

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, March 16 -2 Kgs 5:1-15b; Ps 42 and 43; Lk 4:24-30

7:00 a.m. Theresa Owens

8:00 a.m. Marge Robison

3:00 p.m. Joseph John Tiszl (Mass at Golden Living Center)

Tuesday, March 17 -Dn 3:25, 34-43; Ps 2; Mt 18:21-35

7:00 a.m. Joanne E. Schoberg

8:00 a.m. Gordon H. Mallonee

Wednesday, March 18 -Dt 4:1, 5-9; Ps 147; Mt 5:17-19

7:00 a.m. Horace M. McCullin, Jr.

8:00 a.m. Eleanor K. Lovell

Thursday, March 19-Sm7:4-5a;Ps 89;Rom 4:13,16-22;Mt 1:16,18-24a

7:00 a.m. Vincent DiPaula

8:00 a.m. Intention of Gordon Jenkins

Friday, March 20—Hos 14:2-10; Ps 81; Mk 12:28-34

7:00 a.m. Dorothy Eckert

9:30 a.m. Charles Young

Saturday, March 21 -Hos 6:1-6; Ps 51; Lk 18:9-14

8:00 a.m. Irene Sternick

4:30 p.m. Anthony Colodonato

Sunday, March 22 -2 Chr 36:14-16;Ps 137; Eph 2:4-10;Jn 3:14-21

7:15 a.m. Parishioners of St. John

8:45 a.m. Rosemary Klunk

10:30 a.m. Bernadette French

12:00 p.m. Rosario and Vincent Maranto

3:30 p.m. Gilberto G. Vasquez & Victor M. Gutierrez Almeida

6:00 p.m. Intention of Fr. Raphael Murillo

FROM THE PASTOR

After twenty-five years of dedicated service as the principal of our parish school, Miss Patricia Brink has decided to move on to a new ministry and not return to St. John School this fall. Miss Brink has shared her decision with the faculty, staff, parents and students. I am deeply grateful to Miss Brink for her leadership, cooperation and faithful ministry. The parish will host a reception this spring to express our appreciation. Information will be in the bulletin. In order to coordinate a smooth transition and identify the best possible person for the position, the Archdiocese is forming a search committee. I will keep the school and parish informed of the progress. I encourage your prayers for Miss Brink and our parish school. Your continued cooperation is deeply appreciated.

May God Bless You,

Mex. Ant. Valenzuela

SCHEDULE CHANGES...The 12 Noon Mass will be changed to 12:15 *beginning on Palm Sunday, April 5th*. The later start will allow additional time for fellowship following the 10:30 Mass, as well as eliminate some of the parking lot congestion. Thank you for your cooperation.

Parishioners are encouraged to take advantage of "The Light is On For You" Reconciliation opportunities on the Wednesdays of Lent from 7p.m. to 8:30p.m. The Parish Lenten Penance Service will take place on Wednesday, March 25 at 7 p.m. There will be *no scheduled Reconciliation during Holy Week*. Please note this is a change in the previously published Lenten schedule.

LITURGY WORSHIP

PERPETUAL ADORATION UPDATE!

ADORERS NEEDED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

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

Saturday 3:00- 4:00 p.m. and 4:00-5:00 p.m.

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

STATIONS OF THE CROSS... Friday, March 20

2:00 p.m. (children's format) and 7:00 p.m. *On First Fridays stations will follow the 7 p.m. Mass.*

WE PRAY ...

WE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE of Rosie Bonsuk, Eugenia Leist, Fr. John Ward, Paul Sampogna, Joseph Nelson Spurlink, Maureen Carlson and Anne Horst 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 Eugene Belk, Clarence Flook, Donald Jezierski, Carol Ann Segovia, Joe Palmerino, Gordon Jenkins, Marian Brownhill, Stephen Tamburo, Jr., Bernie Amrhein, Floyd McCurdy, Robert Wellbrock and Jim Brown.

BAPTISMS: Congratulations and welcome to Charles Collin Mackie, son of Kimberly and William Mackie.

STEWARDSHIP

WEEKLY OFFERING: Weekend of March 7-8, 2009

Envelopes: \$24,164.55 Attendance: 3,302

Loose: \$ 4,680.23 Poor Box: \$1,912.29

TOTAL: \$28,844.78

This year's budget is based on a weekly offering of \$32,700.00. Our current weekly average is \$29,785.38.

CAMPAIGN UPDATE:

Total Pledged: \$ 7,262,817

Paid to Date: 7,189,448

Balance \$ **73,369**

SCHOOL NEWS

Mar. 16—Vision & Hearing Screening Gr. K, 1, 4 & 8

Grade 6—Camp Hashawha

Mar. 17—St. Patrick's Day—Students can accessorize with green and white

Grade 6—Camp Hashawha

Mar. 18—Early school dismissal at 12:15 p.m.

Grade 6—Camp Hashawha

Mar.19— Grade 6—Camp Hashawha

Mar.20— School Liturgy @ 9:30 a.m.—Church
Stations of the Cross—2 p.m.—Church

Grade 6—Camp Hashawha

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

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.

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.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

RCIA...Over the next few weeks, those in RCIA will participate in the "Scrutiny Rites" during the 8:45 a.m. Mass. These rites are celebrated to help deliver the elect from the power of sin, to protect them from temptation, and to give them strength in Christ, who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. The celebrations of the Scrutinies also remind our whole parish community of the need to reflect upon their own sins and the need for God's mercy.

BIBLE STUDY...Thanks to all who have been participating in our parish's study of St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians. Our study of Second Corinthians *will begin the last week of April*. Registration forms will be available at the end of March. Everyone is welcome to join us, even if you haven't studied the Bible before.

ADULT CONFIRMATION...Our Adult Confirmation class will begin on *Thursday, April 30th*. This five week session is open to all baptized adults (18+) who for whatever reason never received this sacrament. Registration forms are available on our parish website under the Faith Formation (Adults/Adult Confirmation) tab. If you have any questions, please contact Paul Gallagher.

Religious Ed./Youth Activities

Religious Education Office: (410) 848-8443

STUDENTS PREPARING FOR FIRST COMMUNION...

The morning of Preparation will be held on *Saturday, March 21st at 9:00 a.m. beginning in the School Gym*. All Tuesday Religious Ed./Sunday Religious Ed and Home Study/Homeschool Students preparing for First Communion should attend with one parent.

TO ALL RELIGIOUS ED FAMILIES...ClosingAlerts.com and MyAlerts.us has discontinued its online operation. If you have signed up to receive emails/text messages for weather related cancellations, this service is no longer available. All client's account information is cancelled and will not be sold or transferred to another service. *When Religious Ed classes are cancelled due to inclement weather we will post the information on our parish website www.sjwest.org (click on FAITH FORMATION and then Pre K through 8th grade) by 7:00 a.m. for Sunday classes and by 2:00 p.m. for Tuesday, Thursday and Wednesday Home Study Classes.*

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!

Sun., March 22—Edge Night for all 6-8th graders in the Gym!

— 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!

YOUNG APOSTLES 2009-2010...Calling all our 10th and 11th graders! Do you have what it takes to be a Young Apostle? The Young Apostles are our High School Leadership team that helps out **LIFE TEEN** and Confirmation throughout the year. You will get to help us with various activities like the skits on the Confirmation Retreat. Also, we have a special retreat for you during the summer! If you are interested, keep an eye on this space! *We will post an application on our LIFE TEEN website starting on March 8th!*

March 15..."Coming Attractions"— Ever wonder what Heaven, Hell and Purgatory is like? This night you'll find out as we take you on a spiritual tour of the after life.

March 22—Cold Coffee House... Our next **LIFE TEEN** Cold Coffee House is schedule for *March 22!* If you sing, act, are in a band or have some other random talent, sign up and perform your act for your fellow classmates! And, if you don't want to perform, come hang out and enjoy our awesome coffee house atmosphere! If you want to *sign up* an act, you must contact Kenn *no later than March 16th!*

March 27-29—Life Teen Spring Retreat: "Heroic Virtue" If you missed the sign up for our Spring Retreat (March 27-29) there is still time! For Confirmation students, the price is \$29. For everyone else, the cost is now \$75.00.

STEUBENVILLE 2009: Just a reminder that the 2nd payment for Steubenville of \$95 is *due by March 22nd*. That is just 3 weeks away!

ACTIVITIES IN OUR PARISH

DEEPEN YOUR LENTEN EXPERIENCE...As we approach the middle of Lent, consider entering more deeply into the mystery of Our Lord's Passion, Death and Resurrection. Stop by the Parish Library in the Parish Center and borrow a good book, CD, video or DVD from our Lenten display. Library hours can be found on the front of the bulletin. While you're there, you may also want to spend some quiet time with Jesus in the Perpetual Adoration Chapel.

OPERATION RICE BOWL: Third Sunday of Lent—The Cleansing of the Temple... Today we read of Jesus cleansing the Temple. This story has a sense of urgency. It is not about anger; it's about transformation. Jesus is saying: "No more business as usual. There is not much time left. Be converted, be cleansed because the reign of God is at hand." As we continue our Operation Rice Bowl journey let us remember in **prayer** that all humanity has been made in the image of God. Through our actions we must express that each person is precious and that the lives and welfare of all people are priorities. May our **fasting** keep us mindful of the hunger of the people of the world. May our almsgiving assist Catholic Relief Services as we **learn** about programs that care for Orphans and Vulnerable Children in Tanzania.

THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU—Wednesday, March 18

Our parish is participating in an Archdiocesan-wide reconciliation program initiated by Archbishop O'Brien called "*The Light is On for You*" on Wednesdays in Lent (March 25 (Parish Penance Service) and April 1). from 7:00-8:30 p.m. If you have been reluctant to come to the sacrament or have been away for some time or just found it difficult to get to regularly scheduled times for confession, this is a great opportunity to receive penance.

STEUBENVILLE ADULT SUMMER CONFERENCE... Ever wonder what goes on at the Steubenville Youth Conferences that cause our teens to be on fire with the Spirit? Join us as we discuss the upcoming Defending The Faith Conference (7/31-8/2) to be held at Franciscan University. Please join us and find out what goes on at these conferences and learn about this faith building weekend. We will meet in the Marian Room in the Parish Center at 7 p.m. on **March 19th**. For information, call John Bryan at 410-848-7126.

PARISH FISH FRY...Friday, March 20

Join us for another Lenten Friday Fish Fry at the Portico of St. John (except April 3rd & Good Friday). Fish and shrimp dinners are served from 4-7 p.m. Adult plate (fish) \$7.00, shrimp dinners \$9.00, shrimp baskets \$3.00; also vegetable lasagna dinner (\$7.00); 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.* For details call Anna Ludwig at 410-848-4744 X403 or Lou Stachowiak at 410-635-2583.

HOSPITALITY SUNDAY...Sunday, March 22

Come join us, relax and enjoy a continental breakfast, and have a chance to meet your fellow parishioners in a welcoming community atmosphere after the 7:15, 8:45 and 10:30 a.m. Masses.

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

Join us from 1:30-3:30 p.m. at The Portico for the Annual Mother/Daughter Tea. We are pleased to have Christine Friedrich from Generation Life speaking on "Healthy Peer Relationships, Chastity and Vocations" as well as Rachel Harkins from Mt. De Sales to talk about "Facebook, Texting, and the Safe Way of Using Them." All mothers, grandmothers, aunts and girls ages 12-18 are invited for a fun-filled afternoon with door prizes and good information in a beautiful "tea" setting. *Tickets are \$5.00 and now available at the Portico Book Store. For details call Patti Spaar at 410-861-8510.*

ST. JOHN BLOOD DRIVE...Monday, March 23

Due to inclement weather our recent blood drive had to be rescheduled and will be held on **Monday, March 23rd from 2-8 p.m.** in the Portico. We could use phone callers and canteen help. To make an appointment or to help call Ted Cook at 410-876-2107.

WISDOM CLUB...Thursday, March 26

The Wisdom Club will meet at noon for Mass celebrated by Msgr. Art followed by our St. Patrick's Day Pot Luck luncheon in the Portico. Those members whose last names begin with **M through Z** are responsible for bringing a luncheon item. For further information, call Bonnie at 410-795-0786.

NEW ALTAR SERVERS MEETING...Tuesday, March 31

Any student in the parish who will be entering the 5th grade in September, 2009 or older, who would like to serve on the altar is requested to attend one informational meeting on March 31st at the Parish Center. There will be one meeting at 3:30 p.m. and another at 7:00 p.m. One or both parents is requested to accompany the student. Please call Jim Diggs, at 410-302-3312 if you have any questions.

MEN IS BLACK POSTER CONTEST...Deadline April 6

For all parishioners from K-8th grade. Create an 11x17 poster to encourage religious vocations, using crayons, colored pencil, markers or paint. This year's theme is "*Pray like you play...seriously!*" Winners will be announced and prizes awarded at the Men in Black game. Call Betty Belk at 410-848-9391 for more information.

NEW ALTAR SERVER TRAINING...Tues., April 7 and 14

New altar servers must attend two training sessions. Training will be held in the Church on the following dates:

Tues., April 7th-4:00-5:00 p.m. Tues., April 14th-4:00-5:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 15th—7:00-8:00 p.m.

If necessary, additional dates will be scheduled. For additional information contact Jim Diggs, at 410-302-3312.

MEN IN BLACK BASKETBALL...Friday, April 17

7th Annual Event at 7:00 p.m. at Westminster High School. Come enjoy an exciting evening of activities and watch our Archdiocesan priests and seminarians play against St. John parishioners. If you would like to play on the St. John 2009 parish team (high school-age through young adults), please **contact Betty Belk at 410-848-9391 by March 27th.**

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 for more details.

"ILLUMINATE" CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE...

Save the dates of October 9 and 10, 2009 at St. John-Westminster. Registration begins 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 4432-324-8487 or jllmickey@verizon.net

RANGER ROSARY... The widespread popularity of this combat rosary requested by the Chaplains allows this powerful prayer tool to be in the hands of our troops. The Chaplains say it is being prayed especially in times of danger. There are 25 church groups plus hundreds of individuals all making the rosaries for over 260 Chaplains who have received them. Our Lady must be very happy! Come and visit our table at the Fish Fry and Hospitality Sunday to make a donations and see an example of the rosaries. Volunteers are welcome at our meetings on the 2nd and 4th Fridays 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. in the parish center. Contact Carolyn Peters at 410-876-8268.

OUTREACH

THE ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY

In today's Gospel Jesus is asked "What sign can you show us?" Everyday we can see signs of how God has visited us in the blessings of our lives. Let us be a sign of God's love by being a blessing to others. Is there a family you know who needs assistance? Please call the Society of St. Vincent de Paul so that together we can help the suffering and the poor.

Please continue to help minister to the poor in Carroll County by remembering that this Saturday and Sunday, (*the 3rd weekend of each month is Food Sunday*). Please bring your donations and place them in the baskets in the narthex of the church.

IN OUR COMMUNITY

PARISH MISSION...Sunday, March 29-March 31

Fr. Leo Patalinghug, S.T.L., Director of Pastoral Field Education at Mount St. Mary's Seminary in Emmitsburg will be directing a Parish Mission at St. Ursula Church in Parkville, at 7:00 p.m. each evening. The theme is "Finding God."

ST. JOSEPH LENTEN RETREAT...Sun., March 29-31

St. Joseph Catholic Community in Sykesville is holding a Lenten Retreat entitled "*Reality Living*" an invitation to live each day to the fullest from 7:30-8:30 p.m. each evening. The presenter will be Mike Patin from the Diocese of New Orleans. For more information contact Jackie Antkowiak at 443-920-9107.

PARISH LENTEN RETREAT...Monday, March 30-April 1

St. Bartholomew Catholic Church in Manchester will be holding a Lenten Retreat at 7:30 p.m. each evening directed by Fr. Paschal Morlino.O.S.B. Each evening will include prayer, talk and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. For more information contact Tom Abbot at 410-239-8881.

REMINDERS

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS: HOLD THESE DATES:

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

Mar. 15—Hospitality Sunday –after morning Masses– Portico

Mar. 18—Reconciliation –7-8:30 p.m.—Church

Mar. 20—Parish Fish Fry—4-7 p.m.—Portico

Mar. 22—Hospitality Sunday –after morning Masses– Portico

Mar. 22—Mother/Daughter Tea-1:30-3:30 p.m.—Portico

Mar. 23—St. John Blood Drive—2-8 p.m.

Apr. 17— Men in Black Basketball—7:00 p.m.—WHS

Apr. 24— Basket/Bag Bingo—Portico

Oct. 9-10— Illuminate Catholic Women's Conf.

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.

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 Parish Center.**