

MASS INTENTIONS

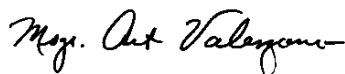
Monday, March 8-2 Kgs 5:1-15b; Ps 42; Lk 4:24-30
 7:00 a.m. Mary "Peg" O'Connor
 8:00 a.m. Intention of Atemkeng L. Fondong
 2:00 p.m. Rosina Pantaleo (Mass at Carroll Lutheran)
Tuesday, March 9-Dn 3:25, 34-43; Ps 25; Mt 18:21-35
 7:00 a.m. Intention of Peggy and Frank Murphy
 8:00 a.m. Katie O'Brien
Wednesday, March 10-Dt 4:1, 5-9; Ps 147; Mt 5:17-19
 7:00 a.m. Intention of Chuck Witte
 8:00 a.m. Ana Victoria DeAriza
Thursday, March 11-Jer 7:23-28; Ps 95; Lk 11:14-23
 7:00 a.m. Ann Norvell
 8:00 a.m. Intention of Jack and Ann Coster
Friday, March 12-Hos 14:2-10; Ps 81; Mk 12:28-34
 7:00 a.m. Aleyamma Issac
 9:30 a.m. Alois and Albina Skiber
Saturday, March 13-Hos 6:1-6; Ps 51; Lk 18:9-14
 8:00 a.m. Charles Kirkpatrick
 4:30 p.m. Parishioners of St. John
Sunday, March 14-Jos 5:9a,10-12;Ps 34;2 Cor 5:17-21;Lk 15:1-3,11-32
 7:15 a.m. Cecelia Hinkel
 8:45 a.m. Ann Piazza
 10:30 a.m. John G. Benedictis, Jr.
 12:15 p.m. Edward Cook
 6:00 p.m. Raymond P. Garner

FROM THE PASTOR

This past Wednesday, after much prayer, comprehensive consultation and exhaustive study, the Archdiocese announced its plan for the consolidation of our Catholic Schools. It is my understanding that an insert will be in this week's bulletin explaining the details of the plan. The Catholic Review will provide additional information regarding both the process and the plan. Although our parish school is not directly involved in the consolidation process, the restructuring of the Archdiocesan School System may impact the governance of our school.

I encourage you to keep the children, parents, school faculties, staffs, principals and pastors in your prayers. The Archbishop is doing his best to deal with a very difficult situation. Thanks to the support of the parish and the dedication of parents, administration, faculty, staff and volunteers, our parish school remains strong and viable. Every challenge presents us with opportunity. Now is the time for our parish school to embrace the future with faith and confidence. Catholic Education is alive and well in Westminster and its future is filled with hope.

May God Bless you,



NOTICE...Daylight savings time begins next Sunday, March 14th. Be sure to set your clocks ahead. Think Spring!

LITURGY WORSHIP

LENTEN HOLY HOUR AND BENEDICTION...A Holy Hour, which will include Evening Prayer, time for quiet adoration, and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, will take place in the church *on Wednesdays in Lent: March 10 & March 17*. The Holy Hour begins at 7:00 p.m. and ends at 8:30 p.m. Confessions will be heard ("The Light is On") during the same time frame. Consider deepening your prayer life this Lent and growing closer to Our Lord by coming to a Holy Hour.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS...Friday, March 12

Stations will be held in the Church at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

WE PRAY ...

WE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE of Rosaleen Buchta, Martha Murphy, Honor Horman, Richard Nero, Bobby Kohler, Dorothy O'Connor, William McGarvey and Emil Krausehoper 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, Anita Campbell, Mary Ann Gotschall, Jay Underkoffler, Tina Koelbl, Elivier Cruz, Mary Redmond, Barbara Link, Michael Clark, Kevin Wagman, Joyce Strickland, Mark Dyson, Doris Hoffman, Barbara Shifflett, Anne Carney Brown, Deacon Jack Coster, Bob Kehler, Baby Madlein Rhoads, Charles Barclay, Michael Barclay, Maria Chavez, Barbara Andersen and Rosario "Sonny" Raymond.

BAPTISMS...Congratulations and welcome to Liam Paul Bell, son of Jenny and Charles Bell, Jr. and Stephen Thomas Lee, son of Alicia and Sean Lee.

STEWARDSHIP

WEEKLY OFFERING AND COMPARISON:

<u>Weekend of Feb.27-28,2010</u>	<u>Weekend of Feb.28-Mar.1,2009</u>
Envelopes: \$30,416.43	Envelopes: \$25,064.50
Loose: \$ 4,371.13	Loose: \$ 6,354.95
TOTAL: \$34,787.56	TOTAL: \$31,459.45
Attendance: 3,391	Attendance: 3,172
Poor Box: \$1,932.19	Poor Box: \$1,912.79

This year's budget is based on a weekly offering of \$30,500.00.
 Last year's budget was based on a weekly offering of \$32,700.00.
 Our current weekly average is \$30,429.93.
 Last year weekly average was: \$29,812.25.

STATUS OF MORTGAGE:

Beginning Balance: 02/01/10	\$1,464,636
Paid: Interest \$ 7,628	
Principal \$18,005	-25,633
Interest Charged	7,628
Ending Balance 03/01/10	\$1,446,631

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

SECOND COLLECTION...There will be a second collection next weekend (**March 13-14**) for Catholic Relief Services.

SCHOOL NEWS

Mar. 8—Vision & Hearing Screening
—PTF Board Meeting—7 p.m. Portico
Mar. 8-12 —Gr. 6 — Camp Hashawha
Mar. 9—Market Day Pick-Up
—School Penance Service—10 a.m. —Church
Mar. 10—Progress Reports Distributed
Mar. 12—School Liturgy— 9:30 a.m.—Church
—Stations of the Cross—2 p.m.—Church
Mar. 15—Vision & Hearing Screening
12:15 p.m. Early Dismissal
Mar. 16 —Living Stations—gym @ 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. (school)
Mar. 17—St. Patrick’s Day
Mar. 19 —School Liturgy—9:30 a.m.—Church
Living Stations for parishioners—2 p.m. gym
Middle School Dance—7-10 p.m.—gym

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 12:30-3:00 p.m. Registration has begun with the regular school registration. Call the school office or visit our website for tuition information.

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. Call the school office at 410-876-7228 or Darlene at 410-876-7031 for more details.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

RCIA...Beginning Sunday, March 7, those preparing to be fully initiated into the Catholic Church at the Easter Vigil will participate in several Scrutiny Rites. These Rites are celebrated to help deliver the Elect from the power of sin and Satan, to protect them against temptation, and to give them strength in Christ, who is the Way, the Truth and the Life. The celebrations of the Scrutinies also remind the whole parish community of the need to reflect on their own sins and the need for God’s help. Please remember to pray for all those in RCIA.

Religious Ed./Youth Activities

Religious Education Office: (410) 848-8443

PARENTS OF STUDENTS preparing for First Holy Communion should have received an invitation to our *Morning of Preparation*. This was given out through your child’s folder. Anyone who was absent, the invitation was mailed. Also the banner kits were given out in class this past week. A postcard confirming your child’s First Holy Communion date and practice time was mailed on March 1st. If you *have not* received any of this important information, call Ruth in the Religious Ed Office.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION OUTFITS: If any parent is in need of a First Communion dress or suit, please call the Religious Education Office. We have several dresses, veils, suits for you to choose from. We do not have all sizes, but you can come into our office and see if these items will help you.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL...June 21-25

We are planning for our VBS and we need Catechists, classroom assistants, snack, craft, music and babysitting help. Decorating and artists needed to make the scenery. Please call Ruth in the Religious Education office at 410-848-8443 Ext. 214.

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!

March 6—The Edge is going to the McDaniel indoor pool 3-5 pm. The cost is \$6.00 and you can bring anyone who is in the 6-8th grade. Meet in the front of Harlow Pool at 2:30 pm for rules and instructions. If you have not filled out a liability form please pick one up in the Edge bin at the back of the church or at the Parish Center.

March 26-27—The Edge is having our *Spring Retreat at Hashawha* and you will not want to miss it. The theme is “The Olympics” and what perfect timing to learn how to persevere as a Catholic young middle school student out in the real world. Training begins! The cost is \$50.00 and this includes lodging, food, campfires, games, prizes, flashlight tag and more. The retreat will go from 5 p.m. Friday until 1 p.m. Saturday afternoon. To reserve a spot send a check to Mandy Komar in the Religious Ed office, along with your liability form by Friday, March 19th. Liability forms are available in the Parish Center, or in the back of the church in the Edge bin.

July 6-July 9—Summer Camp—Guess what, everything is almost set for the Edge camp! The week will include us heading to The Grotto and then to Shadow Land for laser tag. We are also going to go to downtown Baltimore to the Science Center to catch all the cool new exhibits and the famous IMAX theater. The camp will also include cooking, music lessons and survivor skills. We are planning also to have an all out water battle and a huge slip n’ slide. Mark this date on your calendar. For more information or questions please contact Ms. Mandy Komar. Keep your eyes peeled for upcoming fundraisers.

— LIFE TEEN (Grades 9 -12) —

Life teen is a High School Youth Ministry that meets every Sunday at 7:15 in the cafeteria. Newcomers are welcome!

March 7—Cut to the Heart...Depression is a major issue facing many teenagers today. Chances are, you know someone who has struggled with depression. What can you do to help your friends who deal with this issue? And how does God fit into this picture? Join us for a very special night, facilitated by a Catholic Counselor!

Mar. 14—Revitalized...Are you feeling down in the dumps? Then you need to be “Revitalized!” Check out this awesome night that’s sure to get you pumped up!!

Mar. 21—Spirit Led—LIFE TEEN'S spring retreat is right around the corner! Be sure to join us for a day long retreat here at St. John on the 21st! Our theme for the retreat is "Spirit Led" and we're going to be focusing on how the Spirit led Christ into the desert for 40 days and how Lent can better prepare us for a deep relationship with God! You're also going to have the chance to compete in LIFE TEEN survivor to see how well you could survive in the desert! We're going to play great survival games (like the one you played in outdoors school!) Look for a sign up form in the back of the church!

ACTIVITIES IN OUR PARISH

PARISH-WIDE ROSARY CAMPAIGN...Every Sunday

Countless times over the centuries, the Blessed Virgin Mary has asked that we pray the rosary every day to obtain peace for the world. In November a parish rosary was started which is prayed each week between the 8:45 and 10:30 a.m. Sunday Masses. *The Rosary begins at 9:55 a.m.* and is offered for our country, its leaders, all intentions of the parishioners and for the healing of Msgr. Art. Please try to attend at least once a month or as often as you are able.

SPIRITUAL ADOPTION PROGRAM...Began Sun., Jan. 31

The Parish Spiritual Adoption program started January 31st but it's not too late to participate. If you would like to pray for an unborn baby and you didn't fill out a prayer card yet, you can find them on the table in the Narthex. Information about the program is there or you go to: www.archbalt.org/respect-life/spiritual-adoption.

BEREAVEMENT LENTEN SERIES...Tues., March 2– March 23

We began our Lenten series on *March 2nd* and will continue on *Tuesday nights* throughout Lent at 7:30-9:00 p.m. in the Parish Center. Our focus will be on uniting our suffering with Our Lord's Passion. Registration is required. Call Janet Tenney at 410-833-1542.

PARISH BREAKFAST...Sunday, March 7

Join the Knights of Columbus for their parish breakfast in the Portico after the 7:15, 8:45 and 10:30 a.m. Masses. This month's proceeds will go to St. Vincent De Paul Society to help meet the needs of their clients with fuel costs. This is an excellent opportunity to meet new parishioners, support a good cause and to enjoy a delicious breakfast of French toast, pancakes, eggs, creamed chipped beef, sausage gravy, corned beef hash and more. Join us in the Portico on the first Sunday of each month through May. Adults \$6.00 and children \$3.00.

ANNUAL MOTHER/DAUGHTER TEA...Sunday, March 7

Tickets are still available for the Mother/Daughter Tea. Join us for the 3rd annual tea/fashion show from 3:00-5:00 p.m. in the Portico. A panel of speakers will help you plan your future according to God's will for you. All mothers, grandmothers, aunts, and girls ages 11-18 are invited for a fun-filled afternoon. There will be over 50 door prizes, delicious homemade desserts, tea and punch. Tickets are only \$5 and are available at the Portico Bookstore or by calling Betty Belk at 410-848-9391. Get a table of 10 friends and join the fun!

MARCH HEALTH CARE MEETING...Tuesday, March 9

Our next meeting will be at 1:00 p.m. in the St. Therese Room of the Parish Center. All members are encouraged to attend and any interested parishioner is welcome.

THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU—Wednesday, March 10

Again this year during Lent, 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 17, 24 (also Parish Penance Service)* the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered *here at St. John* from 7:00-8:30 p.m. Every Catholic parish in the Archdiocese of Baltimore will have confessions available on these Wednesdays and we invite you to join us here for this sacrament. 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. I encourage you to join us—*The Light is On for You!*

PARISH FISH FRY...Friday, March 12

Join us for our Fish Fry this Friday from 4-7 p.m. in the Portico. Fish platters adults: \$8.00 includes two vegetables, beverage, roll and butter; shrimp platters \$9.00 for adults, shrimp basket \$4.00. Children's platters \$4.00 (5-10 yrs.) and children under 5 eat free. Students needing service hours can help at the Fish Fry. Volunteers Needed. Call Theresa, 410-857-9639.

HEALTH CARE MINISTRY MORNING OF REFLECTION WITH FR. ISAAC KAROOR...Saturday, March 13

Our Morning of Reflection begins with the 8 a.m. Mass and continues in the St. Therese Room of the Parish Center after Mass. Any interested parishioner is invited to join us. Please call the Health Care Ministry office for further information (Ext. 220 at the Parish Center).

WHEELCHAIRS NEEDED FOR HEALTH CARE MINISTRY...

Currently we have loaned out all of our wheelchairs. If you have one that you would like to donate or loan out to someone who needs a wheelchair, please call the Health Care Ministry Office at ext. 220 in the Parish Center.

HOSPITALITY SUNDAY...Sunday, March 14

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.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP...Sunday, March 14

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

CARNIVAL COMMITTEE MEETING...Thurs., March 18

Believe it or not the Carnival will be here before you know it! Please join us in the Parish Center from 7-9 pm to help plan this major fundraising event. We still need volunteers. Contact Jim Kramer by email at jimandremark@aol.com or by phone at 301-447-6992. Please consider joining us and lending a helping hand!

VOLUNTAS DEI SPIRITUAL TEAMS...Sunday, March 21

Teams will meet with Fr. Gerard on Sun., March 21st from 1:30-3:00 in the Emmaus Room at the Parish Center.

ST. JOHN WISDOM CLUB...Thursday, March 25

The Wisdom Club will meet at noon for Mass celebrated by Msgr. Art followed by our St. Patrick's Day Luncheon. Those members whose last names begin with M-Z are responsible for bringing a dish for the lunch. Drinks will be provided. For further information, call Bonnie at 410-795-0786.

OUTREACH

THE ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY

Lent is a call not just to give up something, but to give to the poor in Carroll County. Your gift in the St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box will help the poor to celebrate the grace of God's love this Easter.

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.

IN OUR COMMUNITY

DELONE HIGH SCHOOL PLACEMENT TEST...Sat., March 20

Delone will have its third high school placement test (for leveling in English, Math and Science) for incoming 9th grades from 9:00-1:30 on Sat., March 20th. That same day, they will have a registration day for any incoming 9th graders from 9:30-3:30. If you are interested in either of these two processes, contact Sr. Maria Jude, CSJ at 717-637-5969, ext. 217.

LENTEN RETREAT FOR THE GRIEVING...Sat., March 13

Grief due to loss comes in all forms. Grief observes no timeline or schedule. Each person grieves differently and uniquely. We may discover ourselves on a journey of grieving due to loss of a loved one, divorce, job loss or changes in health. Join us at Bon Secours Spiritual Center in Marriottsville from 9:30-3:30 p.m. for this program "Strength in Time of Sorrow." Cost is \$35.00 and includes lunch. To register call 410-442-1320 or visit www.BonSecoursSpiritualCenter.org.

REMINDERS

UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS: HOLD THESE DATES:

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

Mar. 6-7—Scouting for Food Collection—Church

Mar. 7—KofC Parish Breakfast—after morning Masses-Portico

Mar. 7—Mother/Daughter Tea— 3-5 p.m. —Portico

Mar. 9—Health Care Meeting—Parish Center—1 p.m.

Mar. 10—Holy Hour and Confession— 7-8:30 p.m.—Church

March 12—Parish Fish Fry—4-7 p.m.— Portico

Mar. 13—Health Care Morning of Reflection—8 a.m. Mass

Mar. 14—Hospitality Sunday—after morning Masses-Portico

Mar. 14—Bereavement Support Group —10-11:30 a.m.-Parish Ctr

Mar. 18—Carnival Committee Meeting —7-9 p.m.-Parish Center

Mar. 21—Voluntas Dei Spiritual Teams—1:30-3:30—Parish Ctr.

Mar. 25—Wisdom Club —Noon Mass & luncheon following

Apr. 23—Annual Basket Bingo— Portico doors open at 5:30 p.m.

Apr. 30—Men in Black Basketball—7 p.m. Westminster High

June 18—St. John Golf Tournament —Westminster Nat. Golf

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

Stop in and see our new First Communion and Confirmation gifts. New merchandise coming in every day!

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.