**SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK
Sat, Feb. 16, 2008 to Sun, Feb. 24, 2008

Saturday Vigil, Feb. 16: 4:30 PM Church
 Anniv - Anthony J. DeAngelis (Wife, Mary)

Sunday, Feb. 17: 7:30 AM Church
 For Parish Family of St. John of God

Sunday, Feb. 17: 9:30 AM Chapel
 John LaCivita (Louis & Jane Bacco)

Sunday, Feb. 17: 11:30 AM Church
 Mary Tomei (Tomei Family)

WEEKDAYS — 9:30 AM CHURCH

Monday, Feb. 18: Angeline Molitoris (Dave & Angie Spinelli)

Tuesday, Feb. 19: Col. Richard Fischer (Jean & Bob Butter)

Wednesday, Feb. 20, 1:15 PM, Chapel:
 Sister Margaret Berry, CSJ

Wednesday, Feb. 20: Joseph Keintz (John Blaha)

Thursday, Feb. 21: Anniv - June Scanlon (Children)

Thurs., Feb. 21, Stations of the Cross, 1:15 PM, Chapel

Friday, Feb. 22: Ruth Resetarits (Husband, Bill)

Friday, Feb. 22, Stations of the Cross, 6:30 PM, Church

Saturday, Feb. 23, 2:00 PM, Church

Wedding - Jan Brake and Kristin Marks

Saturday Vigil, Feb. 23: 4:30 PM Church
 Wilfred (Bob) Roussey (Wife & Family)

Sunday, Feb. 17: 7:30 AM Church
 For Parish Family of St. John of God

Sunday, Feb. 24: 9:30 AM Chapel
 Anniv - Lucille S. Renschler (Helen Haas)

Sunday, Feb. 24: 11:30 AM Church
 James N. Caputo (Carol & Bill Bayer)

Readings for the Week of February 17, 2008

Sunday: Gn 12:1-4a/2 Tm 1:8b-10/Mt 17:1-9
 Monday: Dn 9:4b-10/Lk 6:36-38
 Tuesday: Is 1:10, 16-20/Mt 23:1-12
 Wednesday: Jer 18:18-20/Mt 20:17-28
 Thursday: Jer 17:5-10/Lk 16:19-31
 Friday: 1 Pt 5:1-4/Mt 16:13-19
 Saturday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
 Next Sunday: Ex 17:3-7/Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn 4:5-42

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross will be celebrated in St. John of God Parish every Friday during Lent at 6:30 PM in St. Mary's Church and on Thursdays at 1:15 PM in the Chapel at Mother of Sorrows.

**PENANCE SERVICE IN OUR DEANERY**

During Lent 2008 Bishop David A. Zubik will be holding Penance Services with individual Rite of Reconciliation at nine different parishes encompassing the 16 deaneries of the Diocese between February 7 and March 11, 2008.

In our area, Bishop Zubik will be celebrating a Penance Service at St. Margaret Mary Parish in Moon Township at 7 PM on Monday, February 18. All parishioners throughout our deanery are invited to attend.

ADULT LENTEN SERIES

Our sister parish, St. Catherine of Siena Parish, Crescent Township, invites all parishioners to an Adult Lenten Series on four consecutive Thursdays beginning February 21, at 6:30 PM in Siena Hall. Fr. Dennis Bradley of Ascension Parish will be the Celebrant at the series and will be speaking on the Passion Narratives. All are most welcome. For more information, please call St. Catherine's at 724-457-7026.

**ECUMENICAL SERVICES**

The traditional Lenten Ecumenical Services will continue on the Tuesday evenings during Lent in St. John of God Parish, the Church at St. Mary's at 7:30 PM. This year's theme for the services is the "Beatitudes."

This Tuesday, February 19, Christ Community Church will conduct the services with Rev. Wayne Meyer as Celebrant focusing on "Blessed Are the Poor in Spirit." A social will follow the services in the Gathering Place. Everyone is most welcome and encouraged to join us for these spirit-filled evenings.

SPECIAL FOOD COLLECTION

Our Parish of St. John of God will collect non-perishable food, as well as paper products and soap, to benefit the Boy Scout Troop 905, Eagle Scout Project, Our Lady's Pantry, at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart High School. You may bring your donation to any Mass next weekend, Feb. 23 & Feb. 24. Thanks in advance for your help.

COVERED DISH DINNER
February 19, 2008

The Women's Guild Covered Dish Dinner will be held this Tuesday, February 19, at 6 PM in the Social Hall at Mother of Sorrows. All women of St. John of God Parish are invited. Come spend an enjoyable evening with friends. Please RSVP to: Marge Ferraro, 412-331-9983 or Anna Marie Stropkaj, 412-771-2392 (let them know what you will be bringing).



YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

This Monday, February 18 (President's Day - NO SCHOOL) is the "Sundae Monday" ice cream social from 1:00 to 4:00 PM in the Youth Center. All teens in grades 8-12 are invited. We'll be playing games, watching movies, and eating plenty of ice cream! To sign up contact Steve at 412-331-8573 x11 or sigyouthmin@yahoo.com.

DAY OF RECOLLECTION

The Christian Mothers of St. Frances Cabrini Church, Center Township, have scheduled a Day of Recollection for Tuesday, March 4, 2008. Fr. Lou Vallone, Pastor, St. John of God Parish and St. Catherine of Siena Parish, will preach the sermon and conduct devotions. The events of the day will begin in the morning at 9:30 AM and conclude in the afternoon at 3:00 PM. The program will consist of conference, confessions, devotions, lunch and celebration of the Eucharist. A buffet luncheon will be served at Noon, catered by Diva DeSantis, Roma Catering. The complete cost for the day is \$10 per person. Please send your reservations with check, payable to St. Francis Cabrini Christian Mothers to: Mrs. Theresa Colalella, 113 Mengel Avenue, Aliquippa, PA 15001 or Mrs. Dolores Lucente, 112 Fronko Street, Monaca, PA 15061. Reservations must be made by Tuesday, Feb. 26, 2008. The cost of \$10.00 must be included with your reservations.

FIRST PENANCE AND COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE



Our children will be celebrating **First Penance** on Monday, March 10, at 6:30 PM in St. Mary's Church. This will take place during a **Communal Penance Service** to which the whole parish is invited and encouraged to participate in. This would be the most opportune time to go to confession before Easter. For more information, please call John Fatula at 412-331-8573.

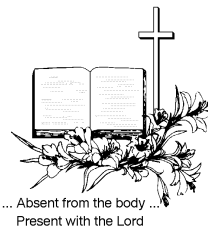
CONGRATULATIONS

Our parish family of St. John of God extends prayerful congratulations to Carlos Carrabbia, Calvin Mullen, and Brandt Wilson on the blessings they received from Bishop Zubik last Sunday at St. Paul Cathedral in preparation for the Easter Sacraments.

Parish Office Hours:

9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. (Monday thru Friday)

Bulletin Deadline: Tuesday Noon



... Absent from the body ...
Present with the Lord

SR. MARGARET BERRY, CSJ ENTERED INTO ETERNAL LIFE FEBRUARY 13, 2008

The Sisters of St. Joseph, Baden, PA ask for your prayers for the soul of Sister Margaret Berry, CSJ, Principal of St. John of God School, who died early Wednesday morning, February 13, 2008. Viewing will be at the St. Joseph Motherhouse, Baden, PA on Sunday, February 17, from 1:00 PM to 8:00 PM and on Monday, February 18, from 11 AM to 2:30 PM. Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Monday at 3:00 PM. In the Motherhouse.

Please Note: The **1:15 PM** St. John of God School Mass at the Chapel on Wednesday, Feb. 20, will be for the repose of the soul of Sister Margaret. Everyone is welcome to join us.

SYMPATHY



We wish to extend our sympathy to the Families of Charles Elizer, Armand Pasquarelli, and Sr. Margaret Berry whom God has called.

Last October, three Sisters of Divine Providence celebrated 75 years in religious life. The three, Sisters Rosaria (Mary) Bednar, Ancilla (Mary) Taus, and Amadeus (Theresa) Bauer, started first grade together at St. Mary's School, entered the Congregation of the Sisters of Divine Providence together, and celebrated their diamond jubilee together. Last week, two of the sisters were called home to the God they served so faithfully. Sister Ancilla died on February 5 and Sister Amadeus died on February 9.

Please remember them and all our dearly departed in your prayers. *"They whom we love and lose are no longer where they were before. They are now wherever we are."*

HOSPITAL

Please pray for all parishioners who are in the hospital, especially: **Marian Manor** - Stu Hergenroeder **Veterans/Aspinwall** - Joseph Marczak, Frank Pavlakovich

Also for those ill at home, especially Marie Kresak, in nursing homes, and shut-ins, may continue to receive the Lord's Blessings.

BIBLE STUDY

All are invited to a Bible Study, led by John Fatula, on Wednesday, Feb. 20, 6:30 PM in the Chapel at Mother of Sorrows. All are most welcome.

ATTENDANCE AT ST. JOHN OF GOD PARISH
FOR THE WEEKEND OF FEB. 9 / FEB. 10

Saturday	387
Sunday	737
Total Weekend Attendance.....	1,124
Total Weekend Offertory.....	\$6,472.50
Parish Share Assessment 2008	\$87,038.00
Parish Share Collected to Date (Thank You!).....	\$8,138.24
Balance on Parish Share	\$78,899.76

Stay tuned for more info about our 2008 assessment.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Feb. 18 (Mon.) - Miraculous Medal Novena Prayers recited in St. Mary's Church - Rosary begins at 6:30 PM.

Feb. 18 (Mon.) - Making Gnocchi, 6 PM, Pizza Kitchen

Feb. 19 (Tues.) - St. Anthony Novena Prayers recited following the 9:30 AM Mass in St. Mary's.

Feb. 20 (Wed.) - **WEDNESDAY NIGHT BINGO** - MOS Social Hall - Doors open 5 PM, Early Birds 7, Reg. Games 7:15

Feb. 20 (Wed.) - Cub Scout Meeting, 6:30-8:00 PM in the Gathering Place.

Feb. 22 (Fri.) - **PIZZA KITCHEN!** To order call 412-331-8530 on Fridays, 8 AM-1 PM - Orders must be picked up by 3:45 PM.

PIZZA KITCHEN NEWS

During Lent our Pizza Kitchen has added homemade Gnocchi to the weekly menu. The Gnocchi are sold in two pound bags. This special is in addition to our weekly menu which includes Italian Pizza, White Pizza, Pasta & Beans, Spinach Rolls, and Fried Cakes. Falagones are available the first Friday of each month.

We will gather this Monday evening, Feb. 18, at 6 PM to make the Gnocchi. Thanks to those who have joined us the past few weeks to make Gnocchi. We look forward to seeing you this Monday. For more information, please call Linda at 412-771-1418.

YOUNG ADULTS WELCOMED

The Partnership for Youth Transition Support Group meets monthly offering support and activities for ages 14-21. The topic "How to deal with a Bully" will be the focal point of the February 25 meeting at 4:00 PM at the Focus on Renewal Health Center, 710 Thompson Avenue. Please contact Christina at 412-331-2434, ext. 26 for more information.

SANCTUARY CANDLE - WEEK OF FEB. 17

St. Mary's - In Memory of Bob Crawford by special friend, Donna **Mother of Sorrows** - In Memory of Madeline Catanzarite by Family

CALLING YOUNG ADULTS

Young adults—married or single—join other young adults from the Pittsburgh area for a talk by Dr. Edward Sri on how Pope John Paul II's practical wisdom can transform your relationships with the opposite sex. This free event will be held February 29, 7 PM at the Gilmory Center, located near the Pittsburgh airport at 601 Flaugherty Run Road, Coraopolis, PA. A free will offering will be taken. For more information, please call 412-264-8400.

VERONICA'S VEIL

"Veronica's Veil", America's Passion Play, begins its 89th season of presentations on Saturday, March 1 and will run through Sunday, March 16 at the Veronica's Veil Auditorium, 44 Pius Street, South Side. The famed production is a spoken drama, and critics have been lavish in praising this richly staged drama as a delight and inspiration to audiences of all ages and faiths. The play will be presented on weekends during the Lenten season. For reservations please call 412-431-5550.



Or, is God calling me to HELP in the Pizza Kitchen!!!

EVENING OF REFLECTION

The Christian Mothers of St. Joseph Parish, 1304 Fourth Avenue, Coraopolis will be offering an Evening of Reflection on Wednesday, Feb. 20. Join Regis Flaherty, best seller author and speaker as he presents the topic, *Marriage is a Sacrament*. The talk begins at 8:00 PM and is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Jan at 412-264-3231.



BC VARSITY HOCKEY VS PITTSBURGH FIREFIGHTERS

On Saturday, February 23, the Bishop Canevin High School Varsity Hockey team will face the Pittsburgh Firefighters in a charity game to benefit the North Stars Special Olympic Floor Hockey Team. The game will be held at the Mt. Lebanon Recreation Center, 8 PM. Admission is \$2.00, 10 and under are free. There will also be a 50/50 and more. Please come and support such a great charity game.

FAITHFUL CITIZENSHIP: CATHOLICS AND POLITICAL RESPONSIBILITY

As Catholics, we are both obligated and privileged to participate in shaping a moral society. How does our Faith - and our understanding of the dignity of all human life - infuse our participation in political life?

On seven dates from January through March, representatives of the Diocese of Pittsburgh will offer presentations on the U.S. Bishops' document, *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship*. The presentation will examine our obligations as Catholics to be active in the political process and to vote with an informed conscience. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

In our area, St. Malachy Parish will host this presentation on Thursday, February 21, from 7:00 to 9:00 PM. RSVP is requested so that sufficient seating and materials may be made available. Please call 412-456-3156. A \$5 donation per person would be appreciated to help offset the cost of materials (collected at the event).

WEEKEND TRIP

Saturday and Sunday, July 12-13, 2008 - "Shrines, Silos, Sightseeing & Shows"

Travel to Akron, Ohio and visit the Shrine of Our Lady Comforter of the Afflicted, the Shrine of Our Lady of Lebanon, and the National Shrine of St. Dymphna, overnight stay with breakfast at Quaker Square Inn, Sunday Mass at St. Vincent's, tour of Akron, and lunch at Carousel followed by a spectacular show "Viaggio". Watch dazzling performances and unbelievable acrobatics. Deposit of \$125.00 due by March 3, 2008. \$219 double/\$199.00 triple/\$269.00 single. For information, call Patricia Graw at 412-521-3183. Sponsored by the Catholic Business and Professional Women's Association. Men are always welcome.

THE P.V. REPORT Fr. Al Semler

It's time to think FESTIVAL '08!

We need to decide should we do it or not. I heard so many say, "I'm getting too old for this" last year. So, I'll be looking for commitments to move forward. We're looking at the dates of August 6, 7, 8 and 9. This will avoid the August 15 Holy Day. I'm calling a meeting for Sunday, March 2, at 4:00 PM at the Social Hall. We'll have some food and beverages available. I'll be looking for some young people to get involved. We'll review last year's "numbers" and decide if we want to "do it."

EASTER BREAD

Anna Marie Stropkaj, President of the Women's Guild, along with the ladies of the Guild (and their helpers, too) will be baking their traditional, delicious Easter Bread again this year on Monday, March 10 and Tuesday, March 11. An order form will be forthcoming in the bulletin.

DONATIONS

We are asking for donations of ingredients (flour, sugar, eggs, margarine, oranges) or money to buy these ingredients to help defray the cost of this project. You may bring your donation any Thursday or Friday morning to the Pizza Kitchen or Wednesday evenings to the Bingo. Monetary donations can be put in the collection basket in an envelope marked "Easter Bread" or given directly to the parish office. Thank you in advance. For more information, please call Anna Marie Stropkaj at 412-771-2392.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!

We are very grateful that this tradition will continue this year, but our volunteer force is thinning out. Without volunteers this project will become a memory of the past. If you can help out anytime during the two days, we can put you to work. Please call Anna Marie Stropkaj at 412-771-2392 or the parish office. Don't forget, we make enough bread to share with the shut-ins of the parish to let them know they are always remembered in our daily prayers and are still an important part of St. John of God Parish. If you are looking for a special Lenten service, this would surely be something worthwhile.



PASTOR'S CORNER*Fr. Lou Vallone*

This week a parishioner from a former parish told me he was celebrating the 13th anniversary of quitting smoking. He attributed it to a Lenten Pastor's Corner I had written in 1995 and asked if I could repeat it in the hope of inspiring others. Here it is. Too bad I couldn't do as well for myself. What is the saying? "Physician, cure thyself!"

I kid myself that I am not really hooked. After all, I no longer buy them by the carton, only one or two packs at a time. I do not smoke the same brand, but rather try to change from pack to pack. I get lights or even ultra-lights whenever possible (although always menthol). And I won't pay full price. I wait for specials like two-for-one. Or use coupons. And if I don't find them, then I do without. (Actually, what I do is go from store to store until I find a discount.)

I am of course talking about cigarettes. After smoking for 17 years, I had given them up for three years but then I resumed again about 18 years ago. I do not want to admit that I am as entrenched in the habit as I was the first time around, so I resort to these subterfuges to assuage my conscience. But my mental fabrication occasionally frays around the edges.

I always look for "bonuses" if I cannot find discounts. I therefore have a drawer full of lighters, Frisbees, sweat bands, notebooks, sunglasses, T-shirts, plastic ice cubes and various and sundry other items that come free with the purchase of two packs of cigarettes. But today I hit a new low. There were no two-for-one offers, I had no coupons, there were no discounts. there was not time to hunt from store to store for a cheaper purchase. And my

continued next column . . .

nerves were too shot to do without. The only bonus being offered was a free make-up application brush with two packs of a brand whose taste I hate - but with a sufficient amount of nicotine to steady my hands. I therefore managed to preserve my principles - and my illusions - by becoming the proud owner of a totally (for me!) useless make-up brush. Such are the ways we rationalize our weaknesses.

During the Lenten season we are called upon to cast aside our ways of sin in penitential preparation for Easter. But what is so hard to cast away is not the sin itself, but rather our self-images, illusions and rationalizations that under gird those sins. We manipulate ourselves into preserving our "principles" even to the point of absurdity. And the days of Lent flow on. But they, like our time in this world, will eventually come to an end. Would it not be better that our sins and illusions end before we do?

(By the way, would anybody like to trade me a cheap pack of ultra-light menthols for a very valuable make-up brush?)

Have a good Lent!

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

Today's Gospel tells us to LISTEN which is a challenge as cell phones, IPODS, TV and radio constantly distract us.

This Lent dedicate 10 minutes a day to sit quietly and allow God to speak to your heart.

Caution: Listening to God can change you and your family.

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.