

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, January 4-1 Jn 3:22—4:6; Ps 98; Mt 4:12-17, 23-25

7:00 a.m. Marjorie B. Case

8:00 a.m. Intention of Sue and Brian Crowley

3:00 p.m. Anna Green (Mass at Golden Living Center)

Tuesday, January 5-1 Jn 4:7-10; Ps 100; Mk 6:34-44

7:00 a.m. Clotilde Drechsler

8:00 a.m. Intention of Katie Brown

Wednesday, January 6-1 Jn 4:11-18; Ps 72; Mk 6:45-52

7:00 a.m. Charles Keiner, III

8:00 a.m. Intention of Peggy Murphy

Thursday, January 7-1 Jn 4:19—5:4; Ps 2; Lk 4:14-22a

7:00 a.m. Intention of Brian & Ellen Reichard

8:00 a.m. William T. Schuyler

Friday, January 8-1 Jn 5:5-13; Ps 72; Lk 5:12-16

7:00 a.m. Intention of Tori Leech

9:30 a.m. Evelyn Young

Saturday, January 9-1 Jn 5:14-21; Ps 72; Jn 3:22-30

8:00 a.m. Lourdes Medina

4:30 p.m. Parishioners of St. John

Sunday, January 10-Is 42:1-7; Ps 29; Acts 10:34-38; Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

7:15 a.m. Goldie Rowell

8:45 a.m. Dennis Swartbaugh

10:30 a.m. Marie Pepsin

12:15 p.m. Andrew Wall

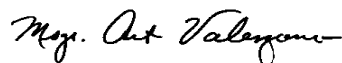
6:00 p.m. Intention of Karen Feroli

FROM THE PASTOR

I join with the pastoral staff to pray that God bless you and your families as we begin the new calendar year. I find it helpful to remind myself that the good intentions of resolutions are best kept one day at a time. The Strategic Plan developed by our Pastoral Council has been summarized on poster board and placed in the narthex of the church, in the parish center, and the school building. Please take a moment to read and hopefully to commit to doing your part to help our parish grow in faith and service to the Lord. Essentially with the help of God's grace we hope to deepen our faith, strengthen our worship, expand our service and share our resources...one day at a time.

One of the blessings of the new calendar year is the sense of a fresh start. It is important that we take advantage of this opportunity to share our vision of what good things God has in store for those who love Him. Thank you for your continued prayers and for all that you do to support the mission of our parish.

May God Bless you,



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.

WE PRAY ...

WE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE of Juana Guerrero Wenceslao Montiel-Briones and Frank Hoffman 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, Mary Ford Naill, Doris Hoffman, Violet Hayes, Michael Clark, Mary Ann Gotschall, Jay Underkoffler, Barbara Shifflett, Joan Fuestle, Marianne Sheehan, David Doan, Margaret Blye and Janet Stewart.

BAPTISMS... Congratulations and welcome to Addison Grace Irons, daughter of Jennifer and Brian Irons; Cole Francis Marble, son of Shannon and Thomas Marble; and Lillian Grace Hill, daughter of Christine and Jonathan Hill.

STEWARDSHIP

WEEKLY OFFERING: Weekend of December 19-20, 2009

Envelopes: \$12,968.50 Attendance: 1,103

Loose: \$ 1,454.12 Poor Box: \$836.00

TOTAL: \$14,422.62

This year's budget is based on a weekly offering of \$30,500.00.

Our current weekly average is \$29,283.78.

Please remember St. John when formulating your will.

STEWARDSHIP

WEEKLY OFFERING: Weekend of December 26-27, 2009

Due to the holiday schedule for the early printing of the bulletin, the weekly offering for the weekend of Dec.26-27, 2009 will appear in the bulletin of January 10, 2010.

THANK YOU to all who contributed to the Retired Religious collection. The total collected was \$9,169.18. Your generosity is very much appreciated.

YEAR END GIVING... Please remember your St. John Parish family when considering your charitable giving options during this special Christmas season of blessings. St. John Church and School helps to make our community stronger in faith and service and a simple monetary gift can represent the tax deduction your family needs while helping us to meet our vision and mission! Thanks for your continued support! And please, remember St. John Church in your Will.

SCHOOL NEWS

ST. JOHN PRE-K PROGRAM 2010-2011 SCHOOL YEAR...

Next year St. John will be offering 2 Pre-K classes for 4 year olds. Any child who is 4 by September 1, 2010 is eligible to enroll. We will offer one class in the morning, 5 days M-F, 8:30-11:30 a.m. Our afternoon class will be 3 days MWF from 1:00-3:00 p.m. Registration will begin in January with the regular school registration. We are in the process of calculating tuition for both programs. Watch the bulletin for more details on Pre-K classes.

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. Visit our website at www.sjwestschool.org to view the auction site and for donor forms.

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

GIFT CARDS...Need a last minute gift for someone? Remember you can purchase gift cards for Kohl's, Boscov's, Giant/Martins, Super Fresh, Shoppers, Weis 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, at the Knights breakfast (1st Sunday of each month) and at Hospitality Sundays. 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

BIBLE STUDY...The Study of St. Mark's Gospel will begin in January, and the Study of the Passion/Resurrection Narratives will begin in February. Registration forms will be available right after Christmas. The cost will remain \$20 per participant, which includes all materials and the teaching DVD used in the groups.

THEOLOGY ON TAP/COFFEE HOUSE...Sun, January 10

Fr. Brian Nolan will be speaking on ways we can keep our New Year resolutions. Time: 7:30-9:00 p.m. at The Portico North. (Please note change of location). Open to all young adults 18-35. Lite refreshments will be available. Fr. Brian, who was an Associate Pastor here at St. John, will also be celebrating the 6:00 p.m. Mass on this Sunday.

Religious Ed./Youth Activities

Religious Education Office: (410) 848-8443

REMINDER...*Classes will resume on Sunday, January 3rd, Tuesday, January 5th and Thursday, January 7th.* The Religious Education Staff wishes all of our students, families, Catechists, Classroom Assistants, Hall Monitors, Office helpers a very blessed New Year.

HOME STUDY CLASSES resume on **Wed., Jan. 6 at 6:45 pm.**

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!

Jan. 10— We are going to have *Flash-light tag, a scavenger hunt and a movie.* This night you are allowed to bring your family along for the fun. Ms. Mandy is allowing all family members to stay with their child and either watch or get involved in some fun games we are going to have. It is important to work together as a family for Christ and this night you won't want to miss. Some of the food will include cookies, popcorn and hot chocolate. Just bring your parents!

Jan. 24 — **Lights out Dodge Ball!** Imagine no lights, glow sticks, and dodge balls! Yes, it is back again, we are having the ultimate Lights out Dodge Ball game! For those of you who have never played this game—it is so much fun! Ms. Mandy will be ready to take no prisoners. Invite friends you have from different schools that are in 6th through 8th grade. They are going to love this game. The teaching is going to be "From Charity to Solidarity."

— 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!

MOUNT 2000...LIFE TEEN will be attending the "*Mount 2000*" *Youth Conference* being held at Mt. St. Mary's Seminary this year from *February 12-14.* This conference features national speakers, live music, Eucharistic Adoration, Mass and the chance to go to reconciliation. It is the same exact feel of Steubenville Youth Conference, but for less than half the cost! This weekend retreat only costs \$70, which includes lodging, food and transportation! A deposit of \$35 is due to Kenn no later than January 10th! After that, the cost increases to \$85! Registration forms are available in the back of the Church and on the LIFE TEEN parish website.

STUEBENVILLE OR MISSION TRIP? It is time to plan for our annual summer trip This year we are exploring replacing the Steubenville trip with a week long service camp run by Catholic Work Heart Camp, based in Lancaster, PA. During the day, you spend your time on various service projects to serve the poor and needy of the area. After the day's work is over, we'll return to our site camp for an evening of praise and worship, talks, skits, adoration, confession and more! We want to offer you the choice of going to Steubenville the weekend of June 25-27 OR traveling to Catholic Work Camp for the week of June 20-26. These dates will be confirmed in mid-January after we register. The cost of Steubenville is \$280. The cost for Catholic Work Heart Camp is \$340. Registration forms are in the back of the Church or e-mail Kenn at kdemoll@sjwest.org, as to your choice of where you would go. Whichever trip is most popular will be where LIFE TEEN will go this summer. A deposit of \$60 in due to Kenn by January 10th for either event.

ACTIVITIES IN OUR PARISH

TRAVELING VOCATIONS CHALICE PROGRAM...Families are needed to pray for vocations. Our Traveling Vocations Chalice has no where to go for the months of January and February. If your family has not yet been blessed with having this beautiful chalice in your home, please consider it. Your family would accept the chalice at a given weekend mass, and pray the daily prayer for vocations for the next 2 weeks. Families then return the chalice to the parish center. Please contact Theresa Greene this week to sign up for the orphaned weeks. 410-876-9578 or treegreene@comcast.net.

PARISH BREAKFAST. Sunday, January 3

The Knights of Columbus Parish Breakfast will be held in the Portico after the 7:15, 8:45 and 10:30 a.m. Masses. The proceeds from this month's breakfast will be for the benefit of a St. John parishioner who is battling Hodgkins Lymphoma cancer and has the additional financial burden of her employer dropping her insurance. Please plan on attending this breakfast on January 3rd and support great cause, meet new parishioners and enjoy a delicious breakfast.

ST. JOHN LADIES SODALITY...Sunday, January 10

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 follows in the Parish Center. Our meetings are held on the 2nd Sunday of the month. For further information contact Carolyn Keiner at 410-848-4563.

HOSPITALITY SUNDAY...Sunday, January 10

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 conversation.

CHRISTMAS CANTATA RESCHEDULED...Sun., Jan. 10

The music ministry of St. John's will present a Christmas Cantata from 3-4 p.m. in the Church. Please join us for this afternoon 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). For more information, please contact Regina McCurdy at 410-876-3850 or rmccurdy816@yahoo.com or Sarah Howes at 443-605-3538, or dshowes@gmail.com.

RESPECT LIFE 4TH ANNUAL ESSAY/POSTER CONTEST..

This year's theme is *Choose Life. God Has a Plan! "For I know well the plans I have in mind for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare not for evil, to give you a future and a hope."* *Jeremiah 29:11* The contest is open to all 7th and 8th graders of St. John Parish. First place winner will receive a Sony 16GB MP3/Video Player. Please turn entries into the Religious Ed office by January 15th. For more details, email Janet at KL4JAN@aol.com.

ST. JOHN SCHOOL DINNER/AUCTION...Saturday, Jan.16

Silent & Live Auction/Dinner tickets are now on sale in the school office or through Michele Kirk at mkirk@sjwest.org. Tickets are \$40 each or two for \$70. If you would like to reserve a table for 10 or 12 contact Michele Kirk.

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 for each parish* will be honored during a special Mass celebrated by Archbishop Edwin O'Brien on *February 14th*. Please *submit the names, address, wedding date and phone number of your candidate couple, married at least 50 years, to the Parish Office Receptionist no later than January 22.* The parish will inform the couple from our parish if they have been chosen.

ANNUAL MARCH FOR LIFE...Friday, January 22

The 36th March for Life will take place in Washington, DC, on Friday, Jan. 22. Two buses will depart from St. John at 9 a.m., returning approximately at 6 p.m. This annual national event commemorates the infamous Supreme Court Roe v. Wade decision which decriminalized abortion for all nine months of pregnancy. Please call Suretha Uebel, 410-346-7280 to reserve your bus seat. You may also enter your name and phone number on the sign-up sheet in the narthex. A voluntary offering will be taken up to help with bus expenses.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS' RETREAT...Saturday, Jan. 23

The Liturgical Ministers' Retreat will be held in the Portico starting with Mass in the Church at 8:00 a.m. Invitations are being sent.

CHAMPIONSHIP SUNDAY...Sunday, January 24

Join us at the Portico from 2:00 PM until ????? Watch the big game on the huge 12-foot theater screen, in a sports bar atmosphere. Plenty of entertainment and games. All you can eat menu includes the famous sausage and subs from Guilianova's, chili, shrimp, beer and soda at \$20 per person. Contact Bill Norton at 410-848-5494, or Louis Stachowiak at 410-635-2583 for tickets and reservations. *All over 21 are welcome!* Bring your friends and family to this annual event sponsored by the Knights of Columbus.

ST. JOHN BLOOD DRIVE...Monday, March 1

Thank you to all who donated at our recent blood drive.. We received 97 pints. Our next drive will be *Monday, March 1st from 2-8 p.m. in the Portico.* Callers are needed. If you can help with this task call Ted Cook at 410-876-2107.

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.

2010 CARNIVAL...Volunteers are needed for the Planning Committee for this wonderful Memorial Day week event. Participation involves attending planning meetings 1 to 2 times per month and membership on a sub-committee to organize events, food, or entertainment. If you are interested in helping, please contact Jim Kramer by email at jimandremark@aol.com or by phone at 301-447-6992. Without devoted volunteers, this traditional worthwhile event may not happen. Please consider helping with this major St. John fundraiser.

RANGER ROSARIES-REMEMBER OUR TROOPS...Although our troops are not visible to us, please remember them in your prayers this busy Advent season. Thanks to you they may have a Ranger Rosary and that is always accompanied by the presence of Our Lady. Donations for this cause can be made by contacting Carolyn Peters at 410-876-8268. Volunteers are welcome to help make Rosaries at the parish center on Fridays 1-3 & 6:30 -8:30 pm.

OUTREACH

THE ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY

The members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society wish all parishioners a Happy New Year. Because of the extraordinary generosity of St. John's parishioners, the adopt a family Christmas sharing program was able to help many families and individuals by supplying food certificates and new gifts of clothing and toys for the Christmas Holiday. Thank you and God Bless all of you.

If you are interested in joining and helping with the St. Vincent de Paul Society, please contact Patty Terrano for more information at 410-857-1473, or visit our website at <http://www.sjwest.org/svdp/index.htm> or email us at svdp@sjwest.org.

FROM THE ARCHDIOCESE

DAY OF REFLECTION FOR COLLEGE AGE MEN...

A day of reflection for college-age men considering the priesthood will take place on *Friday, January 8th from 9-5* at the Cathedral of Mary Our Queen. For more information call 410-547-5426 or visit www.becomeapriest.org.

CHURCH LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE...Monday, Jan. 11

Church Leadership Institute classes will begin the week of January 11th. For more information, visit www.archbalt.org/cli or call 410-547-5470.

RECOVERY WEEKEND FOR MARRIAGE...Jan. 15-17

Retrouvaille (rediscovery) Weekend is being held on Jan. 15-17 in Washington, D.C. for marriages in difficulty This weekend program helps hurting couples heal. Call 410-647-0350 or email TomnCarol@comcast.net. Or visit www.HelpOurMarriage.com.

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

WHEN PARENTS DIVORCE...Tuesday, January 19

Please join us for a practical and hopeful evening for parents, grandparents, family, clergy, school and religious education staff and all who work with or minister to children and youth whose parents are separated or divorced. This Catholic seminar is designed to help parents, children, and all others better understand young people's reactions to parental separation and divorce, their needs in working through this loss, and how to help their healing and growth. This seminar will speak practically, from a human and spiritual perspective, about how we can help our children and youth who are experiencing a separation or divorce at home. There is no cost and no registration necessary. All are invited to join us at 7:00 p.m. at *Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish Center, Ellicott City, MD.* This seminar will be followed up with a Healing Day Retreat for Children and Youth in February.

THE SETON LEGACY...The Seton Legacy DVD will air on EWTN on Monday, January 4th at 3:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

IN OUR COMMUNITY

BASKETBALL "HOOP SHOOT"...Saturday, January 9

The Elks National "Hoop Shoot" Free Throw Contest is open to boys and girls, ages 8 -13. The Westminster Elks Lodge 2277 will have its contest at McDaniel College's Gill Center. Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. and shooting will begin at 9:00 a.m. An awards ceremony will be held after all the contestants shoot. The winner of each division will move on to the district level hoop shoot in Frederick in February. There are six age groups in the competition: boys age 8-9, girls age 8-9, boys age 10-11, girls age 10-11, boys age 12-13 and girls age 12-13. Contestants must be 8 yrs. old as of April 1st. Any questions, call Phil Popleski at 410-599-1319 or email at Pball@hotmail.com

REMINDERS

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

- Jan. 3**—Knights Parish Breakfast—Portico
- Jan. 10**—Hospitality Sunday—after morning Masses
- Jan. 10**—Christmas Cantata—3:00 p.m.—Church
- Jan. 10**—Ladies Sodality—8:45 a.m. Mass
- Jan. 16**—St. John School Dinner/Auction—6 p.m.—Portico
- Jan. 22**—Annual March for Life—Wash. D.C.
- Jan. 23**—Liturgical Ministers' Retreat—8:00 a.m. Church/Portico
- Jan. 24**—Championship Sunday—2 pm.—Portico
- Mar. 1**—St. John Blood Drive—2-8 p.m.—Portico
- Apr. 30**—Men in Black Basketball—7 p.m. Westminster High

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

The Portico Books + Gifts wishes everyone a very Happy NewYear! We will be closing on Christmas Day and reopening on Sunday, January 10th. Thanks for supporting your parish bookstore.

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, or Baptism Preparation Class.