

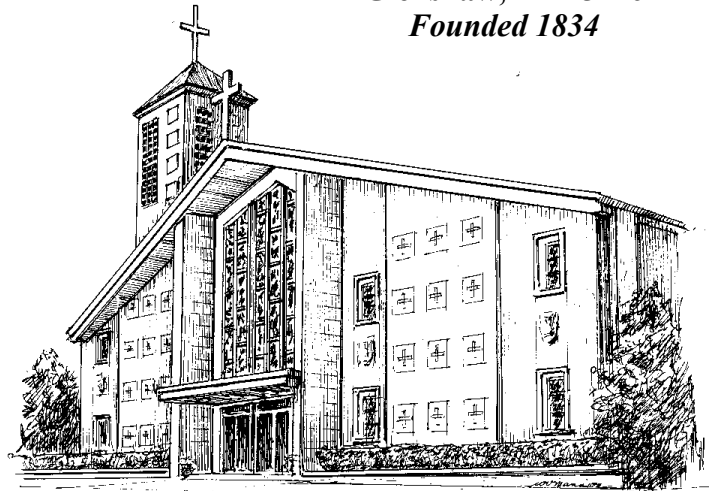
# PARISH FAMILY OF ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT  
NOVEMBER 27, 2011

2510 Middle Road  
Glenshaw, PA 15116  
Founded 1834

## PARISH STAFF

Mr. Francis Dadowski, Deacon  
Father Jay Donahue, Parochial Vicar  
Mr. James Finn, Pastoral Associate  
Mr. Robert Kardasz, Dir. of Music Ministries  
Father John Marcucci, Pastor  
Ms. Antoinette Pilarski, Principal  
Father William Rutledge, Retired in Residence  
Sr. Lois Spinnenweber, CDP, Apostolate Minister  
Miss Rose Stegman, Dir. of Faith Formation



Web Site: [stmaryglenshaw.org](http://stmaryglenshaw.org)

E-Mail: [rectory@stmaryglenshaw.org](mailto:rectory@stmaryglenshaw.org)

Parish Family Administration Office: 412-486-4100

Religious Formation Office - 412-486-5521

Youth Ministry Office - 412-486-4100

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

## SEASON OF ADVENT BEGINS TODAY

Another Liturgical Year begins today with the celebration of the First Sunday of Advent. We come to this season of “joyful expectation” by turning our attention to the Gospel of Mark, who sets the stage by focusing our attention on the final times. The coming of the Christ Child in the flesh anticipates the coming of the Resurrected Christ in the person of the divine. May we not spend all the time of this wonderful season in the mad rush of the shopping frenzy, but set aside quality time to reflect on the mystery that will prepare our hearts for the incarnation of the divine now present in the Christmas manger!

## THE NEW TRANSLATION BEGINS TODAY

The new translation of some of the prayers of the liturgy will begin today as we all come to express our Catholic Faith more clearly with them. These words are not really “new” since they have been part of the living tradition of our Faith since its beginning. We ask all participants at the liturgy to make use of the “pew cards” that are now available to help us become familiar with this new translation.

## HOSPITALITY WEEKEND: NEXT WEEK

All parishioners are reminded of Hospitality Weekend that takes place after all the liturgies NEXT weekend. We make a special appeal to all those living in GIFT Corinth and GIFT Perga to gather at the special place designated for them in Marian Hall. This is a great opportunity to “meet and greet” others from the GIFT in a very personal way!

## A SPECIAL SCRIPT SALE

The Development Committee will set up a special Script Sale NEXT WEEKEND at all the liturgies. In a very speedy manner, they will sell on the spot gift cards for their entire stock. Nothing to fill out, nothing to award --- just stop, buy and move on. Those with credit cards may use them for their purchases. There are script cards that can be used for charge accounts at various stores. What a grand way to help in the financing of our school WITHOUT any cost to the buyer --- a \$100 script purchase is worth \$100 ... just as a \$10 script purchase is worth \$10!

## VICARIATE VISITATION

The heart and doors of the Parish Staff and Parish Family will be open to Father Bob Guay, the Vicar of the Diocese for our Parish Family, as he makes his “official visitation” for the Diocese this coming week. Father Guay will spend the entire day meeting with the Parish Staff, many of the personnel of the Parish Family and a combined gathering of both the Pastoral Council and Finance Council. Father Guay will look over all the records, both sacramental and financial, of the Parish Family as he prepares his annual report to be given to all of the Diocesan Administrative Offices.

## GIFT COORDINATOR GATHERING

All GIFT Coordinators are reminded of their gathering that will take place on Thursday of this week, December 1<sup>st</sup> beginning at 7:00 p.m. in Providence Hall. The GIFT Coordinators are now making plans for the decorating of our home made Christmas trees that will invite all parishioners to bring something representing their family to place on their GIFT tree. Check “The Gift Gazette” in the Quarterly Mailing for details.

## J.O.I.N. (part 19)

“JUST OFFERTORY INCREASE NEWS” is the campaign that began eleven weeks ago when a Finance Council member spoke about Stewardship. The Council wishes to express a sense of gratitude to all those who have responded to their appeal by increasing their offertory each week. What a blessing that has been for our parish life! The Council would ask others to think about this possibility as they reassess their weekly contribution to the active life of our Parish Family. This is the only way we can maintain the service of all our ministries as the cost of living continues to accelerate.

## THANKSGIVING GENEROSITY

A special thank-you has come from the St. Vincent de Paul Society for the magnificent generosity of so many of our parishioners during the Thanksgiving weekend. Besides the food items that were brought on that day, many participants also offered financial support. The Society assures all of us that these items will be given to those families who meet the Society’s requirements for need.



BE  
CONSTANTLY  
ON THE  
WATCH!

## LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

**Sunday, November 27, 2011 - First Sunday in Advent**

4:00 p.m. Kevin, Maureen, & Peggy - Ben Gessler  
6:00 p.m. Sylvia Wyzkoski - Jerry & Linda McNalley  
7:30 a.m. Connie McGrath - Charles & Rita Simon  
9:00 a.m. Barbara J. Orsini - Marinack & Lazzaro Family  
11:00 a.m. The Living & Deceased of Our Parish Family

**Monday, November 28, 2011 - Weekday in Advent**

7:00 a.m. Walter & Kirby Intention  
10:00 a.m. Alfred Newill - Ann & Family

**Tuesday, November 29, 2011 - Weekday in Advent**

7:00 a.m. Antonio Costa - Concetta DeGaetano  
10:00 a.m. Virginia Antoszewski - Family

**Wednesday, November 30, 2011 - St. Andrew**

7:00 a.m. John Walsh - Bob & Gina  
10:00 a.m. Peggy, Kevin, & Maureen Gessler - Gessler Family

**Thursday, December 1, 2011 - Weekday in Advent**

7:00 a.m. Pete Penezic - Family  
10:00 a.m. Clement Newcamp - Family

**Friday, December 2, 2011 - Weekday in Advent**

7:00 a.m. Ralph Costa - Therese & Family  
10:00 a.m. Eleanor Kier - St. Mary School Community

**Saturday, December 3, 2011 - St. Francis Xavier**

8:00 a.m. Walter & Josephine Roszkowski - Paul & Dorothy  
4:00 p.m. Marge & Jack Laughlin - Family  
6:00 p.m. Russell Cvetic - Dorothy Ryce Family & Maier Family

**Sunday, December 4, 2011 - Second Sunday of Advent**

7:30 a.m. Kathryn & Michael Runatz - Family  
9:00 a.m. The Living & Deceased of Our Parish Family  
11:00 a.m. Nicholas & Teresa Moyeroff - Granddaughter & Family

## Weekly Activities at a Glance

- Sunday** (Marian Hall) 9:00AM - Liturgy of the Word for Children  
*November 27* (Marian Hall) 11:00AM - Liturgy of the Word for Children
- Monday** (School) St. Mary School Closed  
*November 28* (School) 4:30PM - CCD Classes  
(School) 6:30PM - CCD Classes  
(Rectory) 7:00PM - Finance Council Meeting
- Tuesday** (CCD Office) 1:00PM - Adult Education  
*November 29* (Pantry) 6:00PM - Open Pantry  
(Rectory) 7:00PM - St. Vincent dePaul  
(Church) 8:00PM - Adult Hand Bell Practice
- Wednesday** (Marian Hall) 1:30PM - 55 Social Group Bingo  
*November 30* (Church) 7:30PM - Adult Choir Practice
- Thursday** (Providence Hall) 7:00PM - GIFT Coordinators Meeting  
*December 1* (Church) 7:00PM - Teen Choir  
(Church) 8:00PM - Brass Practice
- Friday** (School) 10:00AM - School Liturgy  
*December 2* (Marian Hall) 6:00PM - Sweets with Santa
- Saturday** (School) 10:00AM - CCD Classes  
*December 3* **Hospitality after all Liturgies**  
(Marian Hall) 4:00PM - Liturgy of the Word for Children
- Sunday** **Hospitality after all Liturgies**  
*December 4* (Rectory) 10:00AM - R.C.I.A.  
(Marian Hall) 11:00AM - Liturgy of the Word for Children  
(Marian Hall) 6:00PM - Cheers-High School Group Activity



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## Advent Festival of Lessons and Carols

Please plan on attending this year's Advent Festival of Lessons and Carols on Sunday, December 11 at 4:30 PM. This year's program features scripture and seasonal music from our Adult Choir, Contemporary Group, Teen/Young Adult Choir and Handbell Choir with a special mini-musical "The Light of the World" performed by the Children's Choir. Since there is no Steeler game, we chose an afternoon starting time this year. Take a break from your Christmas preparations and enjoy some music of the Advent/Christmas season performed by St. Mary's music ministry on December 11 as we "prepare the way" for the coming season of Christmas.

**DUE TO PRINTING DEADLINES, THE OFFERTORY COLLECTION FOR NOVEMBER 19/20, 2011 WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE DECEMBER 4TH BULLETIN. THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION.**

## First Sunday of Advent November 27, 2011



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Be watchful!  
Be Alert!  
You do not know  
When the time will  
come.

~Mark 13:33

## DAILY READINGS



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- Nov. 28:** Is 2:1-5; Mt 8:5-11
- Nov. 29:** Is 11:1-10; Lk 10:21-24
- Nov. 30:** Rom 10:9-18; Mt 4:18-22
- Dec. 1:** Is 26:1-6; Mt 7:21, 24-27
- Dec. 2:** Is 29:17-24; Mt 9:27-31
- Dec. 3:** Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Mt 9:35 - 10:1, 5a, 6-8
- Dec. 4:** Is 40:1-5, 9-11; 2 Pt 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8

## SACRAMENTAL LIFE

### Home with the Lord

Remember Lord and welcome into your Kingdom those who have died and have gone before us marked in the sign of faith, especially **Frances Auth** and **Ruth Creehan**, daughter of Ron & Joan Dawson. Please remember to pray for the consolation of their loved ones.

### A VOCATION VIEW

At the beginning of Advent, watch and wait; be attentive to the ways in which God comes into your life. Be willing to be surprised. (Mark 13:33-37)

### HERE I AM LORD. SEND ME! ~Isaiah 6:8

I am or know of someone who is interested in serving God's people as a:

Priest \_\_\_ Brother \_\_\_ Sister \_\_\_ Deacon \_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return to St. Mary of the Assumption Rectory.

## RCIA

Please continue to pray for the individuals who are currently involved in the RCIA process as they continue their journey of discovering the meaning and the message of the Catholic faith. Pray, too, for the RCIA team who share the faith with these individuals as they complete the initial steps of the journey of faith in preparation for the Easter Vigil. All are welcome to join us on Sunday mornings following the 9:00 A. M. Mass in the rectory dining. We do not meet today but will resume on Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup>. Call Jim Finn 412.486.4100 to find out more.

## LET THE LITTLE CHILDREN COME TO ME

Parents with children age five and under are welcome to plug into the various activities planned. Each month on the first and third Wednesdays, we meet for **PRAY and PLAY DAY**. Our next Pray and Play Day will be held this **Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am**. For more information go to: [stmaryschildrenpray@gmail.com](mailto:stmaryschildrenpray@gmail.com)

## MARRIAGE MOMENTS

"Let there be spaces in your togetherness" (Kahlil Gibran)  
As wonderful as togetherness is, where do you go to get some space just for yourself? Do you have a special time, place, or hobby that regenerates your spirit.



© Annika Nelson

## RELIGIOUS FORMATION

**Faith Sharing for ADVENT –Week 1: November 27**  
**Stay AWAKE...Be ready...you do not know the day that the Lord is coming. ..He's coming SOON !**

And He is coming to every home, every heart and hopes that YOUR heart is open to HIM. Rest in His love for some time each day so that you can take His love to others at school, work, in your home, neighborhood and places of shopping .

**Grade 2 FIRST Reconciliation** opportunities are coming in Advent, December 10, 15 & 19. **Jesus IS coming** for all family members to experience His peace, and healing. Extra visiting priests will be here for each liturgy .

### Grade 2 Cluster Groups meet for the December session:

Thursday, December 1, 6:00 PM in Marian Hall  
or Sunday, Dec. 4, 10:00 AM in school Providence Hall.

Children bring your **Call to Celebrate Reconciliation** book.

### Faith Formation Sessions this Week:

**Nov. 28 Monday of First Week of Advent** groups welcome to gather 'round the Advent wreath for a LIVING wreath of prayer at 4:30 & 6:30 PM

**Saturday, December 3** All gather in church.

**CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES** meet with **GIFT** Cluster groups. Those groups wishing to gather in Marian Hall will assemble on **Sunday, December 11, 10:00 AM to Grow In Faith Together**.

**MISSION OUTREACH TWO winners - RAFFLE of 39 inch Tall Doll with Dolly and Guess the number of Candy pieces in BIG Jar @ 25 cents or 5 guesses for \$1.00.** Proceeds will go to help our adopted students in the Spiritan mission in Ethiopia. Winners will be drawn and announced at noon on Dec. 18.

### ADVENT is here.

Resources available at our Faith Formation office if you will like: Advent candles @ \$3.00 for a set of four.

**Friendly Beasts Activities Booklet - \$1.00 each**

**Several other adult and children booklets - \$1.00 each**

**LAST CALL to register for the ADULT Enrichment - CATHOLIC VISION OF LOVE Workshop** to discuss the spiritual support of sexuality and child personal safety issues. Session will be at **Saint Athanasius Parish, West View, Sunday, December 11, 1:00 - 4:00 pm**. Catechists gain 6 hours in Catechetical Credits in Morality/CVOL Workshop Awarded, PREPARATION REQUIRED, get pages 2-5 of the CVOL curriculum from Miss Rose (412-486-5521) at our Parish Faith Formation office. To register contact: Mary Reichel, 412.931.4624 x213 **Registration Deadline: December 5.**

### Free Movie: "Once on a Barren Hill"

Thirty minutes to meet **Saint Juan Diego** and the appearance of **Our Lady of Guadalupe** in 1531. A handout with prayer and description of the miraculous divine image Mary left on the *tilma* of this Native American, **Cuauhtlatatzin**. Come **Saturday, December 10, 10 AM** in school Room 23; or **Monday, December 12, 4:30 and 7:20 PM** in Marian Hall.

# YOUTH GROUP NEWS

## CHEERS

- ◆ CHEERS: High School Discussion Group, meets on Sundays from 6:00-8:00PM in the JAM Center.
- ◆ BOWLING: TONIGHT, Sunday, November 27<sup>th</sup>. Go to our Facebook Event page to sign up or give Mrs. Miller a call at (724-444-4739)

## COOKIES FOR OLDIES

- ◆ CHEERS: Cookie decorating in Marian Hall for our top elderly members of St. Mary's. We will meet on December 4th, at 6:00PM in Marian Hall. Please call Mrs. Hollihan at 412-967-0842 to let her know how many dozen cookies you can bring.

## CYM BASKETBALL

- ◆ HIGH SCHOOL GUYS: Wednesdays, 7:30 to 9PM - PAC  
Mike Daley & Jimmy Kohan are the coaches.
- ◆ HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS: Sundays, Noon to 1:30PM - PAC  
Phil Fitzgibbons & Jenna Penezic are the coaches.
- ◆ November 30th is the final date for receiving registration forms.

## UP COMING EVENTS

- ◆ Sunday, Nov. 27, Bowling Night at FunFest
- ◆ Sunday, Dec. 4, 6:00 to 8:00PM: Cheers Group meets in Marian Hall to decorate cookies

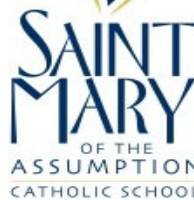
## SAVE THE DATE

- ◆ HIGH SCHOOL RETREAT: December 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> - Is God Calling You for a Retreat Weekend? We will team up with St. Bonaventure Youth at the Ligonier Camp Center. For more information check out [www.ligoniercamp.org](http://www.ligoniercamp.org) or call Father Jay at 412-486-4100.
- ◆ APPALACHIA MISSIONS for youth freshman in high school and up. Informational meeting after the 11:00AM Mass on January 8, 2012. Please contact Paul Mitsch at 412-486-4100 with questions.

Call the Rectory for current information on our social, spiritual, and service activities for teens and young adults at 412.486.4100.



# ST. MARY SCHOOL



## GIFT CARD SALES

St. Mary School Development Committee will hold their annual gift card sale during Hospitality Weekend, December 3rd and 4th. In addition to Giant Eagle and Shop 'n Save gift cards, there will be over 60 other vendors to choose from. Come do your Christmas shopping in Marian Hall after all the masses. **There is an insert in today's bulletin!** Take it home, fill it out and bring it back next week. Remember, the Scrip Office is located in the rear of the school and is open Monday through Friday, 8:00-10:00AM for your shopping convenience.

## ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS

Don't forget to get your 2011-2012 Entertainment Books! Now that November is here, last year's book will be expiring!! Sell them to family and friends or get your Christmas shopping done early ... *they make great gifts!* Entertainment Books are on Sale at the Scrip Office in the school, daily, from 8:00-10:00AM and at weekend masses and sell for \$30!

## PARENTING POINTERS

The day after Thanksgiving offers us some free time - especially if leftovers free up cooking time. How will you use your time today? Hectic shopping? Nurturing family ties? Missing someone dear? Relaxing? **Make family your priority!!**



From St. Vincent dePaul Society

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We are so very grateful to the Middle School Dance Committee who collected food for our Food Pantry for Thanksgiving. You have made so many more people blessed by your kindness on this Thanksgiving!

**DID YOU KNOW?**

**Recognizing Signs of Child Sexual Abuse**

Changes in behavior, extreme mood swings, withdrawal, fearlessness, excessive crying, bed-wetting, nightmares, fear of going to bed, sleep disorders, and a fear of certain places, people, or activities can be signs that a child had been traumatized by sexual abuse.

**Diocese of Pittsburgh Abuse Hotline: 1.888.808.1235**

## OUR PARISH NEWS

**Novena for Implementation of the New *Roman Missal*.**

**Intention for Final Week 9:** That all those who have died in faith may celebrate at the wedding feast of the Lamb.

**Scripture Reading:** Revelation 19: 1, 5-9

**Reflection from Pope Benedict XVI, February 22, 2006:**

“In order to progress on our earthly pilgrimage towards the heavenly kingdom, we all need to be nourished by the Word and the Bread of eternal Life, and these are inseparable from one another!”

**Prayer:** Lord God, whose Son left us in the Sacrament of His Body food for the journey, mercifully grant that our beloved deceased may come to the eternal table of Christ, who lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen.

**Novena Prayer of Self-Offering:** Receive, Lord, my entire freedom. Accept the whole of my memory, my intellect and my will. Whatever I have or possess, it was you who gave it to me; I restore it to you in full, and I surrender it completely to the guidance of your will. Give me only love of you together with your grace, and I am rich enough, and ask for nothing more. Amen.



**GPS – an tool for finding one’s way**, will be given to each participant coming to the **ADULT ENRICHMENT, Wednesday, December 7** immediately after the 7:00 PM Holy Day liturgy. Meet in **Marian Hall with Father John** till 9:15 PM. Enjoy some refreshments in honor of Saints of the week, Saint Nicolas’ staffs, San Juan Diego tortillas, and Saint Lucy cats. Become more **enlightened** through this experience as a preparation for **Christ’s Coming**. Call to sign up in advance: 412-486-5521.

**Special Days this Week:**

**November 30 – Saint Andrew**, a courageous apostle, lover of Jesus who was martyred on an X shaped cross.

**December 3 – Saint Francis Xavier**, Jesuit missionary to India and Japan faced horrendous physical hardships during his years as a missionary, yet brought the LOVE of Jesus Christ to many.

**December 4 – Saint John Damascene** is honored as a Doctor of the Church for his defense against the heretical iconoclasts. His defense of the use of sacred images clarify that respect given such images is really given to the person they represent. (Not observed on Sunday)

## OUR NEIGHBORHOOD HAPPENINGS

**OPERATION CARE PACKAGE PROJECTS**

Mrs. Anne Mitch and her Grade 5 Faith Formation class are collecting for those who are serving in our **Military Forces**. Items to contribute:



Cards of Encouragement and Thanks

Crystal Light “On The Go” flavor packets for water, Gum, (blister pack gum is best due to the heat) Lifesavers, Mints Nuts, Sunflower Seeds, Peanuts, Trail Mix, Dried Fruit, Power Bars, Protein Bars, Nutritional Bars, Crackers & Cheese, Peanut Butter, Hard Candy (single wrapped) Sandwich Size Zipper Lock Baggies, Toothbrushes, Baby Wipes (soft packaged) Hand Sanitizer (small personal size bottles)

Please place items in one of the Red, White, & Blue boxes in the Narthex. **Thank you in advance for your care.**

**MARKET DAY** fliers for Holiday treats and meals are available at the church exits, Scrip and Faith Formation Offices. French silk pie, **candy cane pie**, or red velvet cake will add a delicious sweet treat to any meal. Pick up of foods will be on December 12.

**HOMELESS folks** in our own city of Pittsburgh need **blankets and backpacks** as the weather is getting colder. Any donations of said items may be placed in bag, attach sign "for Homeless", and leave on the last pews in the Children Liturgy Room (cry room).

**“Emmanuel”, a Christmas concert** by Tajci, (an escapee from communist Europe) at St. Nicholas Croatian Church, Millvale, Friday, Dec. 9, 7:00 PM. Limited seating @\$20 per ticket; reserve with Janet Kopec at 412-821-4106.

**SHARING TREE**

It’s that time of the year!! The trees have been set up in the Narthex, and the ornaments have been taken by all to be replaced by **gifts of love**. The **last day** that we will accept the gifts this year will be **Sunday, December 11**, as they have to be sorted, packed and delivered to the various facilities early in that week in time for them to sort and distribute the presents.

There are quite a number requests for Gift Certificates. You can double your charity by purchasing the gift certificates through our **St. Mary School Scrip Program**. For your convenience they will be sold in Marian Hall on **December 3 & 4** during Hospitality weekend or you can purchase them during the school day, at the school, from 8:00AM to 10:00AM.

All of the groups with whom we partner in this effort are grateful for the generosity of our wonderful parish. Thank you, always, for your help. Please call Ruth Caldane at 724-449-1051 with any questions.

## **PASTORAL IMPRESSIONS** from Father John

“HAPPY NEW YEAR” to each and every one of you! Seems strange, does it not, to wish “happy new year” on November 27<sup>th</sup>? Well, there is one very important word omitted in this expression: it should read “Happy New Year LITURGICALLY!” Today, the First Sunday of Advent, is the beginning of a new year on the calendar of the Church. Today begins another liturgical year when we will relive the mystery of the Lord Jesus over the next 52 weeks. This mystery will become the center of our lives together as we look forward to another year of spiritual development that will bring each of us closer to the presence of our God.

The ADVENT Season is four Sundays in length. Sometimes we have a tendency to say “four weeks” long, but the fourth week is not always complete. However, not so in this year of 2011, since Christmas is on a Sunday, the Advent Season is *exactly four weeks* in length. We must keep in mind that the FOUR of the Advent Season really relates to the number of “Sundays” in the season, and not to the number of weeks.

It is during the days of this season, irrespective of its length, that we are given time to get ourselves ready for the coming of the Christmas event with the birth of the Christ Child in our midst. Advent is a season of PROMISE! It is a time when we should prepare ourselves for the arrival of our Savior into our hearts. The promise of our God will be fulfilled in a way that goes way beyond our human expectation as the divine becomes human in the earthly person of Jesus of Nazareth.

Many of us get entangled in the commercial advertising of the world around us and begin to lose sight of the true meaning of the event. Advent gives us an opportunity to set aside such commercialism and place ourselves in the presence of the divine. However, this does not become easy. It is a great challenge to keep ourselves focused on the coming of the Christ Child in the wondrous event of Christmas with all that is swirling in the world around us. Be assured that your intentions are in my prayers, and in those of the entire Parish Staff. We will continue to remember how significant you are to the life of this Parish Family and we will hope that the best of this Advent season will allow your new year to be a time of spiritual wonder and growth!