

## MASS INTENTIONS

**Monday, -November 30**-Rom 10:9-18; Ps 19; Mt 4:18-22

7:00 a.m. Edward & Lillian Swinderman

8:00 a.m. Richard A. Marble

3:00 p.m. Int. of Karen Feroli (Mass at Golden Living Center)

**Tuesday, -December 1**-Is 11:1-10; Ps 72; Lk 10:21-24

7:00 a.m. Richard Baeder

8:00 a.m. Frances Petkovsek

**Wednesday, -December 2**-Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23; Mt 15:29-37

7:00 a.m. Joseph Manampampil

8:00 a.m. Florence L. Benesh

**Thursday, -December 3**-Is 26:1-6; Ps 118; Mt 7:21, 24-27

7:00 a.m. T. R. O'Farrell

8:00 a.m. Marian Flynn

**Friday, -December 4** -Is 29:17-24; Ps 27; Mt 9:27-31

7:00 a.m. Jane McKenny

9:30 a.m. Intention of Carolyn Peters

**Saturday, -December 5**-Is 30:19-21,23-36;Ps 147;Mt 9:35-10:1,5a,6-8

8:00 a.m. David Clingan, Sr.

4:30 p.m. Stanley Grzasko

**Sunday, -December 6** -Bar 5:1-9; Ps 126; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11;Lk 3:1-6

7:15 a.m. Teresa Berry

8:45 a.m. Candice Brown

10:30 a.m. Intention of Lisa Streib

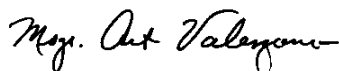
12:15 p.m. Atemkeng L. Fonfong

6:00 p.m. Parishioners of St. John

## FROM THE PASTOR

Welcome to Advent! This holy season of prayerful preparation for Christmas is also a time to focus our attention on Christ. I would like to call your attention to several parish activities that build community, support the mission of our church and provide us with opportunities to invite family, friends and neighbors to our parish. The Advent Penance Service is scheduled for Wednesday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 7p.m.. Several visiting priests will be available to help. The Inaugural School Gala to recognize the distinguished career of our school alumnus Charles Fisher, Sr. will take place next Friday evening (December 4<sup>th</sup>) in the Portico. All proceeds from the Gala will be used to support the School Tuition Assistance Endowment Fund. The St. Vincent de Paul Adopt-A-Family Christmas program needs as much support as we can offer. Our 56<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas Bazaar is on Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 a.m. till 4:00 p.m. Our choir will present a Christmas Cantata on Saturday evening December 5<sup>th</sup> at 7 O'clock in the church. I am deeply grateful for the many volunteers whose hard work and dedication make these events and activities possible.

May God Bless you,



**REMINDER...CHANGE OF TIME FOR SPANISH MASS...**  
Beginning Sunday, December 6th, there will *no longer be* a 3:30 Mass. The Spanish Mass will be at 12:15 p.m. on Sundays.

## LITURGY & WORSHIP

### PERPETUAL ADORATION UPDATE...

We are currently in need of an adorer for *Sundays* from 11:00-12:00 midnight If you can fill this hour, please call Agnes at the Parish Center, 410-848-4744 x 219.

### PARISH-WIDE ROSARY CAMPAIGN..*Began Sun., Nov. 22*

The Rosary will be recited in the Church each week between the 8:45 and 10:30 a.m. Masses. The Rosary will begin at 9:55 a.m. and will be offered for all intentions of the parishioners. We will meet in the Church near the Blessed Mother statue. Everyone is welcome to join us as we lift up to God the needs of our families, church, communities and the world.

### FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION *This is a holy day of obligation.*

The Mass schedule is as follows:

**Monday, Dec. 7** Vigil Mass at 7:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, Dec. 8** Masses at 7 & 9:30 a.m., 12 noon and 7 p.m.

## WE PRAY ...

**WE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE** of Denise Swartzbaugh, Willa Shriver, Jack Markland, Marie Pepsin, Natalie Emery, Alberto Delgado-Medina and William T. Schuyler and for their families and friends.

**WE ASK YOUR PRAYERS** for all who are homebound or in nursing homes and for all the sick, especially Erin Dean, Karen Feroli, Julia Ford, Rosina Pantaleo, Todd DiMario, Larry McDaniel, Doris Hoffman, John Burns, Sr., Rosemary Myer, Linda Knight, Joseph Kase, Jay Underkoffler, Barbara Shifflett and John Rafferty.

**BAPTISMS...**Congratulations and welcome to Tiffany Elizabeth Cutson, daughter of Susan and Charles Cutson; Brady Francis McGuire, son of Marie and Francis McGuire, Jr.; Colton Conoway Swanson and Trey Matthew Swanson, sons of Lynda and Todd Swanson.

## STEWARDSHIP

**WEEKLY OFFERING:** Weekend of November 21-22, 2009

Due to an early printing time for the bulletin, the collection information will be reported in the bulletin on December 6th.

## SCHOOL NEWS

**GIFT CARDS...**will be sold after all Sunday masses through December 13 for Neighbors in Need and/or your personal use. Gift cards are also available in the school office from 8:30-3:45 pm Monday thru Friday, at the Knights of Columbus breakfast and Hospitality Sundays. Donations for Neighbors in Need are gratefully accepted. If anyone would like to place a large order for gift cards for the Christmas season, please call the school office by December 9th. Gift cards are available for Food Lion, Giant/Martins. Shoppers, Super Fresh, Weis, Boscov's and Kohl's. For more information call the school office at 410-876-7228.

## FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

**ST. JOHN LIVE/SILENT AUCTION AND DINNER** will be held *Saturday, Jan. 16th*. Donated items would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Ginger Bruha at 410-635-3532 or [sgbruha@gmail.com](mailto:sgbruha@gmail.com). Visit our website at [www.sjwestschool.org](http://www.sjwestschool.org) to view the auction site and for donor forms.

### SCHOOL NEWS

**Dec. 8**—Mass-Immaculate Conception—9:30 a.m.-Church  
**Dec. 9**—Kindergarten St. Nicholas Program—6:30 p.m.—gym  
**Dec. 10**—School Advent Penance Service—10 a.m. Church  
**Dec. 11**—School Liturgy—9:30 a.m.—Church  
PTF Spirit Night & Family Fun Event—7-9 Portico  
**Dec. 12**—Baltimore H.S. Placement Test—8:30-11:30 a.m.

### ADULT FAITH FORMATION

#### COLLEGE RETREAT...December 18-19

We will be offering our annual Advent retreat for college-age young adults *December 18-19th at Blue Ridge Summit*. The cost will be \$55. The theme this year is "Behold!" and we will be joined by two other parishes, so sign up early! More information is available on the parish website under youth tab. *Parents, please pass this information on!*

### Religious Ed./Youth Activities

Religious Education Office: (410) 848-8443

**BAPTISMAL INFORMATION** for any student preparing for Reconciliation and Eucharist **MUST** be turned into the Religious Education Office by *November 30th*. If you do not have this form, please call the Religious Ed Office.

**RELIGIOUS ED CLASSES RESUME** on *Tuesday, Dec. 1st*. There will be **NO CLASSES** on *Thursday, December 3rd* because of the setup for the Christmas Bazaar.

**HOME STUDY CLASSES** will meet on *Wed., Dec. 2nd* at 6:45

**YANKEE CANDLE ORDERS** are due in sometime around November 30th. More exact information will be forthcoming.

### THE EDGE — (Grades 6, 7 & 8) —

We meet the 2nd and 4th Sunday every month from 7:30-9:00 p.m. in the cafeteria. Newcomers are welcome!

**Dec. 13** — The Edge is *making gingerbread houses* and they are not just your everyday gingerbread houses. We are going to make huge mansions to decorate. The best part is you will be able to eat candy while making the houses. Then, afterward you can take them home to share. This is one of our crazy fun nights, lots of candy, icing, chocolate and more. You don't want to miss it. Meet in the gym lobby at 7:30 p.m.

**Dec. 19 & 20** —*Live Nativity*...The Edge needs your help! Ms. Mandy is looking for middle school students to help with the live Nativity this year. The Edge is having it *after the 4:30 p.m. Mass on Saturday, Dec. 19th and after the 6 p.m. Mass on Sunday, Dec. 20th*. She needs about seven kids to volunteer. The cool part is that you are going to be seen by the entire parish, yay! Please contact Mandy Komar at [mkomar@swjest.org](mailto:mkomar@swjest.org) if you want your child to be involved. Thank you for your help!

### — 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!

**Nov. 29—R-U-IN...**Have you ever wondered why the Catholic Church says we are the one true faith? Well, it's because we have the best club house, that you have to slide down to get into. What? But, seriously this is going to be a great night that makes you pleased you are Catholic!

**Dec. 6—ALL ROADS LEAD TO...**Do you remember those old "Choose Your Own Adventure" books where you could decide what the main character did? Well, that's what we're doing tonight at LIFE TEEN! You'll get to play a real life version of the book! But, where are you going and what do all roads lead to? Come and find out!

**Dec. 11-13.. GLORIOUS ROCK...**The annual LIFE TEEN Advent Retreat is going to be from Dec. 11-13. Our theme this year is music! We are going to teach you about prayer using the Psalms, such as Liturgy of the Hours. Oh, and did we mention the Guitar Hero Tournament, the Musician Coffee House for anyone to play in and the live rock band we are going to have on retreat with us? So far, over 50 teens have signed up for the retreat! Are you one of them? If not, contact Kenn at [kdemoll@sjwest.org](mailto:kdemoll@sjwest.org) for how you can register for this great event!

### ACTIVITIES IN OUR PARISH

**HEALTH CARE MINISTRY SEEKING DONATIONS...**We are seeking Christmas gifts for shut-ins...Donations of the following items are needed: Kleenex (boutique and pocket size), scotch tape, post-it-notes, hand cream, wet wipes, shampoo, soap, small bottles of sanitizer, chap stick, pens, small pads of paper, band aids, small boxes of Q-tips, emery boards, toothpaste and toothbrushes. **Additional items needed:** Hand towels, kitchen towels, sponges, pot holders, dish detergent and pens. Donations can be dropped off at the Parish Center or at Church. *Label them for Health Care Ministry.*

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO WRAP GIFTS...**we will be wrapping and assembling gifts for the shut-ins from 9:00 a.m. until noon in the Marian Room of the Parish Center. We will continue to do this every Monday until Christmas. Come and join in the fun!

#### HOSPITALITY SUNDAY... Sunday, Nov. 29

Join us for pastries, bagels, juice and coffee after the 7:15, 8:45 and 10:30 a.m. Masses and meet some of your fellow parishioners for some relaxing time and conversation.

#### OPERATION COOKIE DOUGH/ A TASTE OF HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS...Deadline Tuesday, Dec. 1

St. John students will be sending Market Day cookies to the armed forces overseas for the holidays. If you have a loved one, family member or friend whom you would like to receive holiday cookies, drop off their APO address to the school or parish office by *Dec. 1st*. To make a monetary donation or place an order for cookies, call Teresa 410-857-9639 or Terry, 410-848-1487. Please remember our troops for the Christmas holidays and help out!

**ST. JOHN SCHOOL GALA...Friday, December 4**

All parishioners are cordially invited to attend our St. John School Gala at 6:30 p.m. in the Portico. Bishop Rozanski will join Msgr. Art, fellow parishioners, local businesses, alumni and others to honor Mr. Charles O. Fisher, Sr., for his lifetime of community service. Tickets for this special evening, including dinner, music and libations are \$125 each or \$1,500 a table (Black Tie Optional). Proceeds will support our St. John Scholarship Endowment Fund! Your attendance honors two community icons: Mr. Fisher and St. John School! For tickets, call Colleen at 410-876-2248, ext. 218

**CHRISTMAS CANTATA...Saturday, December 5**

The music ministry of St. John's will present a Christmas Cantata from 7-8 p.m. in the Church. Please join us for this evening of sacred music, presented by all the music groups of our parish, to commemorate the birth of our King! A free will offering will be taken (suggested \$5.00 per person attending) and fellowship will follow in the school cafeteria. For more information, please contact Regina McCurdy at 410-876-3850 or [rmccurdy816@yahoo.com](mailto:rmccurdy816@yahoo.com) or Sarah Howes at 443-605-3538, or [dshowes@gmail.com](mailto:dshowes@gmail.com).

**BREAKFAST WITH SANTA...Sunday, December 6**

The Knights of Columbus will be cooking breakfast for the parish in the Portico after the 7:15, 8:45 and 10:30 a.m. Masses and *Santa will be joining us*. This month's Parish Breakfast will benefit the Christmas Bazaar, so please come and have breakfast with Santa. This is an excellent opportunity to support a great cause, meet new parishioners and to enjoy a delicious breakfast of French toast, pancakes, eggs, creamed chipped beef, sausage gravy, corned beef hash and more. Prices are: Adults—\$6.00 and children \$3.00.

**ST. JOHN BLOOD DRIVE... Monday, Dec. 7**

Our next blood drive is Monday Dec. 7th from 2-8 p.m. in the Portico. In memory of all those who shed their blood 68 years ago, please donate. We still need phone callers. To help or to make an appointment call Ted Cook at 410-876-2107.

**WISDOM CLUB CHRISTMAS LUNCH...Thurs., Dec. 10**

Our Christmas luncheon will take place at Martin's Westminster. Arrival time is 11:30 a.m. Lunch will be served at noon. Cost for members is \$30 and for non-members \$32. Entertainment by "Never Too Late Band" from Carroll Lutheran Village. For reservations or more information call Bonnie at 410-795-0786.

**OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE CELEBRATION...Dec. 11-12**

Join us on December 11th in the Church for a "Serenade to the Virgin Mary" with Mariachis from 11p.m. to 1:00 a.m. On December 12th we will begin the celebration at 5:15 p.m. with a procession starting at the Fire Station-Main Street-Pennsylvania Ave.,-Monroe Street and to Church for Mass at 7:00 p.m. A reception will follow Mass at West Middle School Cafeteria with traditional music, dance and food from Mexico.

**ANNUAL MARCH FOR LIFE...Friday, January 22**

*Save the date!!!* The March for Life will take place in Washington, D.C. on Friday, Jan. 22. Our parish will sponsor two buses. Details to follow in future bulletins. Please plan on attending this national event that memorializes the anniversary of the Supreme Court's infamous decision that decriminalized abortion, Roe v. Wade.

**MEN IN BLACK BASKETBALL...Friday, April 30**

Save the date! St. John parishioners vs. Archdiocesan priests and seminarians at Westminster High in an exciting basketball game.

**CHRISTMAS BAZAAR**

**CHRISTMAS BAZAAR 50/50 GRAND RAFFLE...**Please support the raffle to help defray the bazaar expenses. Return the sold or unsold tickets to the parish office or school. Additional tickets are available at the Parish Office, School or Church entrances. **MINIMUM PRIZE IS \$3,000.**

**THE BAKE TABLE...**If you bake it, we will sell it!!! To make the Christmas Bazaar successful, we need hundreds of cookies, cakes, pies, breads, cupcakes and loaf cakes. If you would like to meet people and to help the parish, please consider volunteering to work the day of the bazaar on Dec. 5th. If you can help us by baking or volunteering the day of the bazaar, call Mary Mussari at 410-848-3354 or Mary Jo Judge at 410-857-5655.

**NORTH POLE CANDY TABLE...**We are gratefully accepting Christmas type candy, canes, Santa pops, wrapped chocolate figures and assorted homemade things that children would like to buy, popcorn balls, krispie treats, etc. Creative items are great. Contact me if you can make something or can help out in any way. Donations can be dropped at the school, parish center or in the narthex of the church. Contact Lila Yingling, 410-876-1162.

**CANDY & FUDGE TABLE** needs donations of sugar, chocolate chips, peanut butter, nuts and Kraft marshmallow crème. We will also accept grocery store gift cards! If you have a favorite candy recipe consider making some to donate to the bazaar. We **DESPERATELY NEED DONATIONS!** Donations should be left in the blue containers labeled Candy & Fudge in the back of the church, parish center or school office. For questions or to volunteer call Diane Miller, 410-861-6154.

**ANGELS MINI MALL...**needs large candy bars, scented candles, any bath & body products, kitchen utensils & towels, pot holders, jewelry & boxes, trinkets, pet treats or toys, sports paraphernalia (companies with giveaways, please help!) Your generosity provides our "Little Angels" the opportunity to shop for themselves and experience the joy of the gift giving season. Label donations **ANGELS/Christine Myers**. Volunteers needed. Service hours awarded. For information call Christine 410-876-5627.

**THE MARKETPLACE** will accept donations of useable goods through Wed., Nov. 25th. Items can be put in the school basement on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 6:30-8:30 p.m. We accept household items: lamps, pictures, glassware, linens, baskets, toys, puzzles, games, giftware, decorations, kitchenware, baby items, etc. **NO CLOTHES OR SHOES.** Call Regina Sell if you have questions 410-876-6170.

**STUFFED ANIMALS AND DOLLS** that are clean and in good condition are needed for the bazaar. Same drop-off as Market Place. Call Cathy Hoos at 410-876-2442 if you have any questions.

**THE CHRISTMAS ROOM** is looking for your gently used donations for the Christmas Bazaar. We accept trees, lights, ornaments, nativities, wreathes and everything Christmas. Please call Nora at 410-812-4374.

**CHRISTMAS BAZAAR ITEMS NEEDED...**Check drawers, closets, attics, for statues, pictures, plaques, angels, jewelry, medals, rosaries, etc. (new or used). Call Dawn at 410-876-0250 if you have any questions.

## FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

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### OUTREACH

#### THE ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY

As we begin Advent we are called to “await” in joyful anticipation for the grace of Christmas to once again bless our lives. Your gift in the St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box will help the poor to celebrate the grace of God’s love this Christmas.

The next meeting for St. Vincent de Paul Society will be on **Wednesday, Dec. 2 at 7 p.m. in the Portico**. We look forward to seeing all of our members at this meeting. If you are interested in learning more about our work, please join us at this meeting or call Patty Terrano at 410-857-1473 or contact us at [www.sjwest.org/svdp/index.htm](http://www.sjwest.org/svdp/index.htm) or email us at [svdp@sjwest.org](mailto:svdp@sjwest.org).

**CARING AND SHARING TREE...**the Caring and Sharing Trees will be in the narthex and at the side doors of the Church again this weekend. We are counting on your generosity to provide those in need with a blessed and joyful Christmas. Bring your wrapped gifts with gift tag firmly attached to the altar during Mass on **December 12th and 13th**. The last day we can accept gifts is **Monday, December 14th** in the Portico between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. Thank you for your cooperation and generosity to this worthwhile project.

### REMINDERS

#### UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS: HOLD THESE DATES:

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

**Dec. 4**—St. John Gala Dinner—6:30 p.m. Portico

**Dec. 5**—Christmas Bazaar - 8 a.m.—4 p.m.—school

**Dec. 5**—Christmas Cantata—Church 7-8 pm —Church

**Dec. 6**—Parish Breakfast with Santa—Portico

**Dec. 7**—St. John Blood Drive –2-8 p.m. Portico

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

Stop by for a discount coupon! Lots of Christmas gift items available, including a new children’s Christmas CD recorded by St. John school children,, entitled “St. John School Sing for Christmas 2009.” Volunteers needed for weekends only—must be 18 years of age and STAND trained. See or call Jean at 410-848-9140 for details.

**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 or those who have never registered 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 (Nov. 29)** of each month **in the Portico at 10:00 a.m.**