

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, January 5 -1 Jn 3:22—4:6; Ps 100; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

- 7:00 a.m. Intention of Martin Ebbert
- 8:00 a.m. Intention of Hector Donardo
- 3:00 p.m. Janet Schmidt (Mass at Golden Living Center)

Tuesday, January 6 -1 Jn 4:7-10; Ps 72; Mk 6:34-44

- 7:00 a.m. Intention of Brian Kavanagh
- 8:00 a.m. Charles Keiner, III

Wednesday, January 7-1 Jn 4:11-18; Ps 2; Mk 6:45-52

- 7:00 a.m. Donald Thomas Walker
- 8:00 a.m. Elaine Goldberg

Thursday, January 8 -1 Jn 4:19—5:4; Ps 72; Lk 4:14-22a

- 7:00 a.m. John Cannole
- 8:00 a.m. Evelyn Young

Friday, January 9 -1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 72; Lk 5:12-16

- 7:00 a.m. Mike Berard
- 9:30 a.m. Intention of Patricia Brink

Saturday, January 10 -1 Jn 5:14-21; Ps 72; Jn 3:22-30

- 8:00 a.m. Eileen Kavanagh
- 4:30 p.m. Theresa Belanger

Sunday, January 11 -Is 42:1-4, 6-7; Ps 29; Acts 10:34-38; Mk 1:7-11

- 7:15 a.m. C. Agnes Luther
- 8:45 a.m. Katherine Bullock
- 10:30 a.m. Eileen Kavanagh
- 12:00 p.m. Parishioners of St. John
- 3:30 p.m. Angela Cresta
- 6:00 p.m. Intention of Dr. Alfred Perfett

FROM THE PASTOR

Transition is the word that comes to my mind as we begin the new calendar year. Please keep Father Patrick Peach in your prayers as he makes the transition from parish ministry to monastic life. I want to thank all who helped with, donated to and participated in his farewell reception last Sunday. Please join me in welcoming Father Francis Ibanga, M.S.P. to our parish as he makes the transition from studies at Fordham University to parish ministry. Please keep our nation in prayer during this time of transition to a new administration. Let us keep one another in prayer as we continue to invite the Lord into our lives that we may be transformed into His holy people

May God Bless you,

Mary Ann Valenzano

LITURGY WORSHIP

**PERPETUAL ADORATION UPDATE!
ADORERS NEEDED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE**

Sunday 10:00-11:00 a.m. and 6:00-7:00 p.m.
Tuesday 4:00-5:00 p.m.

Friday 9:00-10:00 a.m. Saturday 4:00-5:00 p.m.

WE PRAY ...

WE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE of Edward Dell, Paul Case Stem, Nina Vita Crafton, Charles Smith, Cardinal Avery Robert Dulles, S.J., Harry Garner, Paul Kelley, Tess Hupfeld and Ann Dwyer and for their families and friends.

WE ASK YOUR PRAYERS for all who are home bound or in nursing homes and for all the sick, especially Dinah Buck, Bryan Belesky, Jayne Dattilio, Catherine Zelezink, Floyd McCurdy, Mary Robinson, Charlotte Hoffman, Chuck Witte, Stephen Torbeck, Edward Appleby, Kendra Hendrickson, Patty Williamson, Anthony Colodonato, Lisa Jones, Bernie Amrhein, Karie Turner, Myrtle Sauter, Dennis Melochat, Diana Peddicord, Carolyn DiMaggio, Deacon Don Miller, and Hung Minh Dang.

BAPTISMS: Congratulations and welcome to Rosalyn Eloise Poland, daughter of Mary Cathrine and Eric Poland; Christian Thomas Gibb, son of Shannon Gibb and Michael Grey; and Catherine Rosalie Vazquez, daughter of Lisa Pauline Goodman and Diego Vazquez Lopez.

STEWARDSHIP

WEEKLY OFFERING: Weekend of December 14, 2008

Envelopes:	\$32,635.62	Attendance:	3,214
Loose:	\$ 7,524.12	Poor Box:	\$ 2,074.79

TOTAL: \$40,159.74

This year's budget is based on a weekly offering of \$32,700.00. Our current weekly average is \$30,372.82

STEWARDSHIP

WEEKLY OFFERING: Weekend of December 21, 2008

Envelopes:	\$23,165.50	Attendance:	3,283
Loose:	\$ 4,198.75	Poor Box:	\$1,979.07

TOTAL: \$27,364.25

This year's budget is based on a weekly offering of \$32,700.00. Our current weekly average is \$29,887.39

THANK YOU to all who contributed to the Retired Religious collection. The total amount collected was \$10,984.38.

STATUS OF MORTGAGE:

Beginning Balance: 12/01/08	\$1,707,123
Paid: Interest \$8,891	
Principal \$16,742	-25,633
Interest Charged	8,891
Ending Balance 01/01/09	\$1,690,381

NOTICE: Use Mortgage Fund Envelopes for second collection on last Sunday of the month to reduce the mortgage.

SCHOOL NEWS

Jan. 5—School Reopens

Jan. 9—School Liturgy @ 9:30 a.m.—Church
PTF Family Fun Night Cafeteria 7-8:30 p.m.

Jan. 9-10—Confirmation Retreat

Jan. 16—School Liturgy @ 9:30 a.m.—Church

Jan. 19—School closed—Martin Luther King Holiday

Jan. 20—PTF General Meeting—7:00 p.m.- Portico

Jan. 23— School Liturgy @ 9:30 a.m.—Church

INNISBROOK ON-GOING FUNDRAISER: Check out the website for gift giving ideas. The school receives 50% of all sales. Shop at www.innisbrook.com. Our school ID is # 122169.

GIFT CARDS: Do you shop at Giant/Martins, Super Fresh, Shoppers, Weis, Boscov's or Kohl's? You can purchase gift cards through St. John at face value and we receive a 5% return on each card! These cards do not expire and can be used in other states. Cards are available for purchase at St. John School. You can also participate in eScript by registering your Safeway card annually, returning a percentage to us. Also register your Target or Target Visa card for a 1% return profit to St. John School (ID#7784). Register on line or call 800-316-8142. For more information call the school office at 410-876-7228 or Darlene at 410-876-7031

MEETING FOR PROSPECTIVE KINDERGARTEN PARENTS...Monday, January 12

There will be a meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the gym for all prospective kindergarten parents for next year. *Your child should turn 5 years of age on or before September 1, 2009 in order to enroll.*

OPEN HOUSE...SUNDAY, January 25 & Tues., Jan. 27

Save the dates and take advantage of this convenient weekend opportunity to tour the school, meet teachers and view a computer curriculum demonstration by students in our new computer lab! *Snow date* will be *Friday, January 30th* after our 9:30 Liturgy in the Church. Please feel free to call the school 410-848-7455 for individual tours or for additional information. We are pleased to arrange for your child/children to "shadow" for an entire day or a portion of the day, if you find this beneficial.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

RCIA...Beginning this Sunday at the 8:45 a.m. Mass, those adults preparing to be received into the Catholic Church will be dismissed at the end of the Liturgy of the Word. This will continue each Sunday until Easter. When they leave Mass each week, they will go to the Parish Center to continue learning about our Faith. Please continue to pray for those in RCIA.

BIBLE STUDY...Thanks to all those who are finishing up our successful study of St. Paul's Letters from Prison. As we continue to celebrate the Year of St. Paul, *we will study First Corinthians* beginning the *week of January 18th*. Registration forms are now available in the back of the church and on the parish website.

FOSTERING THE ADULT JOURNEY OF CONVERSION..

Where is God amid everyday life? How do our experiences of God shape our faith? How do we appropriately share "God" experiences in witness to others? There will be a four session series beginning Thursday, January 22, through February 12th here at St. John from 7:00—9:30 p.m. in the St. Therese Room of the Parish Center to discuss ways that the believer may heighten their awareness of God, explore the process of coming to faith, and the role of ongoing conversion in the lifelong adventure of Christian living. The Facilitator is Ms. Sharon A. Bogusz from the Division of Evangelization & Catechesis of the Archdiocese of Baltimore. The cost is \$40 per person and registration is required. To register contact sbogusz@archbalt.org or phone 410-547-5406.

ADULT CONFIRMATION...Our parish will once again offer a five session Confirmation program for anyone over the age of 18 who has not received the Sacrament of Confirmation. The program will begin Thursday, April 30th and meet weekly through May 28th. Registration forms are available in the back of the church and on the parish website.

RELIGIOUS ED./YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Religious Education Office: (410) 848-8443

REMINDER...Classes resume on Sunday, Jan.4th, Tuesday, Jan.6th and Thursday, Jan. 8th.

THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STAFF wishes all our students and their families, our Catechists, Classroom Assistants, Office Helpers and Hall Monitors many blessings in the New Year.

HOME STUDY CLASSES will meet on **Wed., January 7th** at 6:45 p.m.

PROFESSIONAL SPECIAL ED TEACHER NEEDED... the Religious Education Program needs a Professional Special Ed teacher for our Thursday 6:45 p.m. class. Please call the Religious Ed Office if you can help.

TUITION REFUNDS: *After December 31st*, we will no longer refund any tuition paid for the 2008-09 school year to any family withdrawing from the program. The only exception will be for those who relocate out of our parish boundaries.

CONFIRMATION RETREAT...January 9 & 10

Parents, you should have received a letter at the end of November regarding the Confirmation Retreat (Jan. 9-10) that contained time sensitive information. If you did not receive this letter, contact Kenn deMoll in the Religious Education office immediately.

—THE EDGE — (Grades 6, 7 & 8) —

We meet one Sunday every month from 7:30-9:30 p.m. Newcomers are welcome!

We would like to thank all of those people who volunteered their time and talents to make our Live Nativity such a huge success. May God Bless you!

January—The Edge is looking to do a players night with laser tag. Check the next week's bulletin for more details!!

— LIFE TEEN (Grades 9 -12) —

nLife Teen is a High School Youth Ministry that meets every 1st, 2nd and 4th Sunday at 7:15 p.m. in the cafeteria. On the 3rd Sunday we meet in the Portico. Newcomers are welcome!

STEUBENVILLE 2009: Registration is now closed for Steubenville. Thanks to all who responded.

Jan. 4—Happy Birthday! It's a New Year and we're taking the night to celebrate everyone's birthday for the coming year! It will be the biggest birthday bash you've ever been to!

Jan. 18—**XLT:** XLT stands for exalt! Join us for a night of energetic music, a dynamic speaker and Eucharistic adoration. Confirmation students are welcome!

Jan. 25 — **Murder Mystery Dinner Theater:** A crime has been committed and we need your help to solve it! Join LIFE TEEN tonight for our spring kick off! You will enjoy a three course meal. But, can you solve the mystery of the evening?

ACTIVITIES IN OUR PARISH

CHILDREN'S LITURGY of the WORD...is seeking additional volunteers. If your child joins us Sundays during the 10:30 Mass, please prayerfully consider helping. Call Nancy Merrill @ 410-876-2173 if you have questions or would like to volunteer.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED... Are you and/or any family members interested in volunteering an hour of time on Sunday mornings? Join us in welcoming our parish community after Mass during "Hospitality Sundays." Choose one Sunday every other month! For more details contact Bob Andrews at 410-876-9151 or robertsandrews@comcast.net.

LADIES AUXILIARY OF MD STATE COUNCIL KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS...is collecting new lap blankets for veterans who are sick, disabled or suffering. We ask that you make or purchase a quilt, or blanket measuring approximately 40x60 inches that can be machine laundered. Contact Sharon Bryan at 410-848-7126.

KNIGHTS PARISH BREAKFAST...Sunday, January 4
The Knights of Columbus are cooking breakfast for the parish in the Portico after the 7:15, 8:45 and 10:30 a.m. Masses. Proceeds are used to support the St. John's Community. This is an excellent opportunity to meet new parishioners and to enjoy a great breakfast of French toast, pancakes, eggs and much more. Adults: \$6.00 and children under 12: \$3.00. Please join us.

HOSPITALITY SUNDAY...will resume in the Portico after the 7:15, 8:45 and 10:30 a.m. Masses starting on January 11th. Come and enjoy continental breakfast and a welcoming community atmosphere after Mass on Sunday mornings. More details to come.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP...Sunday, January 11
This ministry is for those grieving the loss of a loved one. We meet in the Parish Center from 10:00-11:30 a.m. No registration is required. For more information call Janet Tenney at 410-833-1542.

ST. JOHN LADIES'SODALITY...Sunday, December 14
The Sodality will meet for the 8:45 a.m. Mass and will recite the Rosary following Mass. All are invited to join us in the recitation of the Rosary. A meeting will follow immediately after in the Parish Center. All ladies of the parish 18 and over are invited to join the Sodality. We are a spiritual group dedicated to the devotion of our Blessed Virgin Mother. Our meetings are held on the second Sunday of the month. For more information please call Carolyn Keiner at 410-848-4563.

CHAMPIONSHIP SUNDAY FOOTBALL...Sunday, Jan. 18
Join the Knights of Columbus and watch the game on the super-sized screen at 2:00 p.m. in the Portico Sports bar atmosphere. Games, food, beer and sodas. \$20 per person. Contact Lou Stachowiak at 410-635-2583, lwstack@comcast.net. or Rich Nestor at 410-751-5258 for reservations or information.

OUR CATHOLIC FAITH PROGRAM....Thurs., Jan. 15
Are you fuzzy about some of the particulars of the Catholic Faith? Do you have some gaps in your formation? Maybe you have questions but don't know who to ask for answers. Come join the Filiae Mariae program on Our Catholic Faith. We'll come together once a month from 7-8:30 p.m. to learn more about the Fathers of the Church, the Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation and the Holy Eucharist and more. There is no cost—location at the Portico, and refreshments will be served. Call Dawn, 410-876-0250.

RESPECT LIFE 3RD ANNUAL ESSAY/POSTER CONTEST... This year's theme is Human Rights Begin with Human Life! "Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you." Jeremiah 1:5 Contest is open to all 7th and 8th graders. First place winner receives a Creative Labs Zen Mosaic 8GB MP3/Video Player. Entries must be received in the Religious Ed office by January 16th. For more details, email mariamom5@comcast.net. or go to St. John website: Outreach, Pro-Life Ministry

PRE-CANA UPCOMING SESSIONS...Jan. 17, 30 & 31
Please contact Rosalie Seeley at rosalie.seeley@verizon.net to register for upcoming Pre-Cana sessions.

SEEKING OUR LONGEST MARRIED COUPLE...Our parish is participating in Worldwide Marriage Encounter's search for the longest married couple in the Archdiocese of Baltimore. One nominee from each parish will be honored during a special Mass celebrated by Archbishop Edwin O'Brien. Please submit the names, address, wedding date and phone number of your candidate couple, married at least 50 years, to the Parish Office no later than January 18, 2009. The parish will inform the longest married couple that they have been chosen, and the longest married couple from each parish will receive a follow-up call from the World Marriage Day committee, inquiring whether or not they plan to attend the Mass on February 8, 2009 at the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen. All longest married couples will receive a certificate from Worldwide Marriage Encounter.

ANNUAL MARCH FOR LIFE...Thursday, January 22
Mark your calendars! The March for Life will take place in Washington, D.C. on Thursday, January 22. Our parish will sponsor two buses. Details will follow in future bulletins. Please plan on attending this national event that coincides with the anniversary of the Supreme Court decision that legalized abortion.

MEN IN BLACK BASKETBALL...Friday, April 17
Save the date! St. John Parishioners vs. Archdiocesan priests and seminarians in an exciting basketball game at Westminster High School. Don't miss this free, fun-filled evening! Watch the bulletin for more details.

"ILLUMINATE" CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE..
Save the dates October 9 and 10, 2009 at St. John-Westminster and register early. Goal is 1000 women. For information call Jeanne Link at 443-324-8487 or jillmickey@verizon.net.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR—THANK YOU...I would like to thank all the committee chairpersons, their volunteers, the Knights of Columbus, St. John Roses, Scouts, Life Teen, the school and parish staff and all the organizations and individuals who helped to support the Christmas Bazaar and make it so successful. Without the support of all those who contribute their time and donations, the Bazaar could not function. Thank You-Jim Diggs, Chairman

OUTREACH

* THE ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY *

Today we celebrate the Feast of the Epiphany, where the Magi find the newborn king and offer him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. In the spirit of the Magi, please put your gift in the St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box so that comfort and peace can once again be given to a newborn child.

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

The next St. Vincent de Paul meeting will be *Wednesday, January 7th at 7:00 p.m. in the Portico.*

IN OUR COMMUNITY

ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON'S FEAST DAY...Sun., Jan. 4

The Daughters and Sisters of Charity will celebrate St. Elizabeth Ann Seton's feast day and open the bicentennial celebration of her continuing legacy starting with a Mass at 2:30 p.m. in the Basilica of the National Shrine of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Emmitsburg, MD. Light refreshments will follow the liturgy in the museum area. Everyone is welcome.

CATHOLICS RETURNING HOME...Sunday, Jan. 11

St. Joseph's Church in Emmitsburg will offer a six week series entitled "Catholics Returning Home" beginning Sunday, January 11 from 1:15-2:45 p.m. at St. Joseph's Parish Hall, 47 DePaul Street. The sessions are for non-practicing Catholics who are seeking answers to questions about returning to the Church. If you know someone who has left the Church, please invite them to join us. For information, contact Colleen Garrett at 301-845-4753 or colleen-garrett@erols.com

DELONE PLACEMENT TEST...Saturday, January 17

A placement test has been scheduled for those 8th grade students who are interested in attending Delone Catholic High School for the 2009-2010 school year. The test will be administered from 8:00 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. at the school, 140 S. Oxford Ave., McSherrystown, PA. For more information contact Sr. ZMaria Jude, CSJ at 717-637-5969. All 8th grade applicants to Delone must take this test.

REMINDERS

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS: HOLD THESE DATES:
(For information on any of these events, call the Parish Center)

Jan. 4—KofC Breakfast—Portico

Jan. 11—Hospitality Sundays resume at The Portico

Jan. 12—Meeting for Prospective Kindergarten Parents—7 p.m.

Jan. 17, 30 & 31—Pre-Cana

Jan. 18—Football Championship Sunday—2 p.m.—Portico

Jan. 22—March for Life—Washington, D.C.

Jan. 25 & 27— St. John School Open House

THE PORTICO OF ST. JOHN BOOKS + GIFTS...

We have all your Catholic gift needs for Christmas. Stop by early to take advantage of the many sale items. Have a Blessed Christmas, and thanks for supporting your parish store. Please note that the Portico *Bookstore will be closed from Thursday, Dec. 25 through Friday, Jan. 9th.* We will reopen for normal hours on Saturday, Jan. 10th with special sales throughout the month.

THE PORTICO OF ST. JOHN is a full banquet facility available for wedding receptions, rehearsal dinners, anniversary dinners, birthday parties, baptismal and communion parties, etc. With Wi-Fi capabilities you can also host your next business meeting in The Portico of St. John. Call Terry Jones at 410-848-4744 x216.

HOW TO REGISTER at this PARISH: All new parishioners who wish to register with the parish are invited to receive a welcoming packet from the Parish Office, Ushers, School, Religious Education, or Baptism Preparation Class. Welcome Sessions are held the **last Sunday** of each month at **in the Portico.**