



**TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDY  
IN ORDINARY TIME**

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Sat, Sept. 20 to Sun, Sept. 28, 2008**

**Saturday Vigil, Sept. 20:** 4:30 PM Church  
Anniv - Wilfred "Bob" Roussey (Wife & Family)

**Sunday, Sept. 21:** 7:30 AM Church  
Parish Family of St. John of God

**Sunday, Sept. 21:** 9:30 AM Chapel  
Anna Marie Ciramella (Lydia Federico)

**Sunday, Sept. 21:** 11:30 AM Church  
Anniv - Ann Giedl (Daughters & Families)

**WEEKDAYS — 9:30 AM CHURCH**

**Monday, Sept. 22:** Rosemary Bayer (Pat Zane)

**Tuesday, Sept. 23:** Deceased Merscher Family (Estate)

**Wednesday, Sept. 24, 8:30 AM, Chapel:** *Students and Staff of St. John of God School*

**Wednesday, Sept. 24:** Gertrude Amon (Judith A. Watts)

**Thursday, Sept. 25:** Hermina T. Giedl (Mr. & Mrs. Joseph J. Giedl)

**Friday, Sept. 26:** Edward Martonik (SJG Choir)

**Friday, Sept. 26, Wedding, 3:00 PM, Church:**  
*Brian S. Wardzinski and Christine E. Gorney*

**Saturday Vigil, Sept. 27:** 4:30 PM Church  
Antonetta Presutti (Family)

**Sunday, Sept. 28:** 7:30 AM Church  
In Honor of St. Theresa (Charlotte)

**Sunday, Sept. 28:** 9:30 AM Chapel  
Anniv - Carolyn Campalong (Daughter & Grandchildren)

**Sunday, Sept. 28:** 11:30 AM Church  
Lucia, John & Tony DeSerio (Ida & Family)

**Sunday, Sept. 28, 7:45 PM, Chapel:** *Parish Family of St. John of God*

**Readings for the Week of September 21, 2008**

**Sunday:** *Is 55:6-9/Phil 1:20c-24, 27a/Mt 20:1-16a*

**Monday:** *Prv 3:27-34/Lk 8:16-18*

**Tuesday:** *Prv 21:1-6, 10-13/Lk 8:19-21*

**Wednesday:** *Prv 30:5-9/Lk 9:1-6*

**Thursday:** *Eccl 1:2-11/Lk 9:7-9*

**Friday:** *Eccl 3:1-11/Lk 9:18-22*

**Saturday:** *Eccl 11:9-12:8/Lk 9:43b-45*

**Next Sunday:** *Ez 18:25-28/Phil 2:1-11/Mt 21:28-32*

**SANCTUARY CANDLE - WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 21**

**MOTHER OF SORROWS** - IN MEMORY OF WILFRED "BOB" ROUSSEY BY WIFE AND FAMILY

**ST. MARY'S** - IN MEMORY OF ROSEMARY BAYER BY PAT ZANE

**CONFIRMATION PREPARATION PROGRAM**

Our Confirmation Preparation Program begins next Sunday, September 28, from 6:30 P.M. to 8:30 P.M. in Mother of Sorrows Chapel. This time frame includes Mass at 7:45 P.M. Parents with their ninth grade confirmands (those who will be confirmed) are required to attend the program on September 28. The remaining Confirmation program sessions on October 5, 12, 19, 26; Nov. 2, 9, and the Retreat (tba) are required for the confirmands only. A letter is being sent to the parents of our ninth graders who are preparing for Confirmation with more details.

Anyone in tenth grade or older (including adults) who has not been Confirmed and is Baptized and has received the Holy Eucharist is welcome and encouraged to attend the Confirmation Preparation Program. Please call John Fatula at 412-331-8573 to register for the program and for more information.

Bishop David Zubik will administer the Sacrament of Confirmation for those in our Confirmation Preparation Program on Sunday, November 23, during the 11:30 A.M. Mass in St. Mary's Church.

**ST. JOHN OF GOD SCHOOL NEWS**

**SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR**

The annual fall Scholastic Book Fair will be held in the school library this week, September 22 to September 26 during school hours. All are welcome to come browse and purchase quality books for all ages. Profits from the Book Fair allow us to add to our school library and our classroom libraries.



**PANCAKE AND SAUSAGE BREAKFAST**



St. John of God School will sponsor a Pancake and Sausage Breakfast next Sunday, September 28, at the Social Hall from 8:30 AM to 1:00 PM. Tickets are \$5.00 for adults, \$3.00 for children (2-12), and for a Family (2 adults and up to 4 children) \$18.00 and can be purchased at the school office or at the door. For any questions or if anyone is interested in volunteering to help at the breakfast or donating baked goods, please contact the school office at 412-331-8501.

**HOW DOES A PERSON BECOME A CATHOLIC?**

The R.C.I.A. program sees to the needs of adults who wish to become Catholic. Please contact John Fatula at 412-331-8573 for any questions and more information if you are interested.

# CATECHETICAL SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 21, 2008

**CATECHESIS: THE WORD OF GOD IN THE LIFE AND MISSION OF THE CHURCH**

Fr. Lou Vallone	Fr. Al Semler	Fr. Rege Ryan
Sr. Theresa Kunzler, C.S.J.	Sr. Anna Marie Gaglia, C.S.J.	
Mr. John Fatula	Mr. Steve Swank	

Rite of Commissioning 9:30 A.M. Mass  
Reception after Mass in Social Hall

**CATHOLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS**

**Sr. Anna Marie Gaglia, C.S.J.**  
Interim Principal

Sharyn Duerr  
Barbara Durost  
Ansley Earley  
Gina Halbedl  
Maria Iyengar  
Sr. Marjorie Kelly, C.S.J.  
Amy Kochirka  
Keri Luzik  
Deborah Ocharzak  
Barbara Skrinjar  
Amy Varga  
Maria Young

**SUNDAY SCHOOL CATECHISTS**

**John Fatula, Director**

Sue Bopp  
Kathryn Cain  
Cheryl DeAngelis  
Rose Dombrowski  
Danielle Incorvati  
Andrew Margo  
Giovanna Margo  
Lynn Powell  
Grace Savatt  
Phyllis Seibert  
Stephen Tomsko  
Hollie Young

**RCIA CATECHISTS**

**John Fatula, Director**

Al Chmiel  
John Farley  
Eric Hall  
Kelly Hall  
Daniel Hogan  
Edward Hogan  
JoAnn Lex  
Joanne Malenock  
Paulette McNamee  
Calvin Mullen  
Amy Parrish  
Mary Ann Scrabis  
Katherine Wagner

**BAPTISMAL PROGRAM**

**John Fatula, Director**

Thomas Adams  
Edward Kantz

**YOUTH MINISTRY**

**Steve Swank, Director**

Kayla Cropper  
Samantha Eagle  
Mia Gorney  
Leah Tutino

## YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

## FLAG FOOTBALL

All teens in grades 9-12 are invited to play flag football next Sunday, September 28. Meet at the Youth Center at 2 PM with your permission form. For more info contact Steve at 412-331-8573 x11 or [sigyouthmin@yahoo.com](mailto:sigyouthmin@yahoo.com).

**BAPTISMAL PROGRAM  
FOR NEW AND EXPECTING PARENTS**

The next program will be held on Sunday, October 12, from 1-4 PM in Mother of Sorrows Chapel. To register or for more information, please call John Fatula at 412-331-8573.


**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

We wish to welcome into God's Family the newly baptized: *Rocco Joseph Karpa*. May you continue to grow in God's love.

**ATTENDANCE AT ST. JOHN OF GOD PARISH  
FOR THE WEEKEND OF SEPT. 13 / 14**

Saturday .....	302
Sunday .....	785
<b>Total Weekend Attendance .....</b>	<b>1,087</b>

<b>Total Weekend Offertory .....</b>	<b>\$ 5,837.50</b>
<b>Bishop's Education Fund .....</b>	<b>\$ 1,339.50</b>
<b>Parish Share Assessment .....</b>	<b>\$87,038.00</b>
<b>Parish Share Collected to Date (Thank You!).....</b>	<b>\$75,340.78</b>
<b>Balance on Parish Share .....</b>	<b>\$11,697.22</b>

**PARISH SHARE**

Next Sunday, September 28, 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 week, you may bring it any time that is convenient. Thanks in advance.

**FLU SHOT CLINIC**

A Flu Shot Clinic will be held on Wed., October 8 at the McKees Rocks Borough Building, 340 Bell Ave., from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Flu Shots available at no charge under Medicare  
 \*\*Must present Medicare health insurance card  
 at time of vaccination\*\*  
 (includes Highmark Security Blue, HealthAmerica  
 Advantra, UPMC for Life, and others!)  
 Non-Medicare Vaccination Charge: \$28.00  
 Information: 412-331-2498

**LIFE CHAIN**


St. Malachy Parish will be participating in *Life Chain* this year. *Life Chain* is a peaceful public witness of pro-life people standing (or bring a chair and sit) for one hour praying for our nation and for an end of abortion. *Life Chain* is a visual statement of solidarity by the community that abortion kills children and that the Church supports the sanctity of human life from the moment of conception. **People Concerned for the Unborn Child**, a pro-life organization, provides the signs you will hold while standing in front of St. Malachy Church building. Plan to be a part of *Life Chain* and speak for our pre-born sisters and brothers. *Life Chain* is a national event that takes place October 5, Respect Life Sunday, from 1:00 to 2:00 PM. Contact Sister Jolenta at 412-771-5483 x29, St. Malachy Parish, for information about *Life Chain*.

**HOSPITAL**

Please pray for all parishioners who are in the hospital, especially: **Presbyterian** - Genevieve Speicher **Fair Oaks** - Marie Reiter **Marian Manor**- Bob Lang **Sycamore** - Geraldine Fisher **West Hills Rehab. Center** - John Hanobik *Also for those ill at home, in nursing homes, and shut-ins, that they may continue to receive the Lord's Blessings.*

**SYMPATHY**

Please keep 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."*

**THE WEEK AHEAD**

- Sept. 22 (Mon.)** - Mass in Mary Pat Rickerd Nursing Home, 1085 Dohrman St., West Park, 1:30 PM  
 Mass Intention: Deceased Members of the Antonelli Family by Jennie Macosko
- Sept. 22 (Mon.)** - Miraculous Medal Novena Prayers recited in St. Mary's Church-Rosary begins 6:30 PM.
- Sept. 23 (Tues.)** - St. Anthony Novena Prayers recited following the 9:30 AM Mass in St. Mary's Church.
- Sept. 23 (Tues.)** - Adult Choir Rehearsal, 7-9 PM in Mother of Sorrows Church.
- Sept. 24 (Wed.)** - **WEDNESDAY NIGHT BINGO!** - MOS Social Hall - Doors open at 5 PM, Early Birds 7 PM, Reg. Games begin at 7:15 PM.
- Sept. 24 (Wed.)** - Cub Scout Meeting, 6-7:30 PM in the Gathering Place. Info: Jeff, 412-855-1933 or Ray, 412-200-0388.
- Sept. 26 (Fri.)** - **PIZZA KITCHEN!** *To order call 412-331-8530 on Fridays, 8 AM-1 PM. Orders must be picked up by 3:45 PM.*

**ZITI DINNER**

The Sto-Ken-Rox Meals on Wheels will hold its Annual Ziti Dinner on Sunday, October 12, at Christ Community Church, 900 Chartiers Ave. from Noon to 5:00 PM. Tickets are \$7 for adults and \$3.50 for children under 12. Take-outs will be available. There will also be a Chinese Auction & Bake Sale. We hope you will support this important community service. Also, any donation of baked goods or items for the auction would be greatly appreciated. For more information, call Lucille at 412-298-6106.

**CELEBRATING THE ARTS!**

**Father Ryan Arts Center  
Grand Opening Celebration  
October 4 and 5, 2008**

Celebrate the history, cultural diversity and revitalization of our community during the Father Ryan Arts Center's grand opening weekend in McKees Rocks.

**Saturday, October 4, 2008**

**11:30 AM to 5 PM and 7 PM to 9 PM**

Sto-Rox Marching Band, welcome by Father Regis Ryan and guest speakers, naming and ribbon cutting ceremony at 12:00 Noon!

**Sunday, October 5, 2008**

**12:00 Noon to 5 PM and 7 PM to 9 PM**

Open House with additional opportunities for artistic exploration and appreciation!

Enjoy hands-on arts activities, free food, family-friendly events, guided tours, gallery exhibits, live performances and much more! For information or a schedule of events, please visit [www.forstorox.org](http://www.forstorox.org).

**FALL 2008 ARTS EDUCATION  
CLASSES FORMING NOW**

The Father Ryan Arts Center of Focus on Renewal welcomes you to celebrate the arts during its nine-week fall arts classes in dance, visual arts, music, theater and creative workshops beginning Monday, October 13 through Saturday, December 20. There are close to 25 classes being offered. For more information or to register for fall 2008 classes, please call 412-771-3052 or visit [www.forstorox.org](http://www.forstorox.org).

**MOTHER AND DAUGHTER RETREAT**

Moms bring your daughters, 6th grade and older, to a Mother and Daughter(s) Retreat at Gilmary Center. The retreat begins with dinner at 6:30 PM on Friday, Oct. 3 and ends with dinner on Saturday, Oct. 4. Relationship building, spiritually encouraging, fun activities, with time for relaxation, quiet, and prayer. *Registration by Sept. 30 is required.* Call 412-264-8400 for more information or to register.

**THE P.V. REPORT  
Fr. Al Semler**

**"WHO WE ARE"  
A Parish Retreat Mission**



Fr. Fred Pompei will be coming to St. John of God to preach at all the weekend Masses on Saturday and Sunday, October 11 and 12. On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings, Oct. 13, 14, 15 at 6:30 PM, he will present his "Who We Are" Parish Retreat Mission.

The Mission will focus on our identity as Catholic Christians and how we are called and challenged to follow Jesus Christ in today's culture and society. Please mark your calendars NOW so that you can come and enjoy. Confessions will follow his presentation Tuesday evening, October 14.

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And now back to fund raising. Having a parish school is one of the best blessings a parish family can have. We are blessed with a very good one. That assessment comes from a person who ministers to our graduates when they go to high school. About 15 years ago our Catholic school system was experiencing financial difficulties. So, the Diocese had a committee to study funding. It "found" that parishes could no longer "foot the bill" alone. One solution was that parents needed to help with school fund raising. I've agreed to help them. So, I will be keeping their fund raising activities a focal point. Next Sunday from 8:30 AM to 1 PM, they will be serving a pancake breakfast in the gym. Please try to support them. They have a spaghetti dinner planned for Sunday, Nov. 2, they have monthly raffle tickets and Entertainment, Enjoy and Kids Stuff books available. Any support you give will be appreciated.

AND — we can use two kitchen workers for our Wednesday Bingo from 6:30 PM to 9:30 PM.

"Wanna Help?"

**FIRST PENANCE NEWS  
PARENT/CHILD MEETING**

There will be a Parent/Child meeting for First Penance on Sunday, October 5, from 2-4 PM in Mother of Sorrows Chapel.



**FIRST PENANCE**

We will celebrate the Sacrament of First Penance on Monday, December 15, at 6:30 PM in St. Mary's Church. For more information, please call John Fatula at 412-331-8573.

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

"cat-e-che'sis, n.: oral instructions, especially of catechumens, by the method of questions and answers. "Webster's Dictionary.

Those of us from the baby-boomer and beyond generations remember well the old "Baltimore Catechism", that handbook of our Catholic Christian Faith that fit precisely the dictionary definition. It was a series of questions and answers that led us through the doctrines of our Faith from the most basic ("Who made me?") through the most complex ("What are the rules for fast and abstinence?") beliefs and practices for Catholics in the United States. We memorized and parroted back the answers to our teachers, whether in Catholic School or CCD. For a lot of us, at the beginning, it was about as meaningful as the times-tables drill: 3x3=9; 3x4=12; 3x5=15, etc. Once we got the rhythm, our minds could go on automatic pilot and feed-back what was fed in by rote.

The plan, of course, with catechism as with the multiplication tables, was that once the raw data were well absorbed, then we could handle it with our higher faculties (thought and reflection and creativity, as opposed to mere memory) and thereby understand and use what we had learned. That is to say, in math we could perform long division no matter what the numbers were, and in faith we could operate as virtuous and prayerful people no matter what the daily situation confronted us. A simple notion, useful for its time, just like counting on one's fingers and toes was useful for a time. But Faith, like math and life itself, tends to become more complex as time goes on. How many people today, for example, can work out in their head the monthly payments spread over a four year period for a \$20,000 car at 10% interest, without reaching for the calculator? Or give the exact dollar

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amount when stealing crosses the line from a venial to a mortal sin?

Catechetics today is far beyond mere question and answer format, and is more than just an oral tradition. There are books and videos and audiotapes and movies and crafts and handouts. And catechists are more than just the nun in the classroom or the priest in the pulpit. Although everyone by virtue of baptism is called upon to share the Faith with others, and parents are still the primary instructors of religion, as they are in all else, certain of our lay brothers and sisters have offered themselves to share our Catholic Christianity with our children and adults in a more formal setting: school or CCD or adult programs or sacramental preparation.

It is these catechists that we commission today, giving them not only our blessing, but our support and gratitude as they undertake another year of spreading the Faith in all the myriad ways necessary today to keep it alive and growing.



*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.*