

PARISH FAMILY OF ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION

The Baptism of the Lord
January 11, 2009

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

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

We bring the magnificent season of Christmas to a close today with the celebration of the “Feast of the Baptism of the Lord.” This first cycle of The Liturgical Year began with the celebration of Advent and centered upon the birth of the Christ Child. We now look forward to the second great cycle with the coming of Lent that will begin on February 25th with the celebration of Ash Wednesday. In the meantime, we will return to green vestments next Sunday as we celebrate six Sundays before we enter into the Easter cycle. Today’s celebration opens up Jesus’ adult ministry with his baptism in the Jordan. All four gospels have stories of the baptism of Jesus, so that in this year’s cycle of “B Readings” we will proclaim the version of the story given in MARK’S Gospel.

A SPECIAL EPISCOPAL BEGINNING

We thank all those who helped to make this past Friday’s celebration with Bishop Zubik such a magnificent expression of our parish life with an emphasis upon Catholic Education an integral facet of our Parish Family. What an appropriate way to begin our 175th Anniversary year. We thank Jim Finn, our Pastoral Associate, and all the members of the “175th Anniversary Committee” for their long hours of preparation not only for this event, but for the “one event a month” calendar. We invite all parishioners to be alert EACH MONTH to the 175th event designated for that month!

DONATION TO OUR SCHOOL

We offer a special thank-you to Robert W. Schmitt for his annual contribution to the “Mary Elizabeth Schmitt Memorial Library Fund” that was recently received for our catholic school. This fund was created in 1997 by the Schmitt Family in honor of Mary Elizabeth who served in our school. We thank Mr. Schmidt for his continual support of our catholic school in the name of his beloved wife, and assure his family that they remain in our prayers.

NEXT WEEK: SECOND COLLECTION

We remind everyone of the importance of the second collection next week entitled “St. Anthony School and Sensory Handicapped Children.” This collection not only helps these needy children, but the same amount is returned to our Parish Family.

THE “CCC” REASSEMBLED

Would you like to serve on the “Capital Campaign Committee” that will be REASSEMBLED on Monday of this week? We ask all those who would like to learn more about this adventure to join us on Monday evening, January 12th beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the rectory. The third and final phase of the “Improvement of our Sacred Grounds” will look (1) to the rolling hills of the grassy knoll to create a flat field for better use of our expansive property; (2) to the construction of a Maintenance Building in the back of our property for better care of our expensive equipment; and (3) creation of a garage space for the priests who have no INSIDE area for their cars. We ask all parishioners to be alert to these plans as they develop under the leadership of the “CCC.”

CEMETERY COMMITTEE EXPANDING

The “Cemetery Committee” is seeking new members who would like to oversee the continued growth of our cemetery ministry. A meeting has been called for Monday, January 19th at 7:00 p.m. in the rectory for those who would like to learn more about these plans. Any parishioner who might be able to offer suggestions especially for the construction of a mausoleum are certainly welcome to join us at this gathering next Monday.

PASTORAL COUNCIL ACTION

The members of the Pastoral Council are now in the process of creating a summary in light of the SURVEY that was taken a few months ago. The Council has given to the various Ministries of the Parish Family the survey suggestions that pertain to that Ministry and those responsible will adjust their ministries with those ideas that would be beneficial to the entire Parish Family. The Council itself will take the ideas about “ownership” and “participation” in the survey and develop an overall plan that will affect every aspect of our parish life.

CHRISTMAS FLOWER COLLECTION

We thank those who gave in the Christmas Flower collection as we remember their loved ones in our daily prayers. We remind all that this collection not only helps to supply the decorations for the Christmas season, but is used to offset some of the expenses for decorating the church during the year.

This is My Beloved Son



LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, January 11, 2009 - The Baptism of the Lord

4:00 p.m. Dorothy M. Murray - Tom & Babs Politylo
 6:00 p.m. Virginia Fassio - Family
 7:30 a.m. Roy & Betty Kunning - Joan & Bill Heinz
 9:00 a.m. Living & Deceased of Our Parish Family
 11:00 a.m. Vincenza Derenzo - Stella & Riccardo DiBiase

Monday, January 12, 2009 - First Week in Ordinary Time

7:00 a.m. Ralph C. Palumbo - Family
 10:00 a.m. Giacinto Derno - Elisabetta Derenzo

Tuesday, January 13, 2009 - St. Hilary

7:00 a.m. Ann Sotak - Harlod & Libby Pernisek
 10:00 a.m. Bongartz & Fleming Families - Ellen & Family

Wednesday, January 14, 2009 - Weekday in Ordinary Time

7:00 a.m. Alfred Newill - Wife & Children
 10:00 a.m. Jo Gentile - Dolly Gentile

Thursday, January 15, 2009 - Weekday in Ordinary Time

7:00 a.m. John J. Giel - Mary Jean Kirby
 10:00 a.m. Flo Bogacz - Jane & Al Bartoldi
 7:00 p.m. Christian Mother's/Women's Organization

Friday, January 16, 2009 - Weekday in Ordinary Time

7:00 a.m. Helen Rihn - Family
 10:00 a.m. Catherine Lazzaro - Gregory Pietropaolo

Saturday, January 17, 2009 - St. Anthony

8:00 a.m. Janet Meinert - Family
 4:00 p.m. Frank Warenski - Family
 6:00 p.m. Walter & Grace Eswein - Keith & Carol Loiselle & Family

Sunday, January 18, 2009 - Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 a.m. Living & Deceased of Our Parish Family
 9:00 a.m. Susan F. Lanzino - Harry & Janice
 11:00 a.m. Leona A. Schell - Rita & Jim Finn

Weekly Activities at a Glance

Sunday (Church) 9:00AM - Family Program
 January 11 (Rectory) 10:00AM - R.C.I.A.

Monday (Marian Hall) 2:30PM - Brownie Troop #205
 January 12 (School) 6:30PM - CCD Program - All Grades
 (Church) 6:30PM - Grade 2 Parents and Children
 (School Library) 6:30PM - Adult Education with Deacon Fran
 (Rectory) 7:30PM - Capital Campaign Committee

Tuesday (Marian Hall) 2:45PM - School Band Practice
 January 13 (Church) 2:45PM - Children's Cantors Practice
 (Marian Hall) 6:00PM - CYM Play Practice

Wednesday (Marian Hall) 1:30PM - 55 Specials - Bingo/Cards
 January 14 (Church) 2:45PM - Children's Choir Practice
 (School Library) 7:00PM - Pro-Life Meeting
 (Rectory) 7:00PM - Catholic's Coming Home Mtg.
 (Church) 7:30PM - Adult Choir Practice

Thursday (Marian Hall) 6:00PM - CYM Play Practice
 January 15 (Church) 7:00PM - Christian Mother's /Women's Meeting
 (Church) 8:00PM - Adult Hand Bell Practice

Friday (School) No School - Clerical Day
 January 16

Saturday (Marian Hall) 9:30AM - CCD Program
 January 17 (School Library) 2:00PM - Adult Education with Fr. Ed
 (Marian Hall) 7:00PM - Middle School Dance

Sunday (Church) 8:00AM - Parish Breakfast
 January 18 (Marian Hall) 10:00AM - R.C.I.A.
 (Church) 11:00AM - Liturgy of the Word for Children

BREAKFAST



PARISH BREAKFAST JANUARY 18 8 - 11 AM

We will serve pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, baked goods, fruit salad and fruit juice. FREE REFILLS on the coffee and tea plus PLENTY OF FELLOWSHIP. It is the best breakfast bargain in town. \$6 for adults, \$5.50 for seniors, \$5 for children age 2 - 12 and children under 2 years of age eat for free.

CATECHIST APPRECIATION

Those who serve in the weekly and monthly catechetical sessions will be recognized at the 6:00 PM Liturgy on Saturday, Jan. 10 then welcomed to a dinner in Marian Hall. Keep all our wonderful, generous volunteers in your prayers. If YOU may like to be an active part of our catechetical ministry, contact Rose Stegman at 412-486-5521.

December 25, 2008	Envelopes	Contributions
Offertory	887	\$31,523.19
Cash/Loose Cks.	-	\$3,893.00
Children's Offertory	66	\$159.32
Children/Youth Charities	323	\$13,858.40
Parish Needy	17	\$231.00
Total	1,293	\$49,664.91

Daily Readings

He will baptize with the Holy Spirit



Jan. 12: Heb 1:1-6; Mk 1:14-20
Jan. 13: Heb 2:5-12; Mk 1:21-28
Jan. 14: Heb 2:14-18; Mk 1:29-39
Jan. 15: Heb 3:7-14; Mk 1:40-45
Jan. 16: Heb 4:1-5, 11; Mk 2:1-12
Jan. 17: Heb 4:12-16; Mk 2:13-17
Jan. 18: 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19; Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20; Jn 1:35-42

SACRAMENTAL LIFE

NATIONAL VOCATION AWARENESS WEEK

Today we celebrate the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. This week is **National Vocation Awareness Week**, a special time in which the Church prays for the renewal and strengthening of vocations of dedicated people as married and single people, men to serve as priests, deacons, brothers and women as religious sisters. To find out more about a church vocation, call one of our priests or our pastoral associate, Jim Finn at 412.486.4100.

A VOCATION VIEW

This is National Vocation Awareness Week. Delight in God's call to you in baptism. What grace do you need to strengthen your commitment? Remember, God has set you as a covenant to the people. (Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7)

TRAVELING VOCATION CHALICE

If you would like to host this prayer tool to pray for an increase of Church vocations, please call Ron Ondrizek at 412.486.685. Singles, senior citizens and shut-ins as well as families are welcome to participate.

R. I. C. A.

is the process through which non-Catholic adults enter the Catholic Church. We meet in the rectory dining room following the 9:00am Mass. All are welcome. Today's topic is Eucharist. Next week's topic is Marriage and Holy Orders. All are welcome! To find out more, call Father Ed or Jim Finn at the rectory (412)486-4100.

LET THE LITTLE CHILDREN COME TO ME

All families with children under age five are welcome to participate in this special ministry. For more information call Monica at (412)492-0242.

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE by Bud Ozar

What our Heavenly Father said to Jesus in today's gospel, "you are my beloved. My favor rests on you." is said to each of us. We don't earn this love; it is given freely. The unconditional love we experience in our families is sacramental for it gives us a glimpse of God's freely given, all accepting love.

PARENTING POINTERS

It's bowl season. Rather than just watching bowl games why not do something more active? Have a family bowling party. Kids too young for real bowling can have a ball with bubbles or clay.

MARRIAGE MOMENTS

Before God and spouse we stand naked. There is no use hiding or pretending that we are something that we are not. Is there any pretense or baggage that I bring to my marriage that I need to let go of?

RELIGIOUS FORMATION

Faith Sharing for Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

Jesus' baptism by John marked the beginning of His public life and his acceptance of his mission as God's suffering servant. Just as the Father proclaimed Jesus as His "beloved" Son, so too in baptism we became God's adopted sons and daughters. With the Holy Spirit, we are called to live in Christ, and as members of the Church, to participate in His mission to proclaim God's kingdom.

MISSION OUTREACH

A raffle of a Noah's Ark musical fountain statue measuring 8 1/2 inches by 7 1/2 inches high is being sponsored by our Saturday Faith Formation Team. Tickets are \$1.00 each or 7 for \$5.00, and proceeds go to help support our student in the Ethiopian mission school under the care of Father Vince Stegman. Tickets will be on sale at our Faith Formation office. The drawing will be at our Talent show, Jan. 17, 11 AM. Simply send in your name, phone # and amount for tickets to our office. Your tickets will be placed in the raffle pail.

- ◇ **Family Program** meets THIS weekend, Jan. 11, 10 AM
- ◇ **Monday Faith Formation**, January 12 Grade 2 meet in church at 6:30 PM, all others gather in classrooms. Students of any Grades who will do a part in the STARS Talent show on Monday, January 26 please come prepared to do a short practice.
- ◇ **Saturday Faith Formation** "Morning Stars" talent show Jan. 17, 10:20 AM in Marian Hall. Meet in classes at 9:30 AM

FIRST EUCHARIST CANDIDATES and Parent/Guardian MEET THIS Monday, January 12, 6:30 PM in church if you did not come on Saturday.



CANDIDATES

Confirmation were given information and permission forms for participation in the **MARCH FOR LIFE** to be held Thursday, January 22 in Washington, DC. Permission forms are to be returned to the Faith Formation office **ASAP**. Youth who attend public school may get a "Released Time for a Religious Event" letter of excused absence from our office.

The SILVER RING THING is a high tech, interactive presentation about the benefits of sexual abstinence and the dangers of promiscuous behavior. The event for Grade 8 and High Schoolers will be held at Seton-LaSalle High School, Brookline on January 16, 6:30 – 9:00 PM. Call NOW, 412-486-5521 for details or to register or go to www.silverringthing.com.

This Sunday, January 11th is Family Program. It will begin with the 9:00 am Liturgy (Grade 4 - Lisa Siegle's class serves). Sessions for children and adults begin at 10:00 am. Grade 8 will do a special presentation for the adults in Marian Hall and will also do the Closing Prayer.

YOUTH MINISTRY

LIFE NIGHT for January 11th is CANCELLED.

COMING UP:

CYM PLAY "Arsenic & Old Lace" performances on February 14 & 15. We are looking for volunteers to help with stage crew and the food service. Call the CYM Office if you can help.

VOLUNTEERS needed for the Parish Breakfast on January 18th for the 7:45AM to 11:45AM shift.

OUR VETERANS NEED US

The veterans at the VA Hospital in Aspinwall need our help every Saturday and Sunday morning. A few hours from you can make a huge difference for them. We have several CYM adult leaders plus members of our St. Vincent de Paul group who will be happy to work with you as you serve God by serving these men and women. Might you consider making a weekly commitment of your time to those who have committed their life to our country? Or, gather a team of helpers who can rotate throughout the month. Great experience for a parent and teen to do together!

TAKE A STAND FOR LIFE

Who can better speak to the value of life from conception to natural death than our "full of life" teens?" Join us on January 22! Start the day with an amazing youth rally at MCI Center in Washington D.C. – the bus leaves late at night on January 21 from our parish. By PA state law you are entitled to take time off from school for religious activities WITHOUT PENALTY if you have obtained the proper paperwork. We can do that for you...come on...what are you waiting for?

Clean water saves lives.

ONLINE DONATIONS FOR HOPE Mission Uganda:

You are now able to make online donations to our mission efforts. During the war, thousands were kidnapped, maimed or killed. Scattered reports of violence from rebel activity persist, but the real enemy of the people today is disease and malnutrition. In a refugee camp housing 17,000 people, the reports indicate that most of the 30 or so deaths of men, women and children every month are due to disease and malnutrition.

Check out our website

<http://www.hopemissionuganda.org/>

CYM WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sat., Jan. 10	GIRL V. vs. St. Valentine – PAC 7:30 PM
Sun., Jan. 11	Girl V. vs. OLA – PAC 6:30 PM
Tues., Jan. 13	Play practice 6 – 8 PM Marian Hall
Thur., Jan. 15	Play practice 6 – 8 PM Prov. Hall
Sat., Jan. 17	BOY JV vs. St. Catherine – PAC 7:30 PM
Sun., Jan. 18	PARISH BREAKFAST

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



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OPEN HOUSE

The school is gearing up to celebrate Catholic Schools Week the last week of January. The week will begin with an Open House on Sunday, January 25th, following the 9:00 AM liturgy. If you are interested in having your child(ren) attend a school of excellence with emphasis on the Catholic faith, please consider attending. St. Mary School is Middle States accredited and ministers to children from age 3 to grade 8. Come and see what we are all about!

MAGAZINE SALE

Our annual QSP magazine sale begins January 12th through February 3rd. If you are interested in ordering a new magazine or would like to renew your current subscription, might you consider doing it through the school? All profit from this sale goes directly to our St. John Neumann Tuition Assistance Fund. Feel free to stop by the office for an order form or contact any student who attends St. Mary's.

PTG AUCTION

The annual PTG Auction will take place on Saturday, March 7, 2009, at the Pittsburgh Field Club. The evening will include a silent and live auction, a sit-down dinner, and special entertainment by Five Guys, featuring our own Drew Martier. Tickets will go on sale beginning in January.

THE ST. MARY ATHLETE ASSOCIATION

will hold their annual "Night at the Races" in Marian Hall on Saturday, January 24th, 2009. \$20.00 a ticket includes food buffet, beer, setups, and soda. (BYOB) Doors open at 7:00 pm. Buffet dinner at 7:15. Races start at 8:00. Adults Only. For tickets call Joy Soeder at 412-487-6516.

MIDDLE SCHOOL DANCE

Another dance for students in grades 6 through 8 will take place on Saturday, January 17th, from 7:15 – 10:00 PM in Marian Hall. Tickets are \$5 and can be purchased in the school office, rectory, or Faith Formation office beginning Wednesday, November 12th. The dress code will be strictly enforced. This event is sponsored by St. Mary's PTG.

Catholic Vision of Love / Silver Ring Thing

8th Graders and Parents

The Catholic Edition of Silver Ring Thing will take place on Friday, January 16, 2009 for 8th graders and their parents. It will be held at Seton LaSalle High School from 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM (registration begins at 5:15 PM). Silver Ring Thing is a fast paced multi-media program that includes skits, videos, music, and witness talks concerning the importance of embracing a life of chastity. Early registration can be done online at www.silverringthing.com or group registration with Mark Tobin through the CCD office. The cost is \$5 for students and adults - \$8 at the door.

175TH ANNIVERSARY HAPPENINGS

Beginning NOW - Saint Mary's 175th Anniversary as a Parish. Contact us if you wish to write for the anniversary booklet. Memoirs of events which you may like to share in a short paragraph may be included in the booklet. Please print or write legibly and include the following with your story. "A Favorite Memory at Saint Mary's" by (include first and last names) and phone number or current e-mail address. Submitted pieces may be dropped in the Sunday collection basket, or send to: 175th Committee, 2510 Middle Road, Glenshaw, PA 15116 or e-mail to: finnj@stmaryglenshaw.org

Did you know St. Mary's School has provided **162 consecutive years of Catholic education** in the Pine Creek/Glenshaw area? Why not attend the **OPEN HOUSE** on Sunday, January 25th as part of our **CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK** observance? Visit the school following the 9:00am Mass.

OUR PARISH NEWS

JOURNEYS OF SAINT PAUL with Father Ed Schleicher, Saturday's, starting January 17 through February 7, 2:00-4:00PM in St. Mary School Library.



Blood Drive

The **BLOOD DRIVE** will be held on January 25, 2009 from 8:00AM to 1:00PM. Walk ins are welcomed and remember the life you save maybe your own. A volunteer will call you or perhaps already have or you may call Rose at 412.486.9458. Thank you!

HELP! Over the past year, generous people have sent various food items to the Rectory, which of course we appreciate. However, we have a huge supply of bowls, plates, containers, dishes, Corningware, Tupperware, etc., piling up. If you would like to retrieve any of your items, stop by and go through the vast variety.

Widows & Widowers Group will meet on January 25, at Lins Garden Restaurant, Route 8 and Route 910, at 4:00 p.m. All are welcome. For more information call 412-486-5621 or 412-486-4209.

LENTEN FISH DINNER MEETING

Please join us at 7:00PM on January 21st in Marian Hall to review our dinner plans. We are hoping that all last year volunteers will join us, along with any new volunteers who would like to become part of our team. If you have any questions, please contact Paul & Ginny Penezic at 412-487-5211.

GOLD RUSH PARTY/GAME NIGHT

Christian Mothers Women's Organization is hosting a Gold Rush Fundraiser on Thursday, January 15, 2009 following 7pm Mass in Marian Hall. This event is open to all parishioners. But first, what is a gold party? To put it simply, you bring in anything that's made of 10K, 14K 18K or 22K Gold, OR Sterling Silver or even old silver coins that you don't want anymore. It will be evaluated and you will be made a legitimate offer for TOP DOLLAR. You can either turn it down, or walk away with cash in your hand. Either way, you'll have some fun! Best of all, proceeds from the event benefits Christian Mothers. Here are ideas of what to bring: chains, bracelets, rings, broken jewelry, class rings, single earrings, old, outdated fashions, even dental gold! Bring a favorite game with you for game night too. Snacks and Refreshments will be served. If you have any questions, please call Marilyn Buck at 412-492-8367 or e-mail jambuck@verizon.net.

GOOD NEWS TO SHARE



Teens & Adult Enrichment and On-going formation

ANY & ALL welcome to: **SAINTS for Ordinary Time** with Deacon Fran, Mondays, Jan. 12 & Feb. 9, 6:30-8:00 PM in our own St. Mary School, Room 2.

St. Mary's Travelers

have planned their first outing of the year. On April 18th we will board the motor coach right here at St. Mary's and travel to ?????? We will visit ?????? and then go to ?????? We will stop at ???? and get some ?????? The day will end with a fine dinner and stage show at the ?????? All this for \$72.00!! Make checks payable to Mary Ann Coholich and mail to St. Mary's Church, 2510 Middle Road, Glenshaw, PA. 15116. For further information call Mary Ann at 412-486-0165 or Arlene 412-486-1891, but don't ask where we're going....we're not tellin' !! Friends and families invited on this **Mystery Outing!**

MARCH FOR LIFE, WASHINGTON, DC **THURSDAY, JANUARY 22, 2009**



Please join us as we peacefully rally and march in our nation's capital to petition congress and the new president to protect the right to life of every human being. St. Mary's is sponsoring 2 busses to DC at no cost to our parishioners:

FIRST BUS - leaves St. Mary's at midnight on January 22nd to arrive in DC for 7:00 AM Rally for Life and Youth Mass.

SECOND BUS - leaves St. Mary's after 5:30 AM mass to arrive in DC for noon Rally and March. Both busses arrive back at St. Mary's at approximately 10:30 PM. For information and sign-up, please contact Carol Loiselle at carold@zoominternet.net or 724-443-7398.

LIFE is PRECIOUS and to be protected from the moment of conception till natural death. ALL welcome to our LIFE concerns meeting, Jan. 14, 7 PM in St. Mary School Room 22-enter at back of school.

December 28, 2008	Envelopes	Contributions
Offertory	655	\$17,109.45
Cash/Loose Checks	-	\$1,109.00
Children's Offertory	16	\$35.00
Christmas Offering	66	\$4,020.00
Children/Youth Charities	20	\$670.00
Solemnity of Mary	13	\$187.00
Parish Share 2008	14	\$1,870.00
Christmas Flowers	13	\$262.00
Parish Needy	26	\$570.00
Total	823	\$25,832.45

January 4, 2009	Envelopes	Contributions
Offertory	740	\$20,526.20
Cash/Loose Checks	-	\$1,473.00
Children's Offertory	55	\$89.81
Catholic Schools	51	\$551.00
Solemnity of Mary	376	\$6,342.25
St. Anthony School Prgm.	3	\$23.00
Parish Share	3	\$80.00
Parish Needy	138	\$1,827.00
Total	1,366	\$30,912.26

PASTORAL IMPRESSIONS from Father John

At this time of year we are inundated with “Top Ten” lists of every kind and flavor. So should it be in the events and people who have influenced our parish life during this past year. Here is one priest’s perspective of the TOP TEN stories affecting the life of the Parish Family of St. Mary of the Assumption in 2008:

10. The continued importance of the PARISH ACTIVITY CENTER (PAC) as the Grade School Drama Department and the High School Drama Troupe used the stage for the first time for their productions.
9. The ongoing improvements of MARIAN HALL with newly painted walls, new water fountains, and modern kitchen equipment provided by all those who raise monies targeted for these projects.
8. The tremendously successful and tastily delicious FISH DINNERS whose profit not only helped to modernize our kitchen, but created a company of volunteers who brought such professionalism to the project.
7. The completion of our SAFE ENVIRONMENT VERIFICATION process that now guarantees that every employee of the church and school, and all volunteers working with young people are on the database.
6. The Pastoral Council inspired ALL PARISH SURVEY that allowed nearly 1500 parishioners to offer their suggestions and criticisms of our parish life so that we might set our future goals and objectives.
5. The yearly PARISH FAMILY FESTIVAL that is the one project in which all parishioners are united in a parish-wide event, and the event which brings capital into our “Contingency Fund” for “big ticket” items.
4. The 25th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION of Father Ed creating a weekend of special moments for his family and friends, as the liturgy and reception expressed the unique hospitality of our Parish Family.
3. **Our** commitment to PRIESTLY VOCATIONS as Father Bill came to live **with us**, Deacon Francis was reassigned **to us**, Ron Belski was ordained lector **for us**, and Tom Schluep went to the seminary **from us**.
2. Our FAITH FORMATION PROCESS from the Catholic School to the CCD to the Family Program, from the CYM to the RCIA to the sacramental preparations that molds the very fiber of our parish spirituality.
1. Each and every one of the magnificently created LITURGICAL CELEBRATIONS in our church that centers the spirituality of each parishioner on the mystery of the dying and rising of the Lord Jesus.