information regarding this is available in the green booklets entitled "Reporting of Child Abuse and The Protective Services Law of Pennsylvania" which are available in the vestibule of the Church and Chapel and at the Parish, Religious Education, and Youth Ministry/Safe Environment Offices.

**PARISH WEEKEND ATTENDANCE**

**November 26 / 27**

Saturday .....	322
Sunday .....	502
Total Weekend Attendance.....	824

**PARISH FINANCIAL TOTALS**

**For the Weekend of November 26 / 27**

Regular Offertory Collection .....\$ 5,711.75

(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 2011 (adjusted) .....	\$82,901.00
Contributions to date .....	\$100,579.25
Excess Parish Share.....	\$17,678.25

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.

*Saint John of God, Pray for us.*

**COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE**




Some of our young members will be celebrating the Sacrament of Penance for the first time **next Tuesday, Dec. 13, at 6:30 PM in St. John of God Parish, St. Mary's Church**. This will take place

during an Advent Communal Penance Service to which the entire parish family is invited and encouraged to participate in. This will be the perfect opportunity to go to confession before Christmas.

**THE WEEK AHEAD**

**Dec. 5 (Mon.)** - Miraculous Medal Novena Prayers recited in St. Mary's Church - Rosary begins 6:30 PM.

**Dec. 6 (Tues.)** - St. Anthony Novena Prayers recited following the 9:30 AM Mass in St. Mary's Church.

**Dec. 6 (Tues.)** - Adult Choir Rehearsal, 7-9 PM  in St. Mary's Church - More info call Elna 412-812-4549

**Dec. 7 - 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. 8 (Thurs.)** - Town Hall Meeting immediately following the 6:30 Mass in St. Mary's Church.

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

**Dec. 9 (Fri.) - PIZZA KITCHEN!** To order please call 412-331-8530 on Fridays, 8 AM to 1 PM. Orders must be picked up by 3:30 PM.

**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.

**WIN FREE BINGO ADMISSION FOR ONE YEAR!**

That's right, our **EIGHTH ANNUAL BINGO BONANZA!** This year we are, once again, giving away a Bingo Pass for the entire year of 2012. Join us for Bingo on the following Wednesdays - DECEMBER 7, DECEMBER 14, DECEMBER 21 and DECEMBER 28 to be eligible for this spectacular give-a-way. On Wed., December 7 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 Wed., December 28. 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 28 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.

**ADVENT SPECIALS**

During the month of December, the Pizza Kitchen will be selling fresh made Ricotta Gnocchi (quick frozen). Orders can be place by phone (412-331-8530) on Fridays from 8 AM through 1 PM and pick-up times are 11 AM through 3:30 PM on Fridays during Advent. We are placing a limit of three 2 lb. bags this Advent Season due to the high demand of this delicious dish. The price for the Gnocchi is \$7.00 for a 2 lb. bag.

**SANCTUARY CANDLE - WEEK OF DECEMBER 4**

**ST. MARY'S** - IN MEMORY OF MICHAEL HERBST AND VIVIAN HERBST MOCHNICK BY ELAINE HERBST FAMILY

**MOTHER OF SORROWS** - IN MEMORY OF MICHAEL FEDIO BY TERRY

**2012 CALENDARS**

2012 Catholic Church calendars are available at all entrances to the Church at St. Mary's and the Chapel at Mother of Sorrows. Remember to stop after Mass and pick one up.

**SECOND COLLECTION**

Next weekend, Dec. 10/11, the second collection will be for the Parish Share Program. Thank you in advance for your generosity and support.

**PITTSBURGH CATHOLIC MAGAZINE**

A few complimentary copies of the Christmas Traditions of the *Pittsburgh Catholic Magazine* are available in back of the Church and Chapel. This issue features a bit of what makes life extraordinary during this time of year, including on page 14, *10 Ways to Prepare for Advent*. As always, money-saving opportunities are provided from the advertisers and one lucky person will win two tickets to Kennywood Park; see pg. 38. Please feel free to take a copy home with you today.

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS / BISHOP'S PROJECT**

It is once again time for the annual Bishop's Project sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, Crafton Council 875. There are envelopes at all doors of the Church and Chapel filled with stickers that you can use on your Christmas cards and letters. We ask that you replace the stickers with a donation that you can afford to give. You can return your donation in the collection basket at Mass. Those who may prefer to mail theirs in may do so. Just put SJG on the envelope so we may get credit for the mailing. All proceeds help the McGuire Home and St. Anthony Programs that serve the needs of children with special needs.

**HOSPITAL**

Please pray for all parishioners who are in the hospital. *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 the Family of Walter "Pete" Bateman, Kenneth Tucker and Victoria Fantozzi whom God has called. Please remember them and all our dearly departed and their families in your prayers.

*"May the Angels lead them into paradise, may the martyrs receive them at their coming and take them to Jerusalem, the holy city."*

**STEELERS FOOTBALL POOL WINNERS**

**November 27, 2011**  
**Steelers vs. Chiefs**



**Half Time Score: Steelers 13 Chiefs 6**

LYDIA owned by Marlene Hawk \$100  
Dollar Girl owned by Linda Kyle \$100

**Final Score: Steelers 13 Chiefs 9**

Steel City Mafia owned by Veronica Peduzzi \$150  
I F G T owned by Jean S. Wilczynski \$150

**CONGRATULATIONS and LET'S GO STEELERS!**

**PRAYER FOR OUR SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN**

*Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. Amen.*

**MONTHLY FOOD COLLECTION**

Our parish will collect non-perishable food, as well as paper products and soap, for the needy among us. You may bring your donation with you to any Mass next weekend, Dec. 10/11. Thanks in advance for helping us to help others.

**STEEPLE CHASE SUPER BOWL 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. 5, 2012 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 \$35 and will have four payouts for a total of **\$1,700: \$100** 1st qtr., **\$500** half time, **\$100** 3rd qtr. and **\$1,000** final.

The other pool will cost \$100, and will have four payouts for a total of **\$5,000: \$500** 1st qtr., **\$1,000** half time, **\$500** 3rd qtr., and **\$3,000** final. (Payment plan is available for the \$100 pool only, final payment due January 25, 2012.) For this pool only you will get 4 sets of numbers. One set for each quarter. The first set will be for 1st quarter score, the second set for half-time score, the third set for the 3rd quarter score and the last set for the final score.

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. **Don't be left out!**

Purchase a square for yourself or partner with a friend. Consider buying some as Christmas or birthday gifts (**we will even gift wrap for you**). Name your block and fill out the form below. Go Steelers! Questions?? Call Terry 412-331-3443 or Charlotte 412-331-2453.

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**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. QUESTIONS??? CALL TERRY 412-331-3443 OR CHARLOTTE 412-331-2453/

(PAYMENT PLAN AVAILABLE FOR \$100 POOL ONLY)

\_\_\_\_\_ Square(s)@**\$35/square (\$1,700 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 \_\_\_\_\_

**OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE MASS**

All are invited to join Bishop David Zubik and Latino Catholics for the annual Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass on Monday, Dec. 12, 7 PM at St. Paul Cathedral in Oakland. A festive reception will follow the liturgy in the Cathedral's social hall.

*Our Lady of Guadalupe is the Patroness of the unborn and St. Joseph is the Patron of the unborn. Pray for us.*

**FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS**



A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols will be presented next Sunday, Dec. 11, at 3 PM in Holy Trinity Polish National Catholic Church, 200 Grace St, Stowe Twp. This is the authentic traditional English service that is still staged each Christmas Eve morning at Kings College in Cambridge, England and broadcast at 10 AM on PBS/BBC Radio.

The event will feature the Holy Trinity choirs and guest musicians. For your enjoyment, a special Ziti dinner will follow the Lessons and Carols. Also, not to worry, because our Steelers have no game on Dec. 11! Donation \$10.00. For directions and info, please call 412-760-4558. Come, and get into the **real** spirit of Christmas.

**PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

St. Malachy PTG is holding a Pancake Breakfast **this Sunday, Dec. 4**, from 8 AM to 1 PM in Weirauch Hall. Because Pumpkin pie pancakes were such a hit last month, they will be served again this month along with traditional pancakes. Price for adults is \$5 and children (age 2-12) \$3.00. Breakfast also includes your choice of pancake flavor, bacon or sausage, coffee, tea and juice.

**CHRISTMAS ON BROADWAY**

Better watch out, better not cry, better not shout, I'm telling you why ... SANTA CLAUS is coming to Marge's Diner to CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS ON BROADWAY, SATURDAY, DEC. 10, 3:30 PM TO 5:30 pm Come For: **Free** photos with Santa Claus, **Free** face painting, **Free** horse drawn carriage rides, **Free** Christmas loot bags for every child, **Free** kids crafts to make and take, **Tree lighting** at the old Parkway Theater at 5:00 PM. Sponsored by the Stowe Township Community Life Committee.



*Remember Saint John of God Parish in your will.*

*Please keep our Priests, Seminarians, Deacons and all Religious in your prayers.*

**PASTOR'S CORNER**  
*Fr. Lou Vallone*

"It's gotta be the goin', not the getting there, that's good." Harry Chapin

This quote is a leftover. It is from a song by one of my favorite musical artists, about riding a Greyhound Bus. I had intended to use it in a Pastor's Corner a few weeks ago on the same subject, but I had run out of time and energy and could find no way to work it in. But like any good homemaker, I save employable leftovers for recycling and future use. (In this post Thanksgiving season, how many of you, like me, had turkey in some form for a meal last week? I thought so. You can put your wings, I mean arms, down now.)

I've found another use for the sentiment in the quote as I face the 43rd anniversary of my 21st birthday. Turning 64 (for you New Math students that had trouble figuring that one out) can cause one to take stock of where he has arrived in life. I am not rich, famous, powerful, envied, and I never was good looking to begin with. People my age elsewhere are millionaires, CEOs, government leaders, bishops (in fact, Archbishop Wilton Gregory former president of the National Conference of Bishops and archbishop of Atlanta was born within one hour of me), celebrities, military commanders, published authors, heads of families (including some grandparents!). Some are retired: some are even dead. I am now basically what I was almost 40 years ago: a simple parish priest. (I will admit, however, that I am now a Pastor, instead of an assistant. And of, not one, but TWO parishes. But since there are half as many priests active in Pittsburgh as there were when I was ordained, I am doing everything I did then, plus everything that a Pastor has to do now. I'm not so sure this is progress!)

If I were to brood over "the gettin' there" I might be prone to discouragement because, in comparison to some, it does not seem that I have gotten very far. In

continued next column . . .

terms of destination or arrival, a case might be made for disappointment. This is the root, I think, of what many call the "male menopausal syndrome". It is the perspective that gives rise to the "midlife crisis" that many experience. (For the record, since I intend to live to at least 130, I have not yet entered middle-age.)

But if one truly believes that it is "the goin' that's good", another picture entirely emerges. God blessed me with a stellar extended family by birth: parents, siblings, cousins, grandparents, aunts, uncles: all part of a noble and nourishing heritage. I have never wanted for the necessities of life: food, clothing, shelter. I was the recipient of values and faith and support and acceptance. I was given outstanding opportunities in education and work experience. I have traveled and recreated, met many people and been exposed to many cultures. I have learned innumerable skills and enjoyed good health.

But most of all, at all times and places in my journey through life, I have had love profligately showered upon me, and I have been able to return it abundantly. Indeed, it is the going (living), not the getting there (status), that is good. If I can manage to get in my annual Advent Retreat this month, I will endeavor to thank my dear God for another year, and for all of you who have made it so.

And, by the way, it ain't Christmas till it's Christmas.

*Happy Birthday, Fr. Lou - December 7*



2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT



**Diocesan Victim Assistance Hotline**  
**1-800-808-1235**

*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.*