

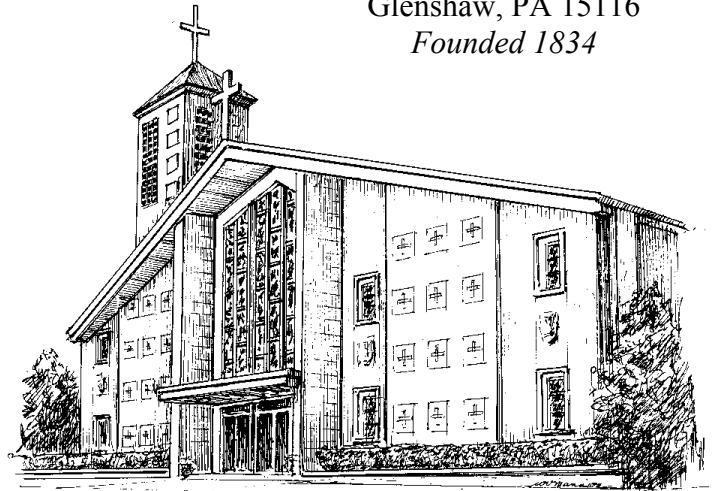
PARISH FAMILY OF ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION

Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 12, 2008

2510 Middle Road
Glenshaw, PA 15116
Founded 1834

PARISH STAFF

Mrs. Barbara Belski, Dir. of Youth Ministries
Mr. Francis Dadowski, Deacon
Mr. James Finn, Pastoral Associate
Mr. Robert Kardasz, Dir. of Music Ministries
Father John Marcucci, Pastor
Ms. Antoinette Pilarski, Principal
Father Edward Schleicher, Parochial Vicar
Sr. Lois Spinnenweber, CDP, Apostolate Minister
Miss Rose Stegman, Dir. of Faith Formation



Web Site: stmaryglenshaw.org

E-Mail: rectory@stmaryglenshaw.org

Parish Family Administration Office: 412-486-4100

Religious Formation Office - 412-486-5521

Youth Ministry Office - 412-492-9344

Social Ministry Office - 412-486-4021

Parochial School - 412-486-7611

Marian Hall - 412-684-1112

Fax: 412-486-4150



SUNDAY LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday at 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.
Sunday at 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

DAILY LITURGY SCHEDULE

Monday through Friday at 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.
Saturday at 8:00 a.m.

RECONCILIATION

Saturday at 11:00 a.m. until final penitent is finished

BAPTISM

On Sunday twice a month after parental interview

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Twice a year in a communal celebration
Individually upon request

MATRIMONY

Saturday weddings at 12:00 noon and 2:00 p.m.
Notification at least 6 months in advance

BULLETIN DEADLINE

Monday at 12:00 noon

RESPECT FOR LIFE

The month of October is dedicated to the motif of "Respect For Life" and there are a variety of small pamphlets in the narthex of the Church for distribution during this month. Choose one from the titles (a) "Stem Cells and Hope for Patients" (b) "A Will For Living" (c) "The Hollow Men."

VARIED QUOTATIONS FROM DIFFERENT SOURCES

"... in the Christian view of life, our treatment of children becomes a measure of our fidelity to the Lord Himself..." (Pope John Paul II)

"...Catholics have a right and duty to recall society to a deeper understanding of human life and to the responsibility of everyone in this regard..." (From the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith)

"...creating and destroying early human lives, harming and coercing women, cynically promising "miracle cures" to vulnerable patients --- all have been defended as the price we must pay for progress. The question is: Why should we call that progress?..." (Life Issues Forum)

"...by law human life is protected not only from immediate destruction, but from every degree of actual violence, and from every danger..." (James Wilson, signer of Declaration of Independence)

POLITICAL ACTIVITY IN THE PARISH

We have been warned in a letter from our Bishop about political activity in the church. We are asked to take this week's "Pittsburgh Catholic" to read the letter of the Bishop. Political enthusiasts have asked him to speak out about the presidential candidates. Categorically, he responded "I CAN NOT DO!" We remind all our parishioners that we must also be held to the same standard in our parish.

SECOND COLLECTION: NEXT WEEK

All parishioners are reminded of the second collection that will be taken up at all the liturgies NEXT week for "World Mission Sunday." There is an envelope in our packet for this collection. World Mission Sunday is an opportunity for all of us to celebrate our common vocation through Baptism to be missionaries of the gospel to those less fortunate than we in living out the Catholic Faith.

ANNUAL PARISH RENEWAL

We invite all parishioners and their friends to join us NEXT WEEK for our annual Parish Renewal. October Fest for our Parish Family is a time to feast on the Word of God addressing the real needs of men and women just trying to get through the week by the grace of God. Guiding us through this journey will be Father Frank Sutman, a Dominican friar who was a former Army Infantry Officer, missionary to Africa and Russia and a prison chaplain. Come and see what God has to offer through Father's leadership, beginning next Sunday, October 19th through October 22nd at either the 10:00 a.m. liturgy and talk or at 7:00 p.m. in the evening with a prayer service and talk in Renewal. Be HERE and BE WORRY FREE!

WELCOME "CATHOLICS COMING HOME"

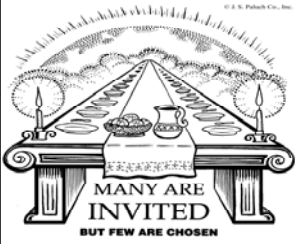
We welcome a member of the "Catholics Coming Home" Ministry of our Parish Family at each of the liturgies TODAY as they invite us to take an active role in next week's Renewal by extending an invitation to those who have found themselves distant from the regular practice of the Faith. Members of this Ministry will be on hand during the Renewal to extend a hand of welcome without judgment or condemnation to all such returnees.

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

As we look forward to the remembering of all those who have died on All Souls Day, celebrated on November 2nd, we have a Book of Remembrance in the foyer of the church so that parishioners might add the names of their loved ones to our prayer list. Simply place the names of those who have died in the book and they will be especially remembered during our All Souls Day celebration.

"VOX POPULI" (part 5)

Members of the Pastoral Council continue to reflect upon the "Voice of the People" polled in the survey a few months ago. Question 8 (change) had 237 items under the title Liturgy (mass – 132; homily - 53; music – 52). Question 9 (add) had 177 such items (136 – mass; 21 – music; 20 - homily). The Council is now collating these **414 items** written by parishioners into "goals and objectives" of our parish life. They will keep all parishioners abreast of this important work of setting the goals for our future.



LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, October 12, 2008 - Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time
 4:00 p.m. George Stankovich - Jack & Lorraine Cross
 6:00 p.m. Special Intention - Tom & Susan Urso
 7:30 a.m. Living & Deceased of Our Parish Family
 9:00 a.m. Charles Lang - Lucie & Family
 11:00 a.m. Giuseppe Imbarlina - Marco & Rose Imbarlina

Monday, October 13, 2008 - Weekday in Ordinary Time
 7:00 a.m. Frank DeLeonibus - Barbara & Tony Sassano
 10:00 a.m. Fr. Stanley Bernicki - The Sherred Family

Tuesday, October 14, 2008 - St. Callistus I
 7:00 a.m. Jerry DeBaldo - Tony DeBaldo Family
 10:00 a.m. Clarence Bittner - Greg & Denise Bittner

Wednesday, October 15, 2008 - St. Teresa of Jesus
 7:00 a.m. Rudy - Mary & Family
 10:00 a.m. Rose Marie Profozich - P.M. Club

Thursday, October 16, 2008 - St. Hedwig & St. Margaret Mary Alacoque
 7:00 a.m. Mary & Michael Danko - Daughter, Barbara
 10:00 a.m. Elizabeth Berrang - Family
 7:00 p.m. Christian Mothers/Women's Organization

Friday, October 17, 2008 - St. Ignatius of Antioch
 7:00 a.m. McNeill & Pfannenschmidt Families - Family
 10:00 a.m. Ernest A. Restori - Melissa Schmitt & Kim Elliott

Saturday, October 18, 2008 - St. Luke
 8:00 a.m. Gladys Hefferin - Eileen Karolski
 4:00 p.m. Joy Wetzal - Ann Scanlon
 6:00 p.m. John A. Bell - Don & Joan Hammel

Sunday, October 19, 2008 - Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time
 7:30 a.m. Madlyne Marie Campbell - The Bresnei Family
 9:00 a.m. Deceased Members of the Charles T. Benson Family
 11:00 a.m. Living & Deceased of Our Parish Family
 7:00 p.m. Parish Renewal



THE FLOWERS BEAUTIFYING THE ALTAR ARE IN CELEBRATION OF THE MARRIAGE OF SAMPSON YEE AND LORI HENGELSBERG


Weekly Activities at a Glance

- Sunday Oct. 12 (Rectory) 10:00AM - R.C.I.A.
(Church) 11:00AM - Liturgy of the Word for Children
(PAC) 7:00PM - CYM Life Night
- Monday Oct. 13 (Marian Hall) 2:45PM - Brownie Troop # 804
(School) 6:30PM - CCD Program - All Grades
- Tuesday Oct. 14 (Marian Hall) 2:30PM - School Band
(Pantry) 6:00PM - Open Pantry
(Marian Hall) 6:30PM - Adult Education with Fr. Ed
(Rectory) 7:00PM - St. Vincent dePaul Meeting
- Wednesday Oct. 15 (Marian Hall) 9:30AM - Let the Little Children Come to Me
(Marian Hall) 1:30PM - 55 Specials - Bingo/Cards
(Church) 2:45PM - Children's Choir Practice
(Marian Hall) 6:00PM - CYM Drama Meeting
(Rectory) 7:00PM - Temporalities Commission Mtg.
(Church) 7:30PM - Adult Choir Practice
- Thursday Oct. 16 (Church) 2:45PM - Children's Choir Practice
(Church) 7:00PM - Christian Mothers/Women's Organization
(Church) 8:00PM - Adult Hand Bell Practice
- Friday Oct. 17 (Church) 10:00AM - School Mass
(PAC) 9:00PM - Fifth Quarter-Young Adults
- Saturday Oct. 18 (School) 9:30AM - CCD Program
(Marian Hall) 7:15PM - Middle School Dance
- Sunday Oct. 19 (Church) 9:00AM - Liturgy of the Word for Children
(Church) 9:00AM - Family Program
(Marian Hall) 10:00AM - Protecting God's Children Wkshp
(Rectory) 10:00AM - R.C.I.A.
(Marian Hall) 6:00PM - CYM Pot Luck Supper
(Church) 7:00PM - Parish Renewal

R.I.P.: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Thomas Flaherty and Mary Malinowsky, mother of Dianne Donatelli.

MARKET DAY orders due on internet by THIS Tuesday, Noon. Pick up in Marian Hall on Monday, October 20, 6:15-7:00 PM (time change due to Parish Renewal at 7:00PM) Helpers welcome to unpack items 5:00 PM on; call Lee at 724-443-1147.

October 5, 2008	Envelopes	Contributions
Offertory	826	\$20,867.00
Cash/Loose Cks.	-	\$1,081.00
Children's Offertory	51	\$80.00
Bishop Ed. Fund	3	\$50.00
All Saints Day	2	\$25.00
World Mission Sunday	2	\$15.00
Parish Share 2008	16	\$885.00
Parish Needy	164	\$1,899.00
Total	1,064	\$24,902.00



October 13: Gal 4:22-24, 26-27, 31 - 5:1; Lk 11:29-32
 October 14: Gal 5:1-6; Lk 11:37-41
 October 15: Gal 5:18-25; Lk 11:42-46
 October 16: Eph 1:1-10; Lk 11:47-54
 October 17: Eph 1:11-14; Lk 12:1-7
 October 18: 1 Tm 4:10-17b; Lk 10:1-9
 October 19: Is 45:1, 4-6; 1 Thes 1:1-5b; Mt 22:15-21

SACRAMENTAL LIFE



BAPTIZED IN CHRIST

Giada Maria Grimm

Congratulations to her parents, godparents, and grandparents. Please join us in welcoming her to our parish family!

SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please accept the invitation to celebrate this sacrament with us on Wednesday, October 22, 2008 during the 10:00A.M. Renewal Mass. Call Sister Lois 412.486.4021 if you need a ride.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GOLDEN JUBILARIANS

We are proud to recognize these married couples from our parish family who are celebrating fifty years of marriage. The couples will attend a special Mass at the Cathedral this afternoon at 3:00P.M. We ask God to bless them and grant them many more years of happiness!

John & Mary Ann Fisher
Leonard & Geraldine Mankowski
Godfrey & Mary Perdziola

MILITARY PRAYER LIST

Please continue to pray for the Service Men and Women listed on our prayer list near the Sacred Heart Statue. A candle is kept burning to remind us to keep all in prayer. To add someone to this prayer list call the rectory at (412)486-4100. We are very interested in finding out who is serving in combat in the middle east. Please call the rectory if your family member or someone you know is currently in combat. Thank you!

RCIA

Are you interested in learning about the Catholic Church? Would you like to develop your faith? Do you have questions that need answered? RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is the process through which non-Catholic adults enter the Catholic Church. If interested please call Father Ed or Jim Finn 412.486.4100 at the rectory. We will discuss the Saints and Mary today and the Old Testament next week. We meet at 9:00am in the rectory dining room. All are welcome!

WHAT IS EUCHARISTIC ADORATION?

Eucharistic Adoration is the act of worshipping God as He is present in the consecrated Eucharist. Spending time before the Blessed Sacrament, in prayer and devotion, is exactly the same as spending time before the living God. Adoration occurs whenever:

- ◆ Someone kneels in front of a tabernacle,
- ◆ Genuflects toward a tabernacle,
- ◆ Bows before receiving Holy Communion at Mass,
- ◆ Or, in a more focused way, when the Blessed Sacrament is exposed for adoration.

Our parish has scheduled Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Wednesday, October 22, the final night of our Renewal; on the Feast of Christ the King, Sunday, November 23 and on Monday, January 5th the feast of Saint John Neumann to open our 175th Anniversary Year.

RELIGIOUS FORMATION

Faith Sharing for 28th Sunday Ordinary Time

In the Scriptures, the banquet is used as an image of the kingdom of God. In Proverbs 9, divine Wisdom is personified as the heavenly woman preparing a banquet. She prepares the finest meat and wine for those who want to forsake foolishness and seek understanding. Jesus extends the image of the heavenly banquet to a wedding banquet. Those coming are expected to put on a special garment. Christians receive a white garment at Baptism. This garment is a sign of our Christian dignity. How is the "garment of Christ" received in Baptism shown in the way you try to live? How is the Eucharist a foretaste of the heavenly banquet? What would YOU take to God's banquet?

C.C.D. Faith Formation

Monday, Oct. 13. ONLY Grade 6 meet in church; all others in class groups.

MISSION support for our "adopted" Ethiopian student at the \$1.00 SALE. Bring a new or gently used item to add to the sale table, and \$1.00 to make a purchase. Tickets still on sale for the **DIDGERIDOO raffle** to be held Oct. 19; \$1.00 each, 6 for \$5.00

Saturday, October 18, 9:30 AM all gather in church.

See above regarding **MISSION support.** Same on Saturday.



Our Lady of the Rosary

A kit with a statue of Mary, video, and rosaries is available for loan from our Faith Formation Office. Call 412-486-5521 to arrange for use.

Middle Schoolers with "Burning Hearts"

October 22, deadline to register for the MIDDLE SCHOOL FAITH RALLY to be held at Seton-LaSalle High School, Friday, November 7. Registration forms available at the Faith Formation Office. Chaperones needed! Mark Tobin, Coordinator of "Burning Hearts"

DIDGERIDOO RAFFLE

to be held next Sunday, October 20th
MISSION SUNDAY.

The aboriginal musical instrument is in our Faith Formation office; \$1.00 per chance or 6 for \$5.00. Proceeds will go to Father Vincent Stegman to help support students at the Ethiopian Bush Country School. Send \$, name and phone # for as many chances that you might like.

Family Program

The next Sunday Family CCD session will be held on October 19th, beginning with the 9:00am Liturgy (Grade 7 serves). After mass, children go to the classrooms and in Marian Hall, Deacon Fran will be presenting the "Protecting God's Children Workshop" for the adults. Please don't miss this important session! The Special Project for October is the HOMELESS CHILDREN'S EDUCATION FUND! Each group in the Family CCD program will assemble a backpack at the October session. Please bring any item a child would need for school such as a backpack, pencils, paper, etc. Thank you for your continued support.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Youth in Grades 9 - 12

DON'T MISS**Tonight's LIFE NIGHT****7 - 8:30 PM AT THE PAC**

Adult leader, Mrs. Wisser will share her favorite prayer style with you as we explore ways to encounter God through prayer. And, there will be time for fun in the gym and fellowship. We ask each teen to bring the following to contribute to our hospitality, depending on the first letter of your last name:

A - F	desserts
G - L	veggie tray
M - R	fruit tray
S - Z	non-caffeine beverages

NEXT WEEK'S LIFE NIGHT WILL BE A POTLUCK SUPPER FOR EVERYONE ATTENDING THE PARISH MISSION TALK, BEGINNING AT 6 PM IN MARIAN HALL. THEN ALL TEENS AND PARENTS ARE WELCOME TO GO UP TO THE CHURCH FOR THE MISSION TALK FROM 7 - 8:30 PM. This will be the second opportunity for the mandatory meeting for all teens regarding fund raising if you want to participate in: basketball, drama, Appalachia mission, the annual fall retreat or NCYC. At least one parent or guardian needs to attend to get information about all of these activities. Our fund raising begins in November and it should be fairly easy IF everyone helps out.

NCYC

National Catholic Youth conference

The next NCYC will be held Nov. 19-21, 2009 in Kansas City, MO. NCYC is the single largest event organized by the Catholic Church in the USA. This event brings over 20,000 Catholic teens from around the country. Cost will be ~\$800 per person and we have lots of CYM fundraisers coming up to help offset the cost. You **MUST** sign up with Mrs. B by October 15. For more information about NCYC check out www.nfcym.org

SNEAK PREVIEW FOR LIFE NIGHT ON OCTOBER 26:

The saints are coming, the saints are coming...

Call the CYM line for current information on our social, spiritual and service activities for teens and young adults at 412-492-9344 or 412-486-4100, extension 409 or email at belskib@verizon.net

ST. MARY**School News**

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MONTE CELLO'S PIZZA and **ITALIAN RESTAURANT**, Shaler Plaza location, will be having St. Mary's Week Fundraiser on Sunday, October 12 through Wednesday, October 15, 4:00-8:00pm. The school receives 20% of the fundraiser's profits. Good for dine-in or take-out only (deliveries not applicable).

MIDDLE SCHOOL DANCE

A dance for middle school students will be held on Saturday, October 18, 2008 in Marian Hall. From 7:15 - 10:00 PM. Tickets are \$5.00 and can be purchased at the school or rectory October 15th - 17th. No tickets will be sold at the door. Appropriate dress is required; the dress code will be enforced. This event is sponsored by the PTG and benefits the school.

GOOD NEWS

Our 5th grade students were featured in an article in the Pine Creek Journal this past week that focuses on schools and education. Our students were asked what their favorite subject was and why. We were happy for the positive PR and the wonderful responses of our children. Pride reigns supreme at St. Mary School!

BOOK FAIR

Our students will have the opportunity to purchase some good reading materials at our annual Scholastic Book Fair that will take place in Providence Hall October 14th-16th.

ONE-SIDED PAPER

We are requesting donations of one-sided paper for school use. Please make sure that no personal information is included on the printed side. Donations can be dropped off in the school office Monday through Friday. Thank you!

**LET THE LITTLE CHILDREN COME TO ME**

all with children under age five are welcome to join this group on the first and third Wednesdays of the month, meeting at 9:30am in the Children's Liturgy Room. Parents, grandparents and caregivers, as well as older siblings are welcome. Plan to check it out and come on Wednesday, October 15th for the next PRAY and PLAY DAY. Call Monica for more information at 412.492.0242.

PARENTING POINTERS

There's a growing group of parents in our culture who frequently get mocked or put on a pedestal: stay-at-home Dads. For awhile my husband was the only father in our babysitting coop. This is not going above and beyond the call of duty, it's simply responding to the unique needs of your family. Respect and support parents of all stripes. God knows it's not an easy job, no matter what your gender.

MARRIAGE MOMENTS

Intimacy is not only sexual. It takes great trust to pour out your heart to God in the presence of your spouse. A beginning step may be a short period of silent meditation in each other's presence. Take a step today.

OUR PARISH NEWS

PARISH SHARE CONTRIBUTIONS

We continue to remind those who have not as of yet contributed to the Parish Share Program that this may be done at any time. Simply send your pledge or donation to the church clearly marked in an envelope and it will be credited to that account. This envelope may be sent through the mail, or simply dropped in the Sunday collection any week before December to be placed in this year's financial statement. As we meet our Parish Share assessment, excess funds are then placed in our own checking account.

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE by Bud Ozar

Today's gospel speaks about "unworthy wedding guests." What makes a "worthy" guest? Presence and presents are not enough. The greatest gift we can give is our support to the couple as they voyage through life together. Marriage naturally contains within it the fields of disappointment. Think of the weddings you have attended. Have you been a "worthy guest?"

Music Ministry Needs

St. Mary's choirs are always open to new members, but there are some particular instrumental positions that need to be filled at this time. Our brass group could use a trumpet and a trombone or bass instrument (tuba, euphonium, baritone.) This group needs the experience of high school or older players. Also we could use a couple of people in the adult hand bell group. Some experience at reading music and an understanding of rhythm is needed to play in this group. I know that St. Mary's has many talented people who could help us.

SAVE THE DATE ... SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1

It is almost here...the video of our H.O.P.E. Mission Uganda. Join us at 8 PM after Hospitality in Marian Hall for the report of our assessment mission trip last June plus our future plans. Light refreshments will be served. We will also have a silent auction that will include some items made in Uganda.

JOIN US

- * **Bible Study, Tuesdays, 1:00-2:30 PM**
in our Faith Formation Conference center, lower floor of the school building. Call Dori, 412-492-9891.
- * **PARABLES**
Tuesdays, 6:30-9:00 PM in Marian Hall with Father Ed. This is your **last chance to come!**
- * **"The Gospel According to Saint Paul"**
a one evening session with **Dr. Scott Hahn**, Wed., Oct. 22, 7:30-9 PM at St. Paul Seminary Auditorium. All Adults welcome! Car-pool possible; call 412-486-5521

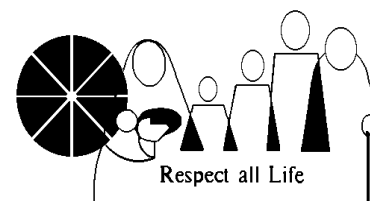
Christian Mothers Women's Organization

The Installation Mass of new officers and new members takes place on October 16, 2008. We will welcome the following new members: Beverly Kohan, Marianne Ruffner, Eileen Hodgson, Elaine Lascher, Kathy DiPietro and Lisa Rulis. Joining our Confraternity as previous members are Mary Kay Brown and Bernadette Newcamp. Father Ed will be our guest speaker at our October meeting. Hope to see you all there! Any questions, please contact Marilyn 412-492-8367.

"SISTER'S CHRISTMAS CATECHISM"

This interactive drama will be performed at City Theater, South Side in December. Deacon Fran will drive the bus if we have a group wanting to attend, **Tuesday, December 16, leaving St. Mary's at 6:00 PM** @ \$35.00 per ticket for the show. A free will offering will be asked to help with bus expenses. Call 412-486-5521 soon if you wish to reserve a seat on the bus, or send check payable to "St. Mary CCD" for tickets.

**GOOD
NEWS
TO
SHARE**



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Protecting God's Children Workshop

A workshop will be held here at St. Mary of the Assumption Parish, on Sunday, October 19, 2008 from 10:00AM to 1:00PM in Marian Hall. Deacon Frances Dadowski, Master Catechist, will be conducting the workshop. All employees and volunteers of St. Mary of the Assumption Parish and School must attend this workshop in order to be in compliance with the Diocese of Pittsburgh, IF you have not already done so. If you have questions regarding this program, please contact Susan Urso, Parish Secretary at 412-486-4100. Please contact the Faith Formation Office at 412-486-5521 to register or to register by email: ccdoffice@stmaryglenshaw.org.

A VOCATION VIEW

You are invited to a rich feast. Don't ignore the invitation. Perhaps you are called to service through ordained ministry or the consecrated life. Trust that you will receive the grace you need. (Matthew 22:1-14)

St. Vincent dePaul Conference

St. Mary of the Assumption Parish is looking for help to take the veterans to Liturgy on Sundays during the month of October. If you can be of help, please meet at the Veterans Administration Hospital Chapel, located in Aspinwall, on the first floor by 9:45AM. Please call Sr. Lois, at the rectory, if direction are needed.

GOT "GOOD NEWS"?

This is the theme of an essay contest for HIGH school youth, sponsored by the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. For details see www.onefamilyinmission.org

OKTOBERFESTS:

- Saturday, Oct. 18 at Divine Providence Motherhouse, beside Passavant Hospital. Bavarian Dancers perform at 2 & 5 PM. Tickets at door.
- Saturday, November 8 at St. Catherine, Wildwood after 5:00PM Mass. For tickets @ \$10 each, call Theresa Goeller, 412-486-5521.

"A Day of Harmony"

Saturday, Oct. 25, 2:30 PM and 7:30 PM with Pittsburgh's Greater Harmony Chorus - Sweet Adeline's International. For tickets, call 412-487-1765 or greaterharmony@hotmail.com.



Please pray for all the sick and those recovering from illness. Family and friends have requested prayer for the following:

Braden Bork, Frieda Boss, Renae Vivaldi Breskovich, Robert A. Deasy III, Robert Druga, Virginia Glass, Martha Hornak, John Hoehn, Olivia Hutchenson, Helen Kolek, Evelyn Livingood, Mary Lou, Amy McT., Karen Mickus, Kitty Murphy, Margie Nist, Judy Ranalli, Courtney Ryce, Joshua Stanek, Shirley Stepnick, Maureen T., Mark Thimons, Virginia Thompson, V.A.W., Harry Vidmar, Archie Wharton, James Wilson, Christine Z., Paul Zoeller.

PASTORAL IMPRESSIONS from Father John

As we move through the month of October, our thoughts turn to the deep “respect for life” that we share with so many other people. Once more we unite the efforts of our Parish Family with followers of the Lord Jesus across the country as the Roman Catholic Church of the United States spotlights OCTOBER as the month when we remind all parishioners about our commitment to life. The theme for this year is “...HOPE AND TRUST IN LIFE...” From the first moment of conception, to the final breath we are given by the God who created us, our life is most precious. The pro-life movement of so many dedicated people simply attempts to affirm the reality of the dignity of human life for all persons to realize and believe.

However, our respect for human life goes way beyond a “movement” in our society. You and I must put this faith filled tenet into each day of our lives as we constantly cherish others who share in the human dimension of this world. As we enter this third millennium, we are coming to a type of moral crossroads, where upholding the dignity of human life might become the final frontier for promoting the significance of seeing the glory of God shining most uniquely in the human heart of every individual.

We must make sure that we do not reduce the pro-life movement simply to be anti-abortion stance, as is sometimes depicted by those who oppose our voice. We are “PRO-LIFE” --- pro the dignity of all human life; pro the glory of all human life; pro the mystery of all human life, as suggested by this year’s theme. Our commitment to this stance of being PRO compels us to share that message with all others. Their only response is to reduce us to an “ANTI” position, which does not do justice to our “FOR” life declaration.

As members of the Parish Family of *St. Mary of the Assumption*, you and I are asked to unite our prayers with those millions of people in this country who advocate the dignity of all human life. This is not a “Catholic” cause as such, since many others of different faiths, beliefs and all walks of life also take time out of their religious schedules to promote the importance of human life. This is a sign of hope for all of us because it reminds the entire world that this pro-life stance cuts across every sector of the American society, and ultimately makes us a better country because of our commitment to the dignity of life. October simply intensifies something we profess all the other months of the year.