

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, February 16 -Gn 4:1-15, 25; Ps 50; Mk 8:11-13
7:00 a.m. Ed Reisset
8:00 a.m. Sister Mary Kateri, R.S.M.
3:00 p.m. John Glover Robert, Sr. (Mass at Golden Living Ctr)
Tuesday, February 17 -Gn 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10; Ps 29; Mk 8:14-21
7:00 a.m. Ann Amelia Dwyer
8:00 a.m. John Richwalder
Wednesday, February 18 -Gn 8:6-13, 20-22; Ps 116; Mk 8:22-26
7:00 a.m. Eleanor K. Lovell
8:00 a.m. Monica Genevieve Allan
Thursday, February 19 -Gn 9:1-13; Ps 102; Mk 8:27-33
7:00 a.m. Adelaide Muneses
8:00 a.m. Eleanor Ruth Whitecavage
Friday, February 20 -Gn 11:1-9; Ps 33; Mk 8:34—9:1
7:00 a.m. Intention of Stephen Wallace Family
9:30 a.m. William G. Conner, Sr.
Saturday, February 21 -Heb 11:1-7; Ps 145; Mk 9:2-13
8:00 a.m. Intention of Kelly Hollenbaugh
4:30 p.m. Intention of St. John Volunteers
Sunday, February 22 -Is 43:18-25;Ps 41;2 Cor 1:18-22; Mk 2:1-12
7:15 a.m. Anne C. Kehoe
8:45 a.m. Parishioners of St. John
10:30 a.m. Mary Schultz
12:00 p.m. Intention of Rosemary Roenick
3:30 p.m. Louis and Lillian Roos & Gerald Harter
6:00 p.m. Helena Rudzinski

FROM THE PASTOR

Our Pastoral Council has been developing a new strategic plan for the parish. The previous ten year plan was focused on parish facilities. The results of the plan can be seen in the renovations to the school buildings, the parish center, and the former church building and the completion of our new church. The new strategic plan focuses its attention on the life and mission of our parish: Liturgy/Worship, Education (Parish School, Religious Education and Sacrament Preparation), Evangelization/Outreach, Stewardship and Volunteers. As the Pastoral Council and our staff work together to implement the goals and objectives, I invite your prayer, participation and insight. It is my hope that we will continue to develop as a welcoming, prayerful and active parish where families and individuals will be enabled to grow in faith and grace.

May God Bless you,

Mary Ann Valenzano

LITURGY WORSHIP

PERPETUAL ADORATION UPDATE!

ADORERS NEEDED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

Sunday 6:00-7:00 p.m. and 10:00- 11 p.m. .

Monday 2:00-3:00 p.m., Thursday 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Friday 9:00-10:00 a.m. and 2:00-3:00 p.m.

Saturday 4:00-5:00 p.m.

Please call the parish office if you can help to fill these times.

WE PRAY ...

WE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE of Joseph Edward Kureth,, Jr., Richard K. Kelly, Thomas M. DeGraves, and Fr. Charles Riepe 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 Pat Moses, David Chaney, Minnie Ridely, Vincent DiPietro, Julia Ford, Eleanor Wood, Shari Griffith, Patricia Williamson, Scott Gilmore, Charles Payne, Darrell Tenney, Stephen Tamburo, Jr., Robert Krause, Thomas Hackett and Joanne Schoberg.

BAPTISMS: Congratulations and welcome to Kenneth James Lafferty, son of Colleen and Michael Darren Lafferty and Reese Addison Sholkoff, daughter of Kristen and Justin Sholkoff.

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR this weekend are in loving memory of Myrtle E. Dyson from her loving children, Elizabeth and Andy Dyson.

STEWARDSHIP

WEEKLY OFFERING: Weekend of February 8, 2009:

Envelopes: \$22,097.05 Attendance: 3,359
Loose: \$ 5,413.31 Poor Box: \$1,706.51

TOTAL: \$27,510.36

This year's budget is based on a weekly offering of \$32,700.00.
Our current weekly average is \$29,945.45.

CAMPAIGN UPDATE:

Total Pledged:	\$ 7,256,300.83
Paid to Date:	<u>7,181,395.21</u>
Balance	\$ 74,905.62.

ARCHBISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL...We will be conducting our In-Pew pledge process at all Masses today (**Feb. 14-15**) and next week, **Feb. 21 -21**. Please prayerfully consider your participation in this important archdiocesan initiative which touches the lives of so many! This year's theme "Do everything for the glory of God" reminds us that everything we do to live out our faith gives glory to God. Our parish receives 25% of each dollar contributed up to our goal of \$155,988 which this year we will use to assist our sister parish, Our Lady of Pompeii, and our own St. John School's Tuition Assistance Program. Please prayerfully consider making this year the year that you make or renew your donation or pledge to the Archbishop's Annual Appeal. Thank you!

SCHOOL NEWS

Feb. 16—School Closed—Presidents Day

Feb. 17—School Closed—Professional Day

Feb. 18—Grade 6 D.A.R.E.

Feb. 20—School Liturgy—9:30 a.m.

—Grade 6—D.A.R.E. Graduation—gym

Feb. 22—Re-registration of present families at St. John School

Feb. 25—School Liturgy—Ash Wednesday—9:30 a.m.

Feb. 27—School Liturgy—9:30 a.m./Stations of the Cross 2 p.m.

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

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

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 begins Thursday, April 30th and meets 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: There will be no Religious Ed classes on *Sunday, Feb. 15th, Tuesday, Feb. 17th and Thursday, Feb. 19th.*

REMINDER: Catechists and Assistants —there is an Inservice on *Thursday, February 19th* at 6:00 p.m. in the Portico. Dinner will be provided. Hope to see you there.

CONFIRMATION STUDENTS...Your letters to the Bishop are **PAST DUE!** If you haven't turned in your letter as yet, please get them in to the Religious Ed Office now!

REMINDER: Sponsor Candidate Information Session is being held on *February 22 from 1:15-2:45 p.m. in the Portico.*

PARENTS of those students preparing for First Holy Communion should have received information about our Morning of Preparation which will be held in March. If you did not receive this information, please call the Religious Ed Office.

THREE YEAR OLD PROGRAM...The Religious Ed Office is considering the possibility of beginning a program next year for three year olds. If you would be interested in this for your child, please call Ruth at 410-848-8443.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL...June 22-26

Anyone who would be interested in helping out with our Vacation Bible School this summer (Catechist, classroom assistant, snack, music, craft, babysitting) call the Religious Ed office.

—THE EDGE— (Grades 6, 7 & 8) —

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

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for SHROVE TUESDAY...Anyone interested in volunteering to help out with our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on *Tuesday, Feb. 24th*, call Jordon at 410-848-8443. ***Service hours are available for this project.***

— LIFE TEEN (Grades 9 -12) —

Life 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!

Feb. 15—Lights Out Dodge Ball: It's simple—we give you glow sticks, turn out the lights, and throw our glow in the dark (and soft) balls around! You loved dodge ball as a kid, you'll flip for Lights Out Dodge Ball!

Feb. 22—The Truth Comes Out: What is the Catholic Church's teaching on Homosexuality? Do you know the truth? Come find out this week!

Feb.24—New and Expanded Pancake Dinner! Don't miss our parish's annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake dinner from 4:00-7:30 p.m. in the Portico. We will have a new expanded menu this year! You do not want to miss this!

March 27-29—Life Teen Spring Retreat: Mark your calendars. It's going to be a great event! The cost is \$49.00 Confirmation students receive a \$20 discount for signing up! Deadline for signing up is *March 1st—after which the cost is \$75.00.*

ACTIVITIES IN OUR PARISH

HOSPITALITY SUNDAYS...in the Portico after the 7:15, 8:45 and 10:30 a.m. Masses. Come and enjoy a continental breakfast and have a chance to meet your fellow parishioners in a welcoming community atmosphere after Mass on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays of the month. Volunteers are still needed to help. Contact Bob Andrews at 410-876-9151 or email robertandrews@comcast.net.

CUB SCOUT BLUE & GOLD DINNER...Monday, Feb. 16

Cub Scout Pack 420 will celebrate its **50th Anniversary**. The Pack would like to thank the parish for its continued sponsorship and support throughout these years in developing the character of young boys. If you are a former scout, or leader and would like to share some memorabilia or celebrate with the Pack join us at 6:30 p.m. in the Portico. Contact Chris Joneckis at joneckis@comcast.net.

OUR CATHOLIC FAITH PROGRAM....Thurs., Feb. 19

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, ***(for women only)***. 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.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MOVIE NIGHT...Fri., Feb. 20

The Knights will hold a **FREE** movie night from 7:00-9:30 p.m. at the Portico. The movie will be "The Robe" featuring Victor Mature, Richard Burton, Michael Rennie and Jean Simmons. For information contact Chuck Witte at 410-875-2759.

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE DINNER.....Tues., Feb. 24

Don't miss our parish's annual ***Shrove Tuesday Pancake dinner from 4:00-7:30 p.m. in the Portico.*** We will have a ***new and expanded menu*** this year! You do not want to miss this! A free will offering to benefit the Youth Ministry in the parish is requested. Watch this space for a new detailed menu !

WISDOM CLUB...Thursday, Feb. 26

We will meet at 12:00 noon for Mass celebrated by Msgr. Art followed by lunch in the Portico. Bring your bag lunch. Desserts and drinks will be provided. The program for February is a presentation by Cindy Martin from Copper Ridge who will talk to members about Alzheimers. Members \$5.00 dues will be collected this month. For further information, contact Bonnie at 410-795-0786.

PARISH FISH FRYS... Friday, February 27

Join us for our first fish fry of the Lenten season! Join us Fridays during Lent (except April 3rd & Good Friday) at the Portico of St. John. Fish and shrimp dinners are served from 4-7 p.m. For more information call Anna Ludwig at 410-848-4744 x 403 or Lou Stachowiak at 410-635-2583. Adult plate (fish) \$7.00, shrimp dinners \$9.00, shrimp baskets \$3.00; kids plate (5-10) - \$4.00 (children under 5 -eat free). Cash and checks accepted. **Service hours available. If Carroll County Schools close early the Fish Fry will be cancelled.**

ST. JOHN BLOOD DRIVE...Monday, March 2

The next blood drive will be from 2:00-8:00 p.m. on Monday, March 2nd at the Portico. We received 88 pints in December. We still can use phone callers and canteen help. To make an appointment call Ted Cook at 410-876-2107. Give the gift of life—Donate!

WOMENHEART PRESENTATION...Tuesday, March 3

Join us for a presentation at 7 p.m. in the Parish Center by Carrie Vincent, a St. John parishioner, who at age 31 suffered a heart attack and is now a spokesperson for WomenHeart, The National Coalition for Women with Heart Disease. Heart Disease is the leading cause of death in women in this country. Come and hear Carrie's story and get vital information that could save your life or that of a friend or family member. RSVP: 410-848-4744 x 236.

BOYS BASKETBALL BULL ROAST...Saturday, March 7

The St. John Boys K-9 Basketball League is sponsoring a bull roast from 7:00 p.m.- midnight at Martin's Westminster. Come and enjoy a night of music, 50/50 drawing, silent auction, money wheel, door prizes and a menu of pit beef, ham, BBQ pork ribs, beer, soda and more. Cost is \$35 per person in advance and \$40 at the door. For tickets or more information, call Debbie Neal at 443-789-4159 or email stjohnboysbasketball@yahoo.com. Have a fun evening out and help support the league!

ANNUAL MOTHER/DAUGHTER TEA...Sunday, March 22

Hold the date for our Annual Mother/Daughter Tea to be held from 1:30-3:30 p.m. in the Portico. All mothers, grandmothers, aunts, and girls ages 12-16 are invited for a fun-filled afternoon. Speakers, door prizes and good information will be presented in a beautiful "tea" setting. Watch the bulletin for ticket information or call Patti Spaar at 410-861-8510 for details. Sponsored by Respect Life.

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.

BASKET/BAG BINGO...Friday, April 24

Save the date for this event! Tickets will be available in March and are \$12.00 each. Call the parish office or watch the bulletin for more details.

"ILLUMINATE" CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE..

Save the dates **October 9 and 10, 2009** at St. John-Westminster . Registration will begin on April 13th. We must hold the conference to no more than 1000 women, so register early! Go to www.catholicilluminate.com. To help with the conference contact Jeanne Link at 876-3784. or jllmickey@verizon.net.

SUNDAY NURSERY for ages 1-5 every Sunday 8:45 and 10:30 a.m. Masses. Held in classroom 2A of the school. Call Lucy McGinty for details 410-848-2722.

RANGER ROSARY MINISTRY..We continue to have more requests for the Rosaries we make. The troops and the Chaplains appreciate getting the Rosaries and Holy Cards we send. To date we have made and shipped over 3000 Rosaries and prayer cards. Our thanks for the generous donations we have received. Donations can be made by contacting Carolyn Peters at 410-876-8268 or stop by the Portico on Hospitality Sundays to drop off your donation. We welcome volunteers to help us make Rosaries at the Parish Center.

OUTREACH

*** THE ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY ***

In the Gospel today Jesus moved with pity, touched the leper and healed him. Let us pray today for the grace to be generous with our gifts to help those who are suffering. By your gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul you indeed put your faith into action as you bring healing to the poor, hungry and weeping.

IN OUR COMMUNITY

FURNITURE DRIVE ... Feb. 15 & 17

The youth of St. Joseph Catholic Community in Eldersburg are having a furniture drive for anyone who has decent furniture they would like to donate and for anyone in need of furniture. Furniture can be chosen and taken home on Sunday, Feb. 15 from 2-6 p.m. or Tues., Feb. 17th from 10-2 p.m. Delivery can be arranged For details contact hildt@saintjoseph.cc or call 410-952-5157.

DR. PAUL SCHENCK TO SPEAK...Feb. 19 & 20

Dr. Schenck, Director of Respect Life for the Diocese of Harrisburg will be speaking at several locations in the area on "How New Democrats and New Republicans will reverse Roe vs. Wade and end abortions." On Thursday, Feb. 19th his talk will take place at **St. Joseph Catholic Church in Hanover, PA** (5125 Grandview Road) at 7:30 p.m. Call Mary Martz at 717-633-1688 or e-mail mary_martz@comcast.net. for more details. On Friday, Feb. 20th at 10 a.m. he will speak at **St Peter the Apostle Church in Libertytown**, contact 301-829-2888; at 1:00 p.m. he will speak at **Our Lady's Center in Ellicott City**, contact 410-461-5066 and at 7:30 p.m. he will speak at the **Cathedral of Mary Our Queen Parish Hall**, contact 410-337-3721.

DELONE PLACEMENT TEST...Saturday, March 7

Any 8th grade student interested in attending Delone Catholic High School for the 2009-2010 school year that has not taken the placement test, the test has been scheduled for Saturday, March 7th from 8:00 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. at the school, 140 S. Oxford Ave., McSherrystown, PA. All 8th grade applicants must take this test. For more information call Sr. Maria Jude, CSJ at 717-637-5969.

FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE

COME AND SEE RETREAT...Feb. 27-March 1st

The Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent DePaul are offering a "Come and See" vocation retreat for single women ages 18-35. The retreat will be held in Emmitsburg, MD. If interested, contact Sr. Denise LaRock, D.C. at 410-646-2074 or dccvoc@doc.org. or visit their website: www.the.daughtersofcharity.org.

DISCERNMENT RETREAT...March 13-15

The Little Sisters of the Poor will be hosting a Discernment Retreat in their home of Formation located in Washington, D.C. for young single Catholic women from ages 18-35. There is no fee. If interested, please call, Sr. Julie Marie, LSP at 202-269-1831 or vocwashington@littlesistersofthepoor.org.

ANNUAL MARYLAND MARCH FOR LIFE...Mon., March 9

The evening begins with registration at 5:00 p.m. followed by a 5:30 p.m. Mass with Archbishop Edwin F. O'Brien at St. Mary's Church, 109 Duke of Gloucester St., Annapolis, and then proceeds at 6:40 p.m. with the March to Lawyer's Mall at the State House. Tracey Tiernan, WRBS on-Air Radio will MC the event as we hear from our legislators and let our voices be heard on the protection and sanctity of human life. A minibus will be provided to transport those unable to do the walk, however, it does not have a lift. For more information go to <http://www.marylandmarchforlife.org>.

REMINDERS

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS: HOLD THESE DATES:

(For information on any of these events, call the Parish Center)

Feb. 19—Catholic Faith Program for women—7 p.m. Portico

Feb. 27—Parish Fish Fry—4-7 p.m. Portico

Mar. 7—Boys Basketball Bull Roast—Martin's Westminster

Mar. 22—Mother/Daughter Tea—1:30 p.m. -Portico

Apr. 17—Men in Black Basketball—Westminster High School

Apr. 24—Basket Bingo—Portico

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

We are gearing up for First Holy Communion and Confirmation Season. Shop early and save \$\$\$! To commemorate your child's First Communion, we have a wide selection of gifts including special First Communion rosaries, cards, jewelry with Eucharistic designs, First Communion gift sets that include rosaries, scapulars, children's missals and monstrance pins. We also carry ties, purses, crosses, photo frames and more. Ask about our personal engraving for jewelry and imprinting on a selection of Bibles.

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.

WELCOME SESSIONS for parishioners wishing to register with the parish are held the last Sunday of each month at 10 a.m. in the parish center.