



THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK
Sat., Jan. 12, 2008 to Sun., Jan. 20, 2008

- Saturday Vigil, Jan. 12:** 4:30 PM Church
 Wilfred "Bob" Roussey (Mr. & Mrs. Steve Homer)
- Sunday, Jan. 13:** 7:30 AM Church
 Charles & Ann Wagner with Bob & Tom remembered (Family)
- Sunday, Jan. 13:** 9:30 AM Chapel
 Elizabeth Spadaccia with daughter, Lucille Renschler remembered (Family)
- Sunday, Jan. 13:** 11:30 AM Church
 For Parish Family of St. John of God

WEEKDAYS — 9:30 AM CHURCH

- Monday, Jan. 14:** Andy Leto (Jan & Harry Griser)
- Tuesday, Jan. 15:** Ann Giedl (Lillian Pelkington)
- Wednesday, Jan. 16, 8:15 AM, Chapel:** For St. John of God School Staff and Students
- Wednesday, Jan. 16:** Anniv - Edward Bukowski (Theresa)
- Thursday, Jan. 17:** Katherine Van Dyke Belgium (Catherine Quest)
- Friday, Jan. 18:** Anna Tempalski (Family)

- Saturday Vigil, Jan. 19 :** 4:30 PM Church
 James Vlasach (Chris & Linda Miller)
- Sunday, Jan. 20:** 7:30 AM Church
 For Parish Family of St. John of God
- Sunday, Jan. 20:** 9:30 AM Chapel
 Anniv - Dominic DiMichele (Wife, Dolly & Family)
- Sunday, Jan. 20:** 11:30 AM Church
 Carl Erharth (Mr. & Mrs. James Cosgrove)

Readings for the Week of January 13, 2008

- Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Acts 10:34-38/Mt 3:13-17
- Monday: 1 Sm 1:1-8/Mk 1:14-20
- Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20/Mk 1:21-28
- Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Mk 1:29-39
- Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11/Mk 1:40-45
- Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Mk 2:1-12
- Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Mk 2:13-17
- Next Sunday: Is 49:3, 5-6/1 Cor 1:1-3/Jn 1:29-34

SANCTUARY CANDLE - WEEK OF JAN. 13

- St. Mary's** - In Memory of Hank Golembiewski by Agnes & Terry
- Mother of Sorrows** - In Memory of Pat Funwela by Mr. & Mrs. Louis Bacco

In Case You Didn't Get The Epiphany Prayer

20 C+M+B 08

Lord God of heaven and earth, You revealed your only begotten Son to every nation by guidance of a star. Bless this house and all who inhabit it. Fill them with the light of Christ, that their concern for others may reflect your love. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

YEAR-END STATEMENTS

We will be mailing to you a list of your contributions for 2007 by January 31, 2008. If you do not receive envelopes, you will not receive a report. If you receive envelopes, but didn't use them, you will receive a report marked \$0.00 contributions, and the computer may deactivate you. You may be removed from the envelope list. And your status is reduced to inactive parishioner, which means that you will not qualify for things like sponsorship certificates and a number of other things. Of course, you always have the right to come to Church, receive the sacraments if you are spiritually disposed and call upon the clergy for pastoral service. But you will lose some of the privileges of active participation.

Since we will not compute the report till the end of January, you have time to make contributions for the 2007 year, but you must make it clear to us that it is to be credited to the 2007 account. We have started the 2008 contribution records already.

ATTENDANCE AT ST. JOHN OF GOD PARISH FOR THE WEEKEND OF DEC. 29 / DEC. 30

Saturday	340
Sunday	827
Total Weekend Attendance	1,167
Total Weekend Offortory	\$6,203.59
Solemnity of Mary, January 1, 2008	\$3,060.00

ATTENDANCE AT ST. JOHN OF GOD PARISH FOR THE WEEKEND OF JAN. 5 / JAN. 6

Saturday	350
Sunday	830
Total Weekend Attendance	1,180
Total Weekend Offortory	\$5,727.50
Parish Share Assessment 2008	\$87,038.00
Parish Share Collected to Date (Thank You!)	\$625.00
Balance on Parish Share	\$86,413.00

You can see that we have received our Parish Share Assessment for 2008. We are allocating to that. More information to come in February about our 2008 assessment.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

The deadline to sign-up for the roller skating party is this Thursday, 1/17! The skating party will take place Monday, January 21 (NO SCHOOL - Dr. Martin Luther, King, Jr. Day) from 1:00 to 4:00 PM at the Neville Roller Drome. Cost is \$5.00 per person plus \$1.50 for skate rental. To sign-up contact Steve Swank at 412-331-8573 x11 or sjgyouthmin@yahoo.com.



Teens in grades 9-12 are invited to go to Seven Springs Mountain Resort on Saturday, January 26.



There are many activities available including skiing, snow boarding, snow tubing, and much more (check out www.7springs.com).

Sign-up deadline is 1/23. *Adults who are registered in the Diocesan database are needed to drive - if you can help please call the Youth Office.*

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT SUNDAY FOR THE ST. ANTHONY SCHOOL PROGRAMS AND DEPAUL SCHOOL FOR HEARING AND SPEECH

Next Sunday, Jan. 20, is very special because the second collection will be used to carry on the much needed services to students with special needs provided by St. Anthony School Programs and DePaul School for Hearing and Speech.

This collection is a two-fold win. Not only does it help two very unique and nationally recognized education programs for special needs children, all proceeds collected will be credited towards our Parish Share Assessment for 2008. Please be as generous as your means allow.

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE PRIESTHOOD

The office for Vocations is hosting an overnight gathering at Saint Paul Seminary Friday and Saturday, January 25-26, 2008 for all college and career age men who are interested in learning more about the priestly formation program, seminary life, and the priesthood itself. The schedule includes time for prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, discussions led by our seminarians, a review of the priestly formation program by the Rector, Father James Wehner, and opportunity for individual discussion with the Diocesan Vocation Director, Father Thomas Sparacino. For more information, please contact Father Thomas Sparacino at 412-672-9763 or Father James Wehner at 412-456-3048.

ST. JOHN OF GOD SCHOOL NEWS

Dear Parishioners - We recently completed a Middle States Survey as a step to continuing certification by this organization. We have discovered from replies to our survey that you do not know a lot about us! So, we are going to publish a weekly information column to update you about St. John of God School.

In 1999 we had 65 students K-8 and 15 pre-school children. Today we have 160 students K-8 and 35 in the pre-school. That is a rather phenomenal increase. The increase is largely due to the tremendous financial help from our funder, Mr. Bill Wolf, the Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh, the PA/EITC legislation, the support of St. John of God Parish, and perhaps most of all our wonderful teachers, great parents, and of course those who really make the school, the tremendous children.

We believe our educational program is excellent! We would like to increase our enrollment to at least 200 for the year 2008-2009. If you are interested in Catholic education at St. John of God School, come visit us. There is great financial help available.

During Catholic Schools Week, Jan. 27 to Feb. 8, 2008, stop in and see us. Visit the classes. Join in the various activities. We are an educational institution, but more that that we are a community of Faith, learning, friendship! Come and see!



A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

The words in today's Gospel, "This is my beloved, with Him I am pleased" are words every child needs to hear often.

Affirmation is important to raise happy and confident children.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Jan. 14 (Mon.) - Miraculous Medal Novena Prayers recited in St. Mary's Church - Rosary begins at 6:30 PM.

Jan. 14 (Mon.) - St. Vincent de Paul Meeting, 7 PM in the Gathering Place

Jan. 15 (Tues.) - St. Anthony Novena Prayers recited following the 9:30 AM Mass in St. Mary's.

Jan. 16 (Wed.) - WEDNESDAY NIGHT BINGO - MOS Social Hall - Doors open at 5 PM - Early Birds 7 PM - Reg. Games Begin at 7:15 PM.

Jan. 16 (Wed.) - Cub Scout Meeting, 6:30-8:00 PM in the Gathering Place.

Jan. 18 (Fri.) - PIZZA KITCHEN! To order call 412-331-8530 on Fridays, 8 AM-1 PM - Orders must be picked up by 3:45 PM.

SYMPATHY

We wish to extend our sympathy to the Families of Clara Kozak, Charles Sendek, Virginia Leja, Marie Pekosky, Gertrude Amon, Mary DiVecchio, Frank Sicilia (father of Frank (Janet) Sicilia), and Ann Wilson (wife of Joseph Wilson) whom God has called. Please remember them and all our dearly departed in your prayers. *"May the Choirs of Angels receive them, and may they with the once poor Lazarus, have rest everlasting."*

**HOSPITAL**

Please pray for all parishioners who are in the hospital, especially: **Sewickley** - Helen Valicenti **Veterans** - Joseph Marczak **St. Margaret** - Jerry Krauth *Also for those ill at home, in nursing homes, and shut-ins, that they may continue to receive the Lord's Blessings.*

**PRAYER SERVICE FOR THE
SACREDNESS OF LIFE AND SUPPLICATION
FOR THE VICTIMS OF ABORTION**

As we commemorate this year the sad 35th Anniversary of Roe v Wade (Decided on January 22, 1973); the parish family of St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church invites you to a Prayer Service for the Sacredness of Life and Supplication for the Victims of Abortion, which will take place at St. George's on Sunday, January 20, starting at 3 PM. Let us join together and raise our voices in an invocation for life against the culture of death. The Theme 2008 is "Build Unity on the Life Principles throughout America. No Exception! No Compromise!" Let us pray for the protection of life and to end the merciless shedding of innocent blood in our nation and throughout the world. Following the Prayer Service light refreshments will be served in the Church hall. For more information, you may call 412-766-8801.

SPAGHETTI DINNER

The Sto-Rox Girls Softball Association is sponsoring a Spaghetti Dinner this Sunday, January 13, 2008 from noon to 6 PM at the #5 Preston Hose Club, 369 Helen Street in McKees Rocks Bottoms. Dinner includes spaghetti, meatballs, roll, & salad. Donation is \$7.00 for adults and \$3.50 for children under 12. Tickets will be available at the door. There will also be a Bake Sale, 50/50 Raffle, and Chinese Auction. For more information, please call Joe Miller at 412-331-3492.

**WORLD DAY OF CONSECRATED LIFE**

February 3, 2008

On Sunday, February 3, 2008, World Day of Consecrated Life will be celebrated in St. John of God Parish. The theme for this year is "Blessed." We will celebrate at the 11:30 AM Mass the lives of all the consecrated religious who have gone before us, and those who continue in the day-to-day faithfulness of their lives. Sr. Virginia Marie Klonowski, CSSF will be the guest homilist at the 11:30 AM Mass on this day. Refreshments will be served after Mass. Look for more information in the coming weeks.

**MEN'S RETREAT REMINDER**

The men of St. Catherine of Siena, Crescent Twp. extend an invitation to all men of St. John of God Parish to join them for a weekend retreat at St. Paul of the Cross Retreat Center on January 25-27, 2008. Conducted by the Passionist Fathers, the retreat offers a quiet, prayerful setting overlooking the city from a hill-top site on the South Side.

Five Good Reasons To Go On A Retreat

1. Because you're too busy.
2. Because God may be inviting you.
3. Because you're undecided about some things and want time to get your thoughts in order.
4. Because you just want to feel closer to our Lord.
5. Because you want to take a break and call time out. It's a chance to clear your head - and your heart.

For more information, please call Jim Barcaskey, 724-457-7764 or Bob Bittner, 724-378-0903

DIOCESAN ADULT FAITH FORMATION SERIES

Christ says "he who is faithful in little things shall be faithful in big things." Mike Clark, well-known TV News Anchor reflects upon the challenges that crop up in day to day life and the virtues necessary to remain faithful when things get difficult. Mike Clark has been anchoring the news at WTAE-TV Channel 4 since 1995. Mike's work as a news anchor, reporter and writer has been recognized for its excellence. He was cited for his distinguished field anchoring of Pope John Paul II's visits to the United States and has received the Cardinal Fulton Sheen Television Award for his series of reports on the presentation, **"The Everyday Challenge to Follow Christ's Path"** to be held at St. Paul Seminary Auditorium, Thursday, Jan. 24 at 7:30 PM. Continuing education credit is available for priests, deacons and catechists. The lecture is free - all are welcome to attend. Bring a friend.

ANNUAL RESPECT LIFE MASSES

The Pittsburgh Chapter of the Knights of Columbus will hold their annual Respect Life Mass at St. Paul Cathedral in Pittsburgh's Oakland neighborhood on Sunday, January 20, 2008 at noon. At the same time, Parish Respect Life Chairpersons will be commissioned.

Auxiliary Bishop Paul J. Bradley will be the Celebrant for the Mass. For more information, call Chapter Respect Life Coordinator, William Schmidt, at 412-766-6574.

A reception will follow the Mass in the church hall. Susan Rauscher, Secretary, Social Concerns and Director of the Office for Respect Life, will speak on pro-life issues after Mass in the church hall.

On Tuesday, January 22, Bishop Bradley will celebrate a Respect Life Mass at Noon at St. Mary of Mercy Parish, downtown.

The Mass coincides with those thousands of persons participating in the annual March for Life in Washington, D.C. Pittsburgh Bishop David Zubik will be at the march. It marks the 34th anniversary of the 1973 Supreme Court decision in the Row v. Wade case that legalized abortion in the U.S.

WORLD MARRIAGE DAY

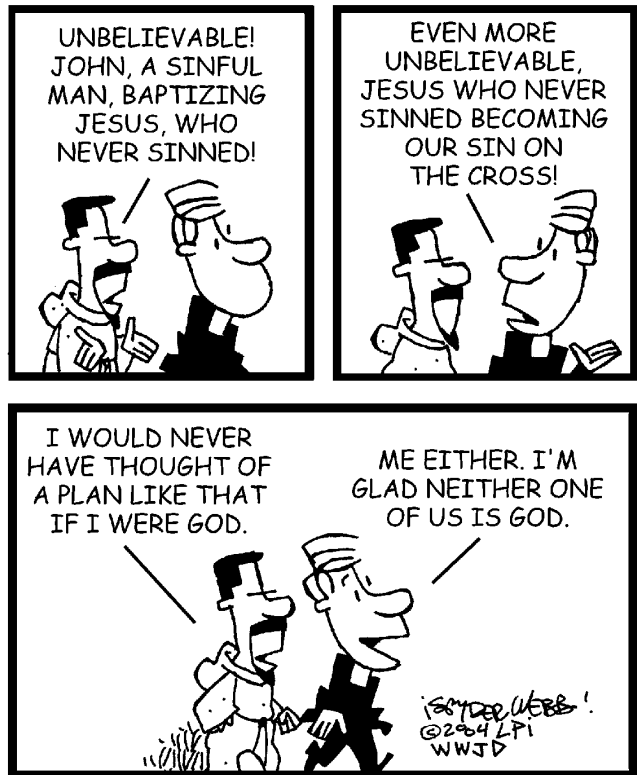
World Marriage Day is celebrated the weekend of February 2-3, 2008. There will be a Diocesan celebration of World Marriage Day on Saturday, Feb. 2, 2008 at St. James Parish in Sewickley. It will begin with Mass at 5 PM in the Church with Bishop Winter, as the presider and homilist. Following Mass there will be a wine and cheese reception in the parish hall. A presentation by Fr. Dan Valentine will follow. Donation is \$10.00/couple. To register please call the Office for Family Life and Catechesis at 412-456-3160.

HALUSKI DINNER

The Sisters of St. Francis of the Providence of God is sponsoring a Haluski Dinner. The Dinner will include one quart of Haluski (cabbage, noodles and select spices) with rolls and butter. Donation: \$5.00

To order your dinner, please call 412-885-7232. Orders will be taken until noon on Friday, February 1. Haluski Order Pick-Up: Wednesday, February 6, 2008 - 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM at the Sisters of St. Francis of the Providence of God, 3603 McRoberts Road in the South Hills. Proceeds benefit the Sisters of St. Francis of the Providence of God.

BAPTISM OF OUR LORD



THE SERVANT OF GOD

POST-ABORTION HEALING

Rachel's Vineyard, a weekend retreat designed to heal the emotional and spiritual wounds of abortion, will be held on February 1-3, 2008. Open to both women and men, the retreat will take place at the Spiritual Center in Bethel Park. Rachel's Vineyard provides a beautiful experience of God's love, forgiveness, and compassion for those struggling with abortion's aftermath. There is a fee to cover the cost of food and lodging, but financial aid is available. Catholic Charities and the Diocese of Pittsburgh are co-sponsors. To register or for more information, call Ann Depner or Karen LaFrance at 412-456-6999 by January 25.

DAY OF REFLECTION

St. Joseph Spirituality Center will sponsor a day of reflection, *How Did Jesus See God? Reflections from the Gospel of Luke*, on Saturday, January 19, from 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM. In this day of prayer, Rev. Bonnie Thurston, a Scripture scholar, explores how Jesus' images of God in Luke's Gospel might inform our own. After thinking about the nature of "God talk," Dr. Thurston will review St. Luke's images of God and Jesus' use of "Abba." The day will include talks, conversation, and personal quiet time. A fee of \$25 includes lunch. To register, contact Sister Marian Mills at 412-571-5441 by January 14.

PASTOR'S CORNER
Fr. Lou Vallone

"Free at last, free at last, thank God almighty, free at last!" These are the stirring words of one of the greatest men of our era, the Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., a martyr to the cause of human rights. His rhetoric and spirituality and hard work were largely responsible for a long overdue revolution in our civil laws and public practices in this country that were founded on the principles of human equality, but often ran counter to those principles in action.

When Dr. King preached about freedom in the sixties, he mostly spoke about freedom from: freedom from discriminatory laws that denied certain living areas to certain people; freedom from agreements in institutions of learning that denied knowledge; freedom from rules that excluded social and cultural opportunities on the basis of race; freedom from conspiracies that prevented skilled and talented people from earning a living through honest labor because of the color of their skin. In short, he preached about freedom from the institutionalized abuses that prejudice and bigotry had made a way of life among people to the harm and hurt of their brothers and sisters.

Dr. King was killed in the midst of his crusade against these enslaving conditions, but in large part, through legal actions and changes in society's practices, freedom from these things has become the law of the land. But his words are not yet a complete reality, because there is another dimension to freedom, the freedom to: the freedom to develop each individual as a unique child of God; the freedom to allow skill, talent and intelligence to be used to their fullest for the common good of

continued next column . . .

everyone; the freedom to respect, defend and accept all people as family, including the most vulnerable - the unborn, the elderly, the handicapped, the poor, the lonely; the freedom to embrace everything that this earthly life offers, and to which all of us are called, regardless of incidental human accidents such as race, nationality, sex, creed.

God the Father initiated our path to freedom in creating each and everyone of us; God the Son showed us the way by becoming one of us and dying for our freedom; God the Holy Spirit daily nourishes us and our hope and courage as we work for that freedom. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and others died so that we might experience that freedom. It is up to all of us to live our individual lives to establish forever that freedom, to and from, so that all might be "free at last."



After Jesus was baptized, he came up from the water and behold, the heavens were opened for him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming upon him. And a voice came from

the heavens, saying, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." - Mt 3:16-17

THE P.V. REPORT
Fr. Al Semler

It's great being in sunny Florida. But "all good things must come to an end." I'll return this Friday evening, but then I'll be going to St. Catherine of Siena for the weekend. So, I'll be seeing you soon. Let's continue to pray for each other.

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.