**SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER****MASS INTENTIONS**

Sat., April 18 to Sun., April 26, 2009

- Saturday Vigil, April 18:** 4:30 PM Church
Kay & Ed Zamanski & Nick Pappaterra (Mary Frydlewicz)
- Sunday, April 19:** 7:30 AM Church
Nick Liberato (Ron Amity)
- Sunday, April 19:** 9:30 AM Chapel
Gus Faramelli & Bumbaca Family (Ida & Family)
- Sunday, April 19:** 11:30 AM Church
Irene Martonik (Helen & Robert Kutrufis)

WEEKDAYS — 9:30 AM CHURCH

- Monday, April 20:** Michelina Lalama (Family)
- Tuesday, April 21:** Delena Alfarone (Mr. Ann Petrucci & Family)
- Wednesday, April 22 8:30 AM, Chapel:** *Students and Staff of St. John of God School*
- Wednesday, April 22:** Anniv - Anthony Salnoris (Wife, Helen & Children, Jerry & Anthony)
- Thursday, April 23:** Anniv - Anna Bennett (Daughter, Mary DeAngelis)
- Friday, April 24:** Marco DiCesarespada (Family)
- Wedding, Saturday, April 25, 2:30 PM, Church**
Ashley Butker and Ryan Patton

- Saturday Vigil, April 25:** 4:30 PM Church
Patricia Delfondo (Daughter, Suzan Schanin)
- Sunday, April 26:** 7:30 AM Church
Anniv - Thomasina Cassiani (Husband, John & Family)
- Sunday, April 26:** 9:30 AM Chapel
Olga Crivelli (Peter Tarquinio)
- Sunday, April 26:** 11:30 AM Church
Anniv - Nick Urich (Wife & Family)

Readings for the week of April 19, 2009

- Sunday:** Acts 4:32-35/1 Jn 5:1-6/Jn 20:19-31
- Monday:** Acts 4:23-31/Jn 3:1-8
- Tuesday:** Acts 4:32-37/Jn 3:7b-15
- Wednesday:** Acts 5:17-26/Jn 3:16-21
- Thursday:** Acts 5:27-33/Jn 3:31-36
- Friday:** Acts 5:34-42/Jn 6:1-15
- Saturday:** 1 Pt 5:5b-14/Mk 16:15-20
- Next Sunday:** Acts 3:13-19/1 Jn 2:1-5a/Lk 24:35-48

**WELCOME**

Our parish family of St. John of God offers prayerful congratulations to Cathleen Kilonsky, Renee Namisnak, Cynthia Sheets, Dale Warner, Jayne Warner and Robert Weeden on their initiation into full membership with the Church at the Easter Vigil. We also offer prayerful congratulations to Desmond Sharp who was Baptized and received the Eucharist for the first time and Kathryn Warner who was Baptized. May our Risen Savior, Jesus Christ, continue to bless you with grace throughout your lives of faith.

ST. ANTHONY NOVENA

The 13-week novena to St. Anthony continues this Tuesday, April 21, 2009 (week 6). The novena prayers will be recited after the 9:30 AM Mass in St. Mary's Church and at 6:30 PM (novena prayers only) at Mother of Sorrows Chapel.

**FATHER RYAN ARTS CENTER
SPRING 2009**

**ARTS EDUCATION SHOWCASE
SUNDAY, APRIL 26; 3 PM**

420 Chartiers Ave, McKees Rocks

End of Semester Performances & Exhibits

Visual Arts :: Theater :: Dance :: Music

Call: 412-771-3052 for more information

Tickets: Adults \$6; children \$4 (12 & younger)

HAVE YOU HEARD?

McKees Rocks is sponsoring a Community Clean-Up Day on Saturday, April 25, 2009 from 9 AM to 4 PM. Individuals and families are all welcome to take part in this worthwhile project for the community. All volunteers are asked to contact McKees Rocks Mayor, Jack Muhr, at 412-331-2303 to let him know how many people to count on. Be a block leader and insure your neighborhood participates. Everyone is to meet at the McKees Rocks Municipal Parking lot at the corner of Bell and Linden. Trash bags and gloves will be provided.



**BAPTISMAL PROGRAM FOR NEW
AND EXPECTING PARENTS**

The program will be held this Sunday, April 19 from 1-4 PM in the Chapel at Mother of Sorrows. To register or for more information, call John Fatula at 412-331-8573.

Parish Office Hours:

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

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

Attention teens in grades 8-12! Join us for a fun afternoon on Sunday, May 17. We'll begin with Mass at Noon at St. Paul Cathedral, then venture over to the Original Hot Dog Shop for lunch, and then return to the cathedral lawn for a game of Ultimate Frisbee! To sign-up, contact Steve at 412-331-8573 or sigyouthmin@yahoo.com (sign-up deadline is Tuesday, May 12).

FOCUS ON RENEWAL 40TH ANNIVERSARY



St. John of God Parish is pleased to partner with Focus on Renewal for their 40th Anniversary Founders' Day celebration on Monday, April 20 from 10 AM to 12 Noon. Light refreshments will

be served (while they last) in the Rectory and brochures about Focus on Renewal's many programs will be available.

Focus on Renewal is holding Open House in 40 locations and will also hold a Rededication and Blessing Ceremony at the FOR Community Center at 1 PM on April 20. Special guests include Father Donald Fisher and Sister Paulette Honeygosky, the original founders of FOR, along with many long term employees and volunteers. To help make this event a true celebration of community, donations of cookies, soda or bottled water are welcome. Please call Maree Gallagher at 412-771-6460, ext 300 to make a donation.

THE WEEK AHEAD

April 20 (Mon.) - Miraculous Medal Novena Prayers will be recited in St. Mary's Church - Rosary begins 6:30 PM.

April 20 (Mon.) - Mass at Mary Pat Rickerd Personal Care Home, 1:30 PM, Mass Intention: Kenneth Chestnutt by Wife, Mary and Family

April 21 (Tues.) - St. Anthony Novena Prayers recited following the 9:30 AM Mass in St. Mary's and at 6:30 PM in Mother of Sorrows (wk 6 of 13 wk novena).

April 21 (Tues.) - Choir Rehearsal, 7-9, MOS Chapel

April 22 (Wed.) - **WEDNESDAY NIGHT BINGO** in MOS Social Hall - Doors open at 5 PM, Early Birds 7 PM, Reg. Games begin at 7:15 PM.

April 22 (Wed.) - Cub Scout Meeting, 6-7:30 PM in the Gathering Place.

April 24 (Fri.) - Mother of Sorrows Novena Prayers recited following 9:30 AM Mass, St. Mary's Church.

April 24 (Fri.) - **PIZZA KITCHEN!** To order please call 412-331-8530 on Fridays, 8 AM – 1 PM. Orders must be picked up by 3:45 PM.

ST. JOHN OF GOD SCHOOL NEWS

REGISTRATION AND ENROLLMENT

New students are being enrolled now through May 15th. Our class size is limited to 25 and financial aid is available. Please call the school office at 412-331-8501 for more information or to tour the school.

ONE MORE TIME TO MAKE GNOCCHI!!
MONDAY, APRIL 27TH

We would like to make gnocchi one more time before the Pizza Kitchen closes for the summer. Join us on Monday, April 27th at 6:30 PM in the Pizza Kitchen in the basement of the Mother of Sorrows Social Hall and we'll have a go at it. If you're interested or if you want more information, call me, Mike Ivosevic at (412) 474-3008. Let's get together to make this a successful fundraiser!

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Classes resume this Sunday, April 19 for all students.

PHYLLIS SEIBERT AND STEVE TOMSKO
TO BE HONORED

Next week during our closing Mass for Sunday School on April 26 at 9:30 AM in Mother of Sorrows Chapel, Phyllis Seibert and Steve Tomsko will be honored for their faithful dedication in teaching CCD each for more than 50 years. There will be a reception in the Social Hall following the 9:30 AM Mass. Students should go to the Social Hall after Mass, not to their rooms. Everyone is invited to come and share this special day with Phyllis and Steve.

Note: If anyone would like to donate any baked goods or treats for the social, please call John Fatula at 412-331-8573. Thanks in advance.

PARISH SHARE NEWS

Next Sunday, April 26, the second collection will be for the Parish Share Program. There is a blue envelope in your packet of envelopes for this purpose. If you forget your envelope next weekend, you may bring it anytime that is convenient. Thank you.

PARISH WEEKEND ATTENDANCE

April 11 / 12

Easter Saturday	215
Easter Sunday.....	1,580
Total Weekend Attendance.....	1,795
Holy Thursday.....	630
Good Friday (Noon) Why Must He Die	575
Liturgy of Good Friday, 6:30 PM.....	275
Total Good Friday Attendance.....	850

**PARISH FINANCIAL TOTALS
For the Weekend of April 11 / 12**

Regular Offertory Collection	\$ 6,641.50
Easter Donation	\$10,749.00
Holy Thursday (for the needy)	\$ 1,718.00

(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	\$39,922.20
Remaining on goal.....	\$53,438.80

(This is the tax paid to the Diocese. We must remit this entire amount to the Diocese by Dec. 31. Any surplus then remains in the parish, tax free.)

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Good Friday (Holy Land)	\$ 1,406.00
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(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 APRIL 19

ST. MARY'S - IN MEMORY OF THE ANTONICH FAMILY BY JOE AND ANN

MOTHER OF SORROWS - IN MEMORY OF DONALD ERONKO BY WIFE

FIRST COMMUNION NEWS**RETREAT**

A Retreat for those preparing for First Communion will be held on Wednesday, April 29 from 8:15 AM to 2:30 PM in the Chapel at Mother of Sorrows. Lunch will be provided for the students. If you have any questions, please call John Fatula at 412-331-8573.

CELEBRATION OF FIRST COMMUNION

We will celebrate the Sacrament of First Communion on Sunday, May 3 at the 11:30 AM Mass in the Church at St. Mary's. The First Communicants should arrive at the Church by 11:00 AM.

HOSPITAL

Please pray for all parishioners who are in the hospital, especially: **Country Meadows** - Edward Pastin
Willow Lane - John Hanobik **Shadyside** - Tom Harbaugh *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 Families of Marie A. Wray, Ronald J. Holmes, Stephanie T. Matula, Linda A. Seretti and Patsy L. Aluise whom God has called. Please remember them and all our dearly departed and their families in your prayers.

"They whom we love and lose are no longer where they were before. They are now wherever we are."

SAFE ENVIRONMENT POLICY

All parish volunteers who have contact with children (lectors, Eucharistic ministers, adult altar servers, sacristans, cantors, ushers, bingo workers, pizza kitchen workers, festival workers, and youth ministry volunteers) are reminded that they are required by the Diocese to have the following five items:

Application in the Diocesan Database, State Criminal Record Check, Child Abuse History Clearance, Code of Pastoral Conduct, Protecting God's Children Workshop. Links to these items can be found on our website: www.sjogparish.com (click on "Safe Environment Page" on the left side menu). If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact Steve Swank, SJG Safe Environment Coordinator, at 412-331-8573 or sjgyouthmin@yahoo.com. THANK YOU for your tireless dedication to our parish and for helping to ensure that it is a safe environment for our children!

**STO-KEN-ROX
MEALS ON WHEELS
ANNUAL KITCHEN SHOWER**

Thursday, April 30, 2009 at Noon
Christ Community Church
900 Chartiers Avenue, McKees Rocks
Donation or Kitchen Supplies
Door Prizes - Chinese Auction - 50/50 Raffle
For more information, call Connie at 412-771-4304





ROAD TO THE PRIESTHOOD

**EVENING WITH THE BISHOP
and
HOLY HOUR FOR VOCATIONS**

MAY 7, 2009 - Saint Paul Seminary

4:30-5:30 PM (*Open to All Interested Men*)

- Meet the Seminarians
- What Is a Seminary?
- What Does a Priest Do?
- What Are the Requirements?
- How Long Does It Take to Be a Priest?

5:50-6:30 PM

- Tour of the Seminary
- Cookout and Social

7:00-8:00 PM (*Open to All*)

- Holy Hour with Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament
- Bishop David Zubik, Presider and Homilist
- Outdoor Reception

Priests ~ Deacons ~ Religious

Youth Groups ~ Knights of Columbus ~ Serra Clubs

***Come and Pray for Vocations to
the Priesthood!***

This is a gathering for young men who want to learn more about the priesthood. If you want more information, please call 412-456-3048.



The Holy Hour is open to everyone.
There is no cost, but seating is limited.
Call 412-456-3048 to register.

**WISDOM, AGE AND GRACE:
A CELEBRATION OF LATER LIFE**

“All Wisdom Comes from the Lord” is the theme of the Catholic Charities 16th Annual “Wisdom, Age and Grace: A Celebration of Later Life” Conference to be held on Friday, May 8, 2009 at the Four Points by Sheraton Pittsburgh North, Mars. Bishop David A. Zubik will be the main celebrant and homilist for Mass at 10:30 AM. Father Terry O’Connor, Pastor of Good Samaritan Parish in Ambridge and St. John the Baptist Parish in Baden will deliver the keynote address. Registration fee is \$35. For more information, call Judy Kimicata at 412-456-6975.

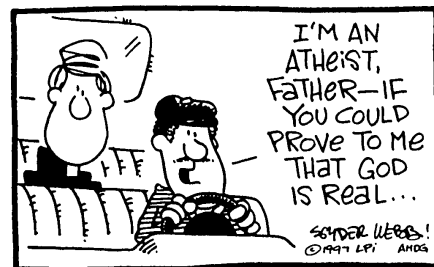
DIOCESAN ADULT FAITH FORMATION SERIES

You are invited to an evening lecture to be given by Bishop David Zubik, who has graciously accepted an invitation to give the last lecture in this year’s Adult lecture Series.

All of our speaker’s this year were asked to speak on a particular passage from St. Paul in light of Paul’s opening line in his letter to the Romans, “Paul, a slave of Jesus Christ.” Bishop Zubik’s talk, “The Church Alive!” will be centered on this passage from Ephesians, 4:11-13: “And he gave some as apostles, others as prophets, others as evangelists, other as pastors and teachers, to equip the holy ones for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.”

Please come for Bishop Zubik’s presentation to be held at St. Paul’s Seminary Auditorium, Wednesday, April 29, 2009 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.

2ND SUNDAY OF EASTER



THANK YOU

We would like to extend sincere thanks and appreciation to Anna Marie Stropkaj and all the women and men who helped in once again making this year’s Easter Bread project a great success. The total number of loaves made and any profit realized has not yet been fully tallied. Information will be forthcoming.

Anna Marie Stropkaj would also like to extend a special thank you to everyone who helped in any way, i.e. time & energy, donation of ingredients or money to purchase these ingredients. And a great big THANK YOU to those who bought the bread!

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

In the past couple of months, the Church of St. Mary of St. John of God Parish has suffered a great deal of damage to the roof and steeples due to several windstorms. The building was constructed in early 1900, and is a 1/5th scale model of the cathedral in Cologne, Germany. Although a beautiful structure, it has aged and weathered over the past century. It has taken \$20,000 worth of scaffolding and a 120' crane just to get up there to assess the damage, and since it was such an effort, we asked for a complete engineer's report.

The Church is unusual in that besides two needle shaped steeples in the front, there is also an octagonal squatter steeple in mid-roof. Each of these steeples is topped by a cross. Here is part of the report from the engineer, regarding the crosses:

"The crosses are made of wood inner core covered by metal cladding. . . . (I)t is evident that all three crosses are deteriorated at base. Pictures 26 and 30 show large holes in (each) cross, which appear to be bullet holes. Probably some kids or rough necks used the crosses for target shooting practice, thus creating the holes."

Now, physically, this is an unpleasant surprise, in that it will cost us quite a bit to repair the damage, which is sheer vandalism. And it is certainly unexpected that when we "raise high the cross" it could even be contemplated as a target since it is so far out of range. (It would take a long gun, with good sights, and a fairly adept shooter to score hits on them.) Emotionally, it is even more disconcerting - how can we contemplate anyone being so reckless as to endanger people by shooting in such a densely populated area? And religiously, it is an outrage to be a witness to such a blasphemy. We have no idea when in the 100+ years of existence

continued next column . . .

of the church that the action occurred. But whenever it was, it was wrong on so many levels.

But having given spiritual meditation this week following Easter, I have come to an insight. Holy Week is the time we celebrated the passion and death of Jesus on the cross, beginning with the reading of the passion on Palm Sunday. We worked our way through all of the events of Jesus' suffering and sacrifice, and all was paid to the good with our celebration on Easter Sunday of His victory by rising from the dead. This year, contemporaneous with our Holy Week celebration, our area mourned the slaying of three Pittsburgh Police officers, who gave their lives to protect and serve. We were stunned by the news, grieved their passing and either in person or through the media attended their memorials as they were put to rest.

Think about this: three crosses riddled with bullet holes, yet the crosses still proclaim the sacrifice, are still raised high above us for our viewing, and the church still stands in testimony of the victory of life over death, light over darkness, good over evil, salvation over sin. Then there were three officers, riddled with bullet holes, yet their memories still proclaim their sacrifice, they were raised before our sight in admiration and gratitude, and our community and the Pittsburgh Bureau of Police still stand in testimony to the continued battle of life over death, light over darkness, good over evil, salvation over sin.

Christ is risen, Alleluia! He lives forever, Alleluia! (And with him in victory are Eric Kelly, Stephen Mahle and Paul Sciuлло II, Alleluia!)

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE by Bud Ozar

Notice Jesus came into a house and said, "Peace be with you." Peace is not measured only by the noise levels in our home; it also depends on the levels of trust, acceptance, forgiveness and respect for one another.

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.