

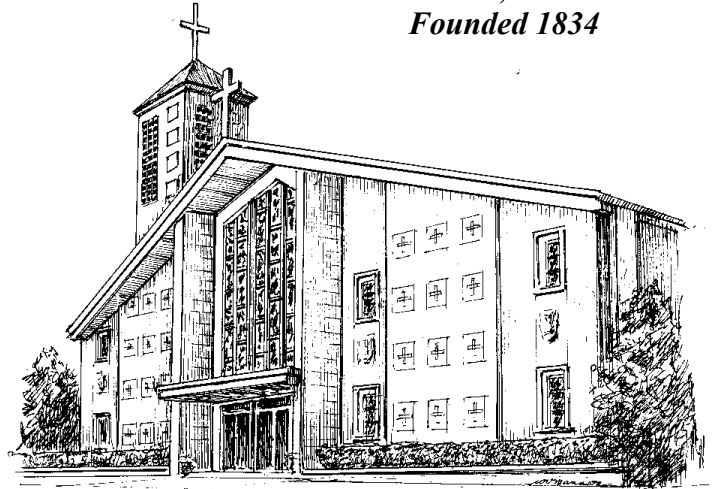
# PARISH FAMILY OF ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
DECEMBER 11, 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

## TODAY: "GAUDETE" SUNDAY

Today is the THIRD Sunday in the Advent Season, and the rose-colored vestments signal the anticipatory "joy" that fills our hearts as the coming of the Messiah is close at hand. In the Latin language the opening line of the liturgy cried out:

*"REJOICE in the Lord always,  
Again, I say REJOICE!" The Lord is near"*

The Latin word for "rejoice" is gaudete and thus this third Sunday of Advent took on the mood of joy, and became known as "Gaudete Sunday." Today we once more accentuate the role of Isaiah and John the Baptist, prophets of Advent, as they anticipate the coming of the Messiah. As we move through the Advent season to the magnificence of Christmas, we come one-step closer to the Birth of the Savior.

### FESTIVAL OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

Please attend this year's Advent Festival of Lessons and Carols, TODAY, Sunday, December 11 at 4:30 p.m. This year's program features scriptural and seasonal music from the Adult Choir, Teen Youth Adult Choir, Contemporary Group, Handbell Choir with a special mini musical "The Lights of the World" performed by the Children's Choir. Take a break and enjoy some music of the Advent/Christmas season performed by St. Mary's Music Ministry this AFTERNOON as we "prepare the way" for the Coming of the Christ Child.

### CHRISTMAS FLOWER OFFERING

There is a special envelope in our packet entitled "Christmas Flower Offering" to offer a special donation to our Art and Environment ministry. TODAY is the last day to submit this envelope to have the name listed on our bulletin board. All of the monies received in these envelopes help to defray some of the cost of the Christmas flowers, with anything that is left over being used for the décor of our church during the rest of the year.

**LOOKING FOR A STOCKING STUFFER?  
NEED A LAST MINUTES SPECIAL GIFT?  
HOW ABOUT A GIFT CERTIFICATE?  
STILL TIME TO PURCHASE FROM SCRIPT!**

## FAMILY PICTURE TREE ORNAMENT

Notice the 12 home-made Christmas trees that now line the walls of our church! Have you brought your "family picture" to place on your GIFT tree? There is still time to take one of the paper ornaments from the foyer, or make one of your own, to place a picture of your family on it and attach it to the GIFT tree of your home address. Our GIFT Coordinators have created this Christmas event to bring those living in the same GIFT together in this Family Picture Tree project.

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be celebrated this Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup> beginning at 6:30 p.m. in church. We have invited other priests to join us for offering the absolution of the Lord. What a wonderful way to prepare for the coming of the Christ Child as we enter into this communal experience of the forgiveness of all of our sins.

### PASTORAL COUNCIL ANNIVERSARY

Our Pastoral Council celebrated its ELEVENTH Anniversary this past week with a special meal prepared and served by "Chef de cuisine FRED and his Caldane Team." The members of the Council now include Tricia Coyle, Jack DeAngelis, Sue Ferguson, Dona Hotopp, Bev Kohan, Paul Mitsch, Rich Nash, and Debbie Schwoegel. We ask all parishioners to keep the intentions of these eight members in their prayers as they continue to offer their Lay Leadership in setting the objectives and goals for the coming year. Any parishioner who would might wish to serve on the Pastoral Council should make that request known to the rectory.

### CATHOLICS COMING HOME MINISTRY

Those who serve in the "Catholics Coming Home" Ministry will meet this Wednesday, December 14<sup>th</sup> beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the rectory. Parishioners are always welcome to learn more about this Ministry by coming to this gathering.

### 2012 CALENDARS -- NEXT SUNDAY

We remind all parishioners that 2012 church calendars will be available NEXT Sunday after all the liturgies when these calendars will be blessed so as to bring the blessings of the new year into your homes and places of family life together.



## LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

### Sunday, December 11, 2011 - Third Sunday of Advent

4:00 p.m. Stanley Antoszewski - Bob, Mariane, & Family  
 6:00 p.m. John Giel - Mary Jean Kirby  
 7:30 a.m. The Living & Deceased of Our Parish Family  
 9:00 a.m. James McGowan - Linda Galrin  
 11:00 a.m. Ray Ciorra - Laurie & David Matera

### Monday, December 12, 2011 - Our Lady of Guadalupe

7:00 a.m. St. Lucy - Lisa Ruffa  
 10:00 a.m. Jerry Ferber - Joan & Fritz Triglia

### Tuesday, December 13, 2011 - St. Lucy

7:00 a.m. Domenico Distilo - Mr. & Mrs. Gregory Distilo  
 10:00 a.m. The Holy Souls - A Friend

### Wednesday, December 14, 2011 - St. John of the Cross

7:00 a.m. William Mascari - Wedding Day Coordinators  
 10:00 a.m. James Gorry - Kathy Cancilla

### Thursday, December 15, 2011 - Weekday in Advent

7:00 a.m. Katherine Yasinsky - Bernie Taylor  
 10:00 a.m. Colleen Farrell - Family  
 6:30 p.m. Reconciliation

### Friday, December 16, 2011 - Weekday in Advent

7:00 a.m. Antonio Costa - Concetta DeGaetano  
 10:00 a.m. Keith Wagner - Rose Stegman

### Saturday, December 17, 2011 - Weekday in Advent

8:00 a.m. Richard Cullinan - Jim & Rita Jackson  
 4:00 p.m. Dr. Vincent Londino - Mr. & Mrs. Gregory Distilo  
 6:00 p.m. For All Families Who Have Lost A Baby  
 (Born & Unborn)

### Sunday, December 18, 2011 - Fourth Sunday in Advent

7:30 a.m. Connie McGrath - The Cochrane Family  
 9:00 a.m. Jane Goral - Tom & Kathy Goral  
 11:00 a.m. The Living & Deceased of Our Parish Family

## Weekly Activities at a Glance

**Sunday** (Marian Hall) 10:00AM - Gr. 8 Cluster Group Mtg.  
*December 11* (Rectory) 10:00AM - R.C.I.A.  
 (Marian Hall) 11:00AM - Liturgy of the Word for Children  
 (Church) 4:30PM - Lessons and Carols

**Monday** (School) 4:30PM - CCD Classes  
*December 12* (Marian Hall) 4:30PM - Movie - Our Lady of Guadalupe  
 (Marian Hall) 5:00PM - Market Day Pickup  
 (School) 6:30PM - CCD Classes  
 (Marian Hall) 7:30PM - Movie - Our Lady of Guadalupe

**Tuesday** (CCD Office) 1:00PM - Adult Education  
*December 13* (Marian Hall) 7:00PM - St. Mary School Band Concert  
 (Church) 8:00PM - Adult Hand Bell Practice

**Wednesday** (Marian Hall) 1:30PM - 55 Social Group Bingo  
*December 14* (Church) 2:45PM - Children's Choir Practice  
 (Marian Hall) 6:00PM - 55 Social Group Christmas Party  
 (Church) 7:00PM - Adult Choir Practice  
 (Rectory) 7:00PM - Catholics Coming Home

**Thursday** (Church) 6:30PM - 2nd Grade Reconciliation  
*December 15* (Church) 7:00PM - Teen Choir  
 (Church) 8:00PM - Brass Practice

**Friday** (School) 10:00AM - School Liturgy  
*December 16*

**Saturday** (School) 10:00AM - CCD Classes  
*December 17* (Marian Hall) 7:15PM - My Favorite Fellow Dance

**Sunday** (Rectory) 10:00AM - R.C.I.A.  
*December 18* (Church) 9:00AM - Family Program  
 (Marian Hall) 9:00AM - Liturgy of the Word for Children

## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FINALE

December 2011 is the final month of our Capital Campaign in which we are able to collect funds to pay off the debt we have for all the improvements we have made on our sacred grounds without an assessment being made on the pledges. We hope that all those who are still making such payments may complete them before the end of the month. If there are any other parishioners who would like to help in paying off this debt, your contributions would be greatly appreciated.

December 3/4, 2011	Envelopes	Contributions
Offertory	778	\$26,085.35
Cash/Loose Checks	-	\$1,645.00
Children's Offertory	29	\$57.85
Retired Religious Fund	7	\$355.00
Christmas Flowers	142	\$2,658.00
Immaculate Conception	5	\$130.00
Parish Share 2011	16	\$2,200.00
Christmas Offertory	4	\$95.00
Solemnity of Mary	2	\$65.00
Children/Youth Christmas Collection	2	\$60.00
Parish Needy	123	\$2,175.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>1108</b>	<b>\$35,526.20</b>

## DAILY READINGS

**December 12:** Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47

**December 13:** Zep 3:1-2, 9-13; Mt 21:28-32

**December 14:** Is 45: 6b-8, 18, 21b-25; Lk 7:18b-23

**December 15:** Is 54: 1-10; Lk 7:24-30

**December 16:** Is 56: 1-3a, 6-8; Jn 5:33-36

**December 17:** Gn 49:2, 8-10; Mt 1:1-17

**December 18:** 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38



## SACRAMENTAL LIFE



### Baptized in Christ

*Tyler David Sikora*

Congratulations to his parents, godparents, and grandparents. Please join us in welcoming him into our **Parish Family**.

### *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 **Frank Burka**, father of Bridget Rosewell, **Robert Fusan**, and **Robert Wihagan**, brother of Raymond. Please remember to pray for the consolation of their loved ones.

**OUR PRAYER VESSEL** Have you noticed the glass vessel placed near the tabernacle? All have the opportunity to fill out an intention slip and place it in the vessel. Every day the special intentions are remembered at Mass. All our intentions are mentioned each week during The Prayer of the Faithful.

### WHAT IS THE VALUE OF ONE PRIEST TO THE WORLD?

*“Without priests there would be no Eucharist.”*

Every priest means that more people will have greater access to Christ’s saving sacrifice through the Mass, and to Christ’s healing pardon through confession. **National Vocation Awareness Week** will be observed January 9-15, 2012. To kick off this national observance we have planned a special All School Mass for Friday, January 13, 2012, at 10:00am, with Fr. Jay.

### A VOCATION VIEW

**Rejoice: never cease praying.** Let us never cease praying for an increase of vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

(1 Thessalonians 5:16-24)

### RCIA

This is the process through which non-Catholics enter the Catholic Church. We gather each Sunday morning at 10:00am in the rectory dining room. All are welcome. This week we will discuss Church History, Part I and next week Part II. For more information, call Jim Finn 412.486.4100. All are welcome!

**LET THE LITTLE CHILDREN COME TO** is a ministry for parents with young children under the age of five years. There will be a special Christmas Eve Mass at 6:00pm geared to the younger members of the parish.

### CATHOLICS COME HOME FOR



Looking for a fresh start? Let it begin at St. Mary’s! Fresh starts don’t begin with a change of circumstances — a new job, new location, or new relationships — they begin with a change of heart. God specializes in clean slates and fresh starts. A new year is upon us and your parish family invites you to join us as we all look at ways to make 2012 and the rest of our lives, the best they can be! Invite someone to come home for Christmas! A personal invitation is the best way!

## RELIGIOUS FORMATION

### Faith Sharing for ADVENT –Week 3: December 11

We hear in this weeks’ scriptures about John the Baptist quoting Isaiah as the “voice crying in the desert”. Our own experience in trying situations may at times seem like a “desert”. Your own voice may be the one crying out. Believe that “the Lord hears the cry”. Google “**desert foundation**” to learn of some friends, contemporary heroes whose desert lives in Colorado are dedicated to peace and the celebration of God’s presence.

**Grade 2 FIRST Reconciliation** opportunities: Dec. 15 & 19, 6:30 PM. **Jesus IS coming** for all family members to experience His peace, and healing. Extra visiting priests will be here for each liturgy.

### Faith Formation Sessions this Week:

#### Dec. 12- Monday of 3rd Week of Advent

5:00 PM Market Day in Marian Hall, Grade 6 help.

4:30 & 6:30 PM meet in classes.

Saturday, December 17 All gather in church.

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

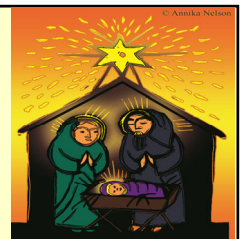
**Any parishioner welcome to join our MISSION OUTREACH TWO winners - RAFFLE of 39 inch Tall Doll with Dolly and Guess the number of Candy pieces in gallon size Jar @ 25 cents or 5 guesses for \$1.00.** Proceeds will go to help our adopted students in the Spiritan mission in Ethiopia. Winners will be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

### ADVENT

#### Resources at our Faith Formation @\$1.00 each

Friendly Beasts Activities Booklet; Twirling Mobile; Do You See What I See? Activities; Which Way is Christmas? Booklet.

### **Novena for Christmas ( Pray daily till December 25 )**



Hail, and blessed be the hour and moment at which the Son of God was born of a most pure Virgin at midnight in a stable in Bethlehem in the piercing cold. At that hour vouchsafe, I beseech You, to hear my prayers and grant my desires (*mention request here*) through Jesus Christ and His most Blessed Mother. Amen.

## LATEST YOUTH UPDATES!

### CYM BASKETBALL

- ◆ We had our opening tip off for the 2011-12 basketball season. So many great players tried out for the boys team that we are now fielding two JV teams. Special thanks to our great dedicated men of the Parish like Mike Daley, Phil Fitzgibbons and Jimmy Kohan for making this program a slam dunk!
- ◆ Girls CYM hoops we still have some roster spots open contact our coaches Jimmy Kohan at 412-527-9270 or Jenna Penezic 412-759-8278.

### CHEERS GROUP

- ◆ 100's of cookies were made, decorated and delivered to 52 of our beloved elderly of St. Mary's Parish family. Perhaps there is no better way to prepare for Jesus's birthday than celebrating the joy of Jesus' beginning with the most experienced members of our church community.
- ◆ Lessons and Carols will be attended by the Cheers group this Sunday at 4:30pm to be followed by a Christmas tree decoration get-together at the JAM Center from 7:00 to 8:30pm. Bring a favorite ornament or make one...
- ◆ The Magical Holiday Christmas Spectacular at the Upper St. Clair High School features our very own Leah Hungerman and others will be participating or attending December 11<sup>th</sup> at 4pm.

### COLLEGE KIDS of St Mary's

St Mary's college kids are having an afternoon of reflection on the experiencing Christmas from a Eucharistic perspective hosted by Fr. Jay at our Church from 11am to 2pm on December 22. Anyone of college age or older is invited...mass, lunch and adoration are included.

#### Need Service Hours or want to talk with a priest?

Contact Fr Jay Donahue at the Rectory 412 486 4100 or by email [mcesan6612@gmail.com](mailto:mcesan6612@gmail.com) or by facebook at John Donahue.

### St. Mary's Youth for Life

Youth of our parish family who are a part of the St. Mary's for Life group are giving talks and making cupcakes for our Parish pro-life weekend December 17 and 18. Our Youth will be heading to Washington DC for the annual March for Life on January 23, 2012.

### SQUIRES

The Squires are hosting a SHOOTING CONTEST:

Free Throw Championship for boys and girls

December 11, 2011

1:30pm at the PAC, St. Mary's Gym

Age 10 @ 2pm, Age 11 @ 230pm,

Age 12 @ 3pm,

Ages 13 and 14 @ 3:30pm

Winners qualify for district championships. Contact Ray Newcomer for more details 412 767 4870 or [rjdnew@verizon.net](mailto:rjdnew@verizon.net).

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**December 10:** After the 6pm mass we will attend the Movie on the Mass at the Pittsburgh Mills and eat afterwards at Steak 'n Shake. Check out the facebook page with Sarah Polito for more information.

**Sunday Nights:** 6:00 – 8:00 Cheers Group in the JAM

### SAVE THE DATE

**Thursday, December 22nd** 11am to 2pm retreat for College age kids and older at St. Mary's Church.

**Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup>** Appalachia Summer missions informational meeting. For more information call Paul Mitsch at the Rectory 412 486 4100.

**Sunday, January 8<sup>th</sup>** 6:00 – 8:00 Gift exchange for high school friends for the Feast of the Epiphany.

**January 13<sup>th</sup>** is the **Silver Ring Thing** a high-tech, high-energy performance that educates teens about the benefits of remaining abstinent until marriage. Contact Ms. O at 412-487-8594 or [s\\_andra@verizon.net](mailto:s_andra@verizon.net) to reserve a seat!

**January 22 and 23<sup>rd</sup>** The Youth for Life are hosting a *midnight mass for life* at 11:30pm at our Church and then at 12:30am we will road trip to Washington DC



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**CHRISTMAS CONCERT** - The Instrumental Band, under the direction of Mrs. Susan Chambers, will present a Christmas Concert to the student body on Tuesday, December 13th, at 1:30 PM and 7:00 PM for parents. Both the developmental and advanced band students will perform which always puts us in the Christmas spirit.

**SANTA'S WORKSHOP** - Students in all grades will have the opportunity to do some Christmas shopping for family and friends at the annual Santa's Workshop which will take place on December 13th and 14th.

**FATHER/DAUGHTER DANCE** - The 9th annual "Me & My Favorite Fella" dance will be held on Saturday, December 17th, from 7:15-9:15 PM in Marian Hall. All girls in grades kindergarten through 8th grades are invited to bring their favorite adult "fella" for an evening of fun.

**"NO MINT FOR MARIO" PROJECT** - The students and families of St. Mary's are invited to donate tubes of toothpaste for the children at Children's Hospital. When Mario Noro, our 3rd grader who was diagnosed with leukemia this year, was receiving treatment and had to stay at the hospital, he did not like using the mint toothpaste that was given. So we decided to organize a "No Mint for Mario" toothpaste collection that will extend through December 16th. All donations may be dropped off in the school office. Thank you!

**CONTINUE TO COLLECT** - Please continue to collect Box Tops for Education, Shop 'n Save receipts, and empty HP ink cartridges for St. Mary School. We greatly appreciate it!



### NIGHT AT THE RACES

It's never too early to begin preparing for 2012, so please mark your calendar for *The St. Mary Athletic Association* annual "Night at the Races" in Marian Hall on Saturday, January 28th, 2012. Please consider joining us for this most enjoyable evening with friends, food, and exciting entertainment. More information will be forthcoming in the coming weeks. **Don't forget to tell your friends and family and please mark it on your calendar!**

### MOVIE ON THE MASS

#### Your Feedback!

Knowing that all feedback is a gift, please email any thoughts on the movie on the mass entitled "*The Greatest Miracle*" to Arlene Milon at [milons@mac.com](mailto:milons@mac.com) or leave a note addressed to her in the Parish Rectory. Thank you!

**Diocese of Pittsburgh Abuse Hotline: 1.888.808.1235**

## OUR PARISH NEWS

### OPLATKI

These Christmas Wafers are available at our church rectory. Packages of four wafers are on sale for \$2.00. Please stop by for your families Holiday Tradition!



### SHARING TREE

All the ornaments have been taken by those who wish to replace them with *gifts of love*. The **last day** that we will accept the gifts this year will be **TODAY, 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.

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.

### Special Days this Week:

**December 12 - Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe**, whose miraculous image is still brilliant in Mexico since 1531.

**December 13 - Saint Lucy**, patroness of eyesight. Her name means LIGHT; she kept the light of faith bright through her martyrdom and death during the persecutions in 304 AD.

**December 14 - Saint John of the Cross**, reformer of the Carmelite Order in the 1500's. His experience of a **dark night** of persecution by members of his community led him to a deep experience of God's intimate love.

**Free Movie: "Once on a Barren Hill"** 30 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, **Cuauhtlatotzin**. **Monday, Dec. 12, 7:20 PM** in Marian Hall. CALL in advance to say if YOU will attend: 412-486-5521.

**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). **THANKS to YOU who have already generously responded to this.**



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

Bobbie & Ralph Aiello, Ed, Mary Lou, Patricia, William, Paula, Lisa, Jack, Jennifer, Sr. Colette, V'Kojak Balsamico, Danielle Lynn Bauer, Cindy Benoit, Bonnie Burkhart, Christine Cangilla, Jim Caulfield, Christine DallePezze, Bonnie Dollin, Dick & Caroline Druzak, Jenny Dugan, Susan Duncan, Luke Fabry, Anita Fabry, Denny Fitch, Marie Fusca, Janet Glanville, Drew & Trent Grady, Hilary Husband, Judy Huber, Larry Karwoski, Marlene Kasko, Frank Kornick, Barbara Lagiovane, Sandi Maier, Ruth Mengel, Lori Mueller, Elizabeth Mulkerin, Jim Pilkington, Jay Plietz, Sarah Polito, Wyatt Pranders, Jim Rosswog, Courtney Ryce, Ann Samarin, Elaine Settella, Bernard Schaltenbrand, Jr., Marie Sherman, Doreen Solomon, Pat Sovek, Joshua Stanek, Mark Thimons, Christopher Thorpe, Bill Vistein, Daniel Warcholak, Kristin Wilson, Christine Z.

## OUR NEIGHBORHOOD HAPPENINGS



**EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION, READERS, and ALTAR SERVERS** Please stop by the Sacristy and sign up in your ministry to serve during our **Christmas and New Year's Holy Season**.

### HISPANIC LITURGY

All are invited to join Bishop David Zubik and Latino Catholics, for the annual "Our Lady of Guadalupe Spanish Mass" on **THIS Monday, December 12, at 7:00PM** at St. Paul Cathedral in Oakland. Enjoy the festive reception afterward in the Cathedral's Social Hall.

**MARKET DAY** Pick up **THIS Monday, Dec. 12, 6:00-7:00 PM** in Marian Hall. Helpers welcome at 5:00 PM!

**Narcotics Anonymous** meet each Wednesday, 7:30 PM at the John Paul Center, 9<sup>th</sup> Street Sharpsburg. Newcomers welcome.

### SAVE THE DATE

**MONDAY, JANUARY 23, 2012**  
**RALLY AND MARCH FOR LIFE**

Meet with Senators Toomey and Casey in Washington, DC. No charge for St. Mary's Parishioners. Our bus will leave from St. Mary's parking lot after the 7:00AM Mass and return 10:30PM. For more information, please contact Carol Loiselle at [carold@zoominternet.net](mailto:carold@zoominternet.net) or 724-443-7398.

### EVERYONE IS WELCOME!!

Come and sing Christmas Carols with your fellow parishioners on our Church Plaza on **Saturday, December 17th**, following the 4:00PM and/or 6:00PM Liturgies. Song sheets will be available. You do not have to sign up, just show up!! If you have any questions, please call Ginny Penezic at 412-487-5211.



## THE GREATEST MIRACLE

This is a wonderful Catholic family movie to enjoy during the Advent/Christmas season. The movie brings to life the miracle of the Catholic Mass through a simple story of three ordinary people facing difficult challenges in their lives. Mixed with powerful music and creative effects, it's a unique piece of cinema that allows Catholics to enrich their relationship with God and realize the enduring gifts of the new translation of the Mass.

**OPENING:** Starts Friday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, exclusively at Pittsburgh Mills. ( 425 Pittsburgh Mills Circler, Tarentum)

**Times:** 12:50PM, 2:55PM, 5:00PM, 7:05PM & 9:10PM.

**Cost:** Before 6:00PM - \$9.00 (more expensive due to "3-D")  
After 6:00PM, Adults: 11.75, Children & Seniors: \$9.00

We hope to see you at the movies and pray that this movie moves our Catholic Family to love Christ in the Eucharist!



**PASTORAL IMPRESSIONS** from Father John

We have a very common expression in our lives that says to us "... it's music to my ears..." These words are used when something wonderful is reported to us. For instance, we just heard that we won a big prize in the lottery, or we just got accepted at a job or in a school we have been seeking, or the person we wish to marry just said yes. Our first reaction might be "...that news is MUSIC to my ears....."

MUSIC! MUSIC! MUSIC! It fills so much of our days. How often we can identify certain moments in our lives with the "song" that was being played at that time! Every time we hear that song being played, it evokes memories in our heart of the event itself. Many of us --- I have a great habit of doing this myself --- are constantly seeking MUSIC as the backdrop for what we might be doing during the day.

MUSIC! MUSIC! MUSIC! We play it when we are driving in the car. We have it as a background when we are busy at our paid job, when we are at work around the house, or even when we are sharing moments of conversation with another. How many of us even "sing" in the shower! There are so many events in our daily lives that are filled with the sound of music.

MUSIC! MUSIC! MUSIC! Does it not make great sense that "music" should be an integral part of our religious celebrations? The music that we sing during the liturgy is not something that is simply added to the celebration; but, as the documents of the Church have always suggested, music is integral to the liturgy itself. In other words, liturgy cannot truly be liturgy without music.

We are so blessed in our Parish Family when it comes to the enrichment of the liturgy through MUSIC. The fact that we have so many different units --- the adult choir, the teen/young choir, the contemporary group, the children's choir, the bell groups --- to share their musical expertise; plus the talented number of cantors who offer their musical leadership --- gives each of our liturgies a special caliber of musical depth. THIS AFTERNOON at 4:30 p.m. in our own church the interspersing of our talented music groups will present this year's rendition of "***Lessons and Carols.***" There will be MUSIC, MUSIC, MUSIC! As our hearts are filled with the joyful news of the coming of the Christ Child, we simply say "it's MUSIC to my ears!"