

**PALM SUNDAY**

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK
Sat, March 15 to Sun, March 23, 2008

Saturday Vigil, March 15: 4:30 PM Church
 Wilfred "Bob" Roussey (Wife & Family)

Sunday, March 16: 7:30 AM Church
 For Parish Family of St. John of God

Sunday, March 16: 9:30 AM Chapel
 Frank DeMarco (Brother, Roxey and Kathy)

Sunday, March 16: 11:30 AM Church
 Anniv - James Vlasach (Wife & Children)

WEEKDAYS — 9:30 AM CHURCH

Monday, March 17: Anniv - Josephine Bridickas (Family)

Tuesday, March 18: Sophie Jencik (Susan, Michael, Alexis & Nicholas Norman)

Tuesday, March 18, 6:30 PM, Chapel
 Frank Mazza (Daughter, Lois) St. Anthony Novena, wk 1

Wednesday, March 19, 8:15 AM, Chapel: For Students and Staff of St. John of God School

Wednesday, March 19: In Honor of St. Joseph (Charlotte)

Holy Thursday, March 20: 6:30 PM
 Mass of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday, March 21, Noon:
 "Why Must He Die"

Good Friday, March 21, 6:30 PM:
 Liturgical Services

Saturday, Easter Vigil, March 22: 9:30 PM Church
 For Parish Family of St. John of God

Easter Sunday, March 23: 7:30 AM Church
 For Parish Family of St. John of God

Easter Sunday, March 23: 9:30 AM Chapel
 For Parish Family of St. John of God

Easter Sunday, March 23: 11:30 AM Church
 For Parish Family of St. John of God

**HOLY
 WEEK**

Readings for the Week of March 16, 2008

Sunday: Mt 21:1-11/Is 50:4-7/Phil 2:6-11/Mt 26:14-27:66 or 27:11-54

Monday: Is 42:1-7/Jn 12:1-11

Tuesday: Is 49:1-6/Jn 13:21-33, 36-38

Wednesday: Is 50:4-9a/Mt 26:14-25

Holy Thursday: Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper:
 Ex 12:1-14/1 Cor 11:23-26/Jn 13:1-15

Good Friday: Is 52:13-53:12/Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9/Jn 18:1-19:42

Saturday: Gn 1:1-2:2 or 1:1, 26-31a/Gn 22:1-18 or 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ex 14:15-15:1/Is 54:5-14/Is 55:1-11/Bar 3:9-15, 32-4:4/Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28/Rom 6:3-11/Mt 28:1-10

Easter Sunday: Acts 10:34a, 37-43/Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8/Jn 20:1-9 or Mt 28:1-10

ST. ANTHONY NOVENA BEGINS

Our annual thirteen-week Novena in Honor of St. Anthony of Padua will begin this Tuesday, March 18 at the 6:30 PM Mass in the Chapel at Mother of Sorrows. Come join with many other parishioners and friends as we celebrate Liturgy each Tuesday and join in the traditional prayers of the novena following the homily. Bring a friend, bring your special requests and intentions and pray with St. Anthony to the power of the Gospel and the Eucharist.

SEVEN CHURCH VISITATION

Following our Parish's celebration of the Mass of the Lord's Supper at 6:30 PM on Holy Thursday, Mar. 20, we will once again have a bus going on the traditional Seven Church Visitation. Everyone is invited to participate in this beautiful old custom of visiting seven churches as prayerful pilgrims. Sign-up sheets are posted in the Church and Chapel if you would like to join us. If you forget to sign up you are still most welcome to come. The bus will leave from St. Mary's parking lot following the Mass and return approximately at 11:30 PM to St. Mary's.

COLLECTION FOR THE NEEDY

On Holy Thursday, a collection will be taken at Mass for the needy of the parish. There is an envelope in your packet of envelopes for you to use for this donation. Thanks in advance.

DONATION ON GOOD FRIDAY FOR THE HOLY LAND

The annual collection for the shrines (and people) of the Holy Land will be taken up on Good Friday, March 21. Please respond as generously as possible.

BLESSING OF BIKES

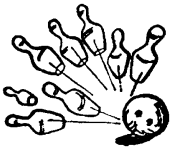
On Palm Sunday, March 16, immediately following the 11:30 AM Mass in St. Mary's, we will have the annual Blessing of the Bikes sponsored by the Mon Valley HOG (home owners group). After the blessing, we will go on a short run, weather permitting. If anyone has a motorcycle bike or any bike and would like to be a part of the blessing, you are most welcome to join us.

**PARISH OFFICE CLOSED**

The Parish Office will be closed on Good Friday, March 21 and Easter Monday, March 24.

**Bulletin Deadline for Easter Sunday, March 23:
 MONDAY NOON**

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS



Teens in grades 8-12 are invited to go Cosmic Bowling on Friday, March 28 from 9:00 PM to Midnight at Paradise Island Bowl! Cost is \$16 per person (includes show rental) and the sign-up deadline is 3/27. To sign-up contact Steve at 412-331-8573 x11 or sjgyouthmin@yahoo.com.

ATTENTION TEENS IN GRADES 9-12

High School aged teens of the Diocese are invited to a special youth welcome for Bishop David A. Zubik. The event will be held on April 6, at Bishop Canevin High School. It will start with a concert, then prayer, followed by a reception. For details and registration information, please call the Youth Office.

PIZZA KITCHEN NEWS

The Pizza Kitchen will be closed on Good Friday, March 21. We will be back in operation the following Friday, March 28.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

There is no Sunday School on Palm Sunday, March 16 or Easter Sunday, March 23. Classes will resume the following Sunday, March 30.

ATTENDANCE AT ST. JOHN OF GOD PARISH FOR THE WEEKEND OF MAR. 8 / MAR. 9

Saturday	268
Sunday	815
Total Weekend Attendance.....	1,083
Total Weekend Offertory.....	\$4,692.45
Parish Share Assessment 2008	\$87,038.00
Parish Share Collected to Date (Thank You!).....	\$22,786.51
Balance on Parish Share	\$64,251.49

HOSPITAL

Please pray for all parishioners who are in the hospital, especially: **Shadyside** - Eleanor Hermanowicz **Kindred** - Marianne Caristo **Veterans/Aspinwall** - Joseph Marczak, Frank Pavlakovich *Also for those ill at home, in nursing homes, and shut-ins, may they continue to receive the Lord's Blessings.*

SYMPATHY

We wish to extend our sympathy to the Families of Thomas Gault, Raphaelina "Rae" Mishizen, Agnes Bialek (wife of Stanley Bialek) and Rose Filipovitz whom God has called. Please remember them and all our dearly departed in your prayers.
"May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

EASTER BLESSING OF THE FAMILIES

On Easter Sunday, March 23, Bishops David Zubik, Paul Bradley and William Winter will welcome families of the Diocese to their Annual Blessing of Families at St. Paul Cathedral, Oakland beginning at 3:00 PM. As they greet and bless your family personally, they affirm and support you as a household of love and witnesses to your faith. All families, nuclear, single parent, blended, extended, etc. are invited to come and experience the Bishops' expression of appreciation for the gift that you are and the gifts that you bring to our Diocese. Each family attending will receive a special memento to take home and the children will receive a sweet treat.



BAPTISMAL FOR NEW AND EXPECTING PARENTS

The next program will be held on Sunday, April 6, from 1-4 PM in the Chapel at Mother of Sorrows. To register or for more information, please call John Fatula at 412-331-8573.

THE WEEK AHEAD

- March 17 (Mon.)** - Miraculous Medal Novena Prayers recited in St. Mary's Church - Rosary begins at 6:30 PM.
- March 18 (Tues.)** - St. Anthony Novena Prayers recited following the 9:30 AM Mass in St. Mary's and at the 6:30 PM Mass in Mother of Sorrows.
- March 19 (Wed.)** - **WEDNESDAY NIGHT BINGO** - MOS Social Hall - Doors open 5 PM, Early Birds 7, Reg. Games 7:15
- March 19 (Wed.)** - Cub Scout Meeting, 6:30-8:00 PM in the Gathering Place.
- March 21 (Good Friday.)** - **Pizza Kitchen Closed!**

DISCERNMENT RETREAT

The Sisters of St. Joseph will sponsor a Discernment Retreat - *How Do I Know What God Is Calling Me To In Life?* - for women who are exploring their particular calling in life. The retreat will be held the weekend of April 4-6. Beginning on Friday, April 4, at 7:30 PM and concluding on Sunday, April 6, at Noon, this retreat provides a welcoming environment and prayerful atmosphere for women seeking to listen for God's voice and to pay attention to their inner longings, desires, and aspirations. The fee of \$110 (\$60 for students through scholarships from the CSJ Vocation Appeal Fund) includes meals, lodging, and program materials. For further information, contact Sr. Dorothy Pashuta at 412-661-2528 by March 25.



Palm Sunday: *Blessing and Procession with palms at all Masses*

Saturday, March 15, 2008:

4:30 PM Church @ St. Mary's

Sunday, March 16, 2008

7:30 AM Church @ St. Mary's

9:30 AM Chapel @ Mother of Sorrows

11:30 AM Church @ St. Mary's

1:00 PM Blessing of Bikes
Parking Lot @ Church @ St. Mary's



HOLY TRIDUUM

Holy Thursday, March 20, 2008

6:30 PM Church @ St. Mary

At the conclusion of the Mass, there will be a solemn procession with the Blessed Sacrament to the place of reposition. The Church will remain open for visitation or adoration until 12 Midnight.

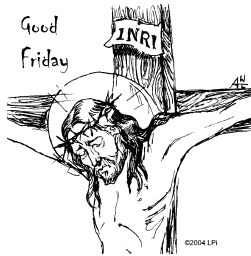
*There will be a bus for the **Seven Church Walk** leaving the Church following the Mass.*

Good Friday, March 21, 2008

Noon, 12:00 PM Church @ St. Mary's

Ecumenical Service

WHY MUST HE DIE?



Presented by the 25 member Teen Chorale of the Tri County Choir Institute. The cast is comprised of students from area junior / senior high schools and colleges. This play is a meditation through music, liturgical dance and drama on the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. All are cordially invited to come for this spiritually uplifting presentation. A free-will offering will be taken.

6:30 PM Liturgical Services Church @ St. Mary's

Reading of the Passion, Veneration of the Cross, and Holy Communion

Holy Saturday, March 22, 2008

Noon, 12:00 PM Church @ St. Mary's

Blessing of Easter Food

Easter Vigil, 9:30 PM Church @ St. Mary's

*Reception of the R.C.I.A. Candidates into Full
Communion with the Church*

Easter Sunday March 23, 2008

7:30 AM Church @ St. Mary's

9:30 AM Chapel @ Mother of Sorrows

11:30 AM Church @ St. Mary's

Blessing of Children with their Easter Baskets after each of the Masses



COME AND SEE WEEKEND

Saint Paul Seminary
High School and College Students

*Celibacy and Chastity:
Priestly Service in Today's Society*

Friday, April 4 to Sunday, April 6, 2008
Call Father Wehner ~ 412-456-3048

- *Learn More About the Priesthood
- *Meet the Seminarians
- *Prayer — *Recreation — *Fellowship
- *Parish Vocation Visits

THE P.V. REPORT
Fr. Al Semler

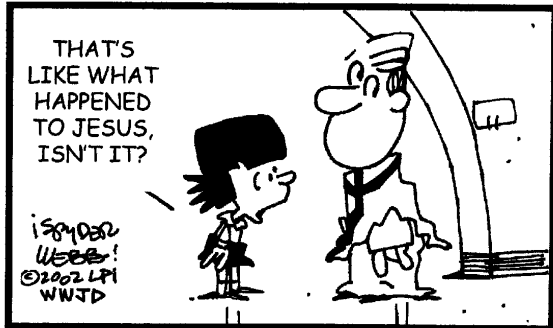
Holy Week! We have entered the most Holy and Solemn week of our Liturgical Year. My prayer for you is that this will be your best EVER. Please MAKE TIME to attend some "extra" Church services. I especially recommend that you come for "Why Must He Die" on Good Friday at 12 Noon. Every time I've seen it, it gave me a powerful spiritual "uplift". Just think, the alleluias are only a week away. Prepare well for them.

WILD IRISH FLING



Mark your calendar and plan to be at the "Wild Irish Fling" on Saturday, March 29, from 7:00 PM to ? in the Social Hall at Mother of Sorrows. By then we will be in the glorious Easter season and ready to kick up our heels to the tunes of a great D.J. Cost is \$10 per person which includes a light buffet. B.Y.O.B. (set-ups provided) - Beer sold separately. This event is being sponsored by the St. John of God Women's Guild. For more information or to make a reservation, please call Eleanor Vith at 412-331-3832 or Anna Marie Stropkaj at 412-771-2392. Reservation deadline is Monday, March 24, 2008.

PALM SUNDAY



TICKETS UNLIKELY FOR PAPAL VISIT TO WASHINGTON AND NEW YORK

During the upcoming visit April 16-20 by Pope Benedict XVI to the archdiocese of Washington and New York, there are two public Masses scheduled. There has been a high level of interest in the availability of tickets for those Masses, one to be held at Nationals Park in Washington and the other at Yankee Stadium in New York.

It is extremely unlikely that any tickets will be available for those Masses, or any other events associated with the Holy Father's visit, outside of the two host archdioceses and their immediate neighboring dioceses. Because the chance is so remote, the Diocese indicates that calling or writing to request tickets will serve no point, and in light of the very few tickets that will be made available, if any, the Diocese will not be in a position to take any names or to maintain any waiting lists.

Both public Masses will be broadcast live on EWTN which is available locally. We hope you will be able to follow this historic pastoral visit through television coverage and the pages of the *Pittsburgh Catholic*.

WEST HILLS SYMPHONIC BAND CONCERT

When: Sunday, March 30, 2008 at 3:00 PM
Where: West Allegheny High School, Imperial, Pa
The West Hills Symphonic Band concert is offered free to the public, promoting the fine arts in the West Hills community since 1967 and saluting our country's military veterans and active service personnel. Selection highlights will include "Overture to Candide", "The Gladiator", "The Wizard of Oz" and other fine musical literature.

PASTOR'S CORNER*Fr. Lou Vallone*

(Because of an accelerated deadline for the bulletin with Holy Week coming up, and at the request of a former parishioner from a former parish who now is a current parishioner at one of my current parishes, I am re-editing a Pastor's Corner from eight years ago. The illustrations are dated, the message relevant. Fr. Lou)

I just finished filling out the 2000 US Census - for the third time. Several weeks ago a census worker dropped off the forms. I filled out my section, gave the sheets to the other priests, and we sent it back to the worker. Then a form came in the mail. I called the census worker and was told that the first one was just for "practice", we would have to fill the new one out "for real". Again, I did my part, and passed it on to the others, and we mailed it. Then Monday I was called and told that the one we sent in was wrong - it was for family homes - not "group residences" which is the category a rectory is in, and so again we go through the process. Maybe the third time will be the charm.

Last night at my SCUBA club meeting, we were asked to fill out a survey on diving practices, injuries and medications for a study being done by a local doctor. It was about 10 pages long with all sorts of arcane questions, such as "Have you ever been knocked unconscious, and for how long each time?" and "What, if any, illegal drugs have you used before diving?" and my favorite "Only answer if you are female - Have you ever dived while pregnant?" I'm glad they instructed me not to answer that.

This morning I received a multi-page survey in the mail from the Archdiocese of New York, congratulating me as being only one of 1,000 Pastors in the US being chosen to fill out this

continued next column . . .

information for a study on pastoral practices. It said that it should only take 2 hours to fill out, and could I return it by March 23? Obviously, anyone who sends such a thing to a parish priest on the eve of Holy Week and wants a return by Easter needs to know what real pastoral life is like!

All of these questionnaires shared one thing in common. The person filling it out is assured absolute anonymity. The surveyors only want the facts, not the persons. The what is important, the who is irrelevant. In short, they seek the crowd, not the individual.

Beginning today, we celebrate the cycle of the mystery of our redemption: Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Sunday. In the original events, there were plenty of crowd scenes - from cheering throngs to jeering mobs to cowardly rabble to depressed congregations to jubilant flocks. For the most part, all the individuals in these assemblies remain anonymous to this day, but what they did is well recorded and even memorialized in our liturgies this week.

I assure you, however, that each and every person who participates in the liturgies of this Holy Week at both the Rocks and at Crescent are not faceless and nameless, at least in the eyes and heart of our God. It is not just what you do this week, but who you are that counts. We have many varied opportunities to be together to honor our Redemption (please see the schedule elsewhere in the Bulletin.) I hope each activity has crowds and throngs and mobs and congregations and flocks. But know that here, it is each one who participates that is appreciated and welcomed as a person, and not a statistic.

See you in Church, all week long I hope. A blessed Holy Week, not to the crowd, but to each of you individually!

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.