

# PARISH FAMILY OF ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION

Fourth Sunday of Advent  
December 23, 2007

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](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 - 412-492-9344

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

**CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE****THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD**

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2007

We remind all parishioners that the Solemnity of The Nativity of the Lord on December 25<sup>th</sup> is a Holyday of Obligation and celebrating the liturgy with the other members of the Parish Family is an ideal way to meet our obligation. The liturgy schedule for the day has been made to meet the needs of so many people who will gather with us. The 6:00 p.m. liturgy on Christmas Eve is especially designed for CHILDREN and we encourage families with children to celebrate at that time. There will also be a 4:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. liturgy on Christmas Eve. The 10:00 p.m. liturgy that night is the equivalent to the "midnight mass" liturgy of a past generation when there were no eve liturgies. The liturgy schedule on Christmas Day is the normal Sunday schedule of 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

**CHILDREN ON CHRISTMAS EVE**

We remind all parents and guardians that the 6:00 p.m. liturgy on Christmas Eve is specifically designed for the young people of our Parish Family. To help our young children understand the great event of the day, we invite them to be "garbed" in one of the characters of the Nativity Scene. Would they like to come "dressed up" like Mary or Joseph, or a shepherd or one of the Magi, maybe one of the characters of the Old Testament: how about Moses, or David, or a prophet? Maybe Miriam, or Judith or one of the holy women? We encourage all children to join us at this 6:00 p.m. liturgy to receive their "Christmas Crib Gift" only at this liturgy!

**SECOND COLLECTION: CHRISTMAS**

The second collection at all the liturgies on Christmas Day is designed for Children and Youth. This collection, formerly known as the "Orphan's Collection," has a rose colored envelope in our packet designed for the day. All are invited to be extremely generous in this collection. Not only do all of our contributions go to help the needy young people of our area, but also the proceeds will be credited toward our Parish Share goal. Our total amount will receive this DOUBLE benefit, which gives us a double reason to be most generous!

**"CATHOLICS COMING HOME"**

Do you know someone who will be coming to the liturgy on Christmas Day who has become distant from the regular practice of the Faith? Might you invite that person to take one of the pamphlets placed at the doors of the church entitled "Miss You" to read during this week? Then, if they are open to coming back home to the Altar of the Lord, simply ask that person to contact one of the parishioners who belong to this MINISTRY. Their names and numbers were listed in the Advent packet sent to everyone's home.

**"CATCH THE VIBE"**

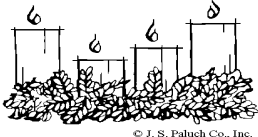
As the bills continue to come concerning the completion of the Parish Activity Center and all the facets connected to it, our DEBT with the Diocese continues to mount. Now the interest attached to that debt also becomes a bill to be paid. We urge those who have made a pledge to maintain their payments with each passing month so that we can pay on the debt as we go. Those who have not given to the Pledge Campaign as of yet must realize that the many improvements to our sacred grounds have only taken place because of this campaign. Might this be a time for such parishioners to make a commitment to the Pledge Campaign, even to the point of placing their name on the Memorial Plaque?

**CALENDARS STILL AVAILABLE**

We remind those who did not receive a 2008 calendar that they may still pick up one at the doors of the church at this time. All of these calendars have been blessed during one of our liturgies. As this calendar is placed in our homes, our places of business or some other building that we possess; we pray that the blessings of our generous God will descend upon all those who occupy that space.

**CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2007**

Sunday is the final day to make contributions to the Parish Family that will be recorded on our 2007 financial statement. Once these statements are prepared other contributions cannot be added to them. Parishioners who wish to have their donations recorded for tax purposes in the year 2007 must have those donations recorded on their statements, which will be sent home during the month of January, 2008.



## Liturgies for the Week

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### Sunday, December 23, 2007 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

- 4:00 p.m. Paul Berrang - Glenn, Laurel, & Adam Kramer
- 6:00 p.m. Living & Deceased of Our Parish Family
- 7:30 a.m. John James Sorbara - Irene & Ray Sins
- 9:00 a.m. Jo Gentile - Dolly Gentile
- 11:00 a.m. Sonny, Nancy & Colleen Doyle - Doyle Family

### Monday, December 24, 2007 - Vigil of Christmas

- 4:00 p.m. Catherine Lazzaro - Lazzaro Family
- 6:00 p.m. Dr. Vincent Londino - M/M Gregory Distilo
- 10:00 p.m. Living & Deceased of Our Parish Family

### Tuesday, December 25, 2007 - The Nativity of the Lord

- 7:30 a.m. Werling & Fowken Families - Family
- 9:00 a.m. Teresa Malta - M/M Gregory Distilo
- 11:00 a.m. Charles Ghastin - Children

### Wednesday, December 26, 2007 - St. Stephen

- 7:00 a.m. Paul Leo - Rege & Children
- 10:00 a.m. Owen Finley Stevens - Aunt Melissa & Uncle Alican

### Thursday, December 27, 2007 - St. John

- 7:00 a.m. Deceased Members of the Batykefer & Raible Families
- 10:00 a.m. Helen Natoli - Dolly Gentile

### Friday, December 28, 2007 - The Holy Innocents

- 7:00 a.m. M/M Joesph Mikszan - Russell Mikszan
- 10:00 a.m. Russell Sherred, Sr. - Sherred Family

### Saturday, December 29, 2007 - St. Thomas Becket

- 8:00 a.m. Sr. Robert Bradley - Lou & Veronica Ganster
- 2:00 p.m. Wedding of Lisa Buchanan & Daniel Conley
- 4:00 p.m. Alexandria Politylo - Tom & Babs
- 6:00 p.m. Living & Deceased of Our Parish Family

### Sunday, December 30, 2007 - Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

- 7:30 a.m. Antoinette & Frank Mysliwicz - Daughter
- 9:00 a.m. Marcella & Robert Cray, Sr. - Antoinette & Robert Cray, Jr.
- 11:00 a.m. Joseph & Catherine Leo - Ron & Angie

## Weekly Activities at a Glance

- Sunday,** (Marian Hall) 11:00AM - Sunday Preschool  
December 23
- Monday,** (School) Christmas Vacation  
December 24
- (Marian Hall) 11:00AM - CYM Luminara Project

**Tuesday,**  
December 25

**Wednesday,**  
December 26

**Thursday,**  
December 27

**Friday,**  
December 28 (Church) String Practice

**Saturday,**  
December 29

**Sunday,** (Church) 9:00AM - Liturgy of the Word for Children  
December 30



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## Christmas Liturgies - Music Ministry

- December 24 4:00PM Contemporary Group**  
Music starts at 3:00PM
- 6:00PM Children's Choir/Youth Handbells**  
Music starts at 5:40PM
- 10:00PM Adult Choir/St. Mary Brass**  
Music starts at 9:20PM
- December 25 7:30AM Organ & Cantor**  
Music starts at 7:20AM
- 9:00AM Adult Handbells**  
Music starts at 8:45AM
- 11:00AM Chamber Choir**  
Music starts at 10:45AM

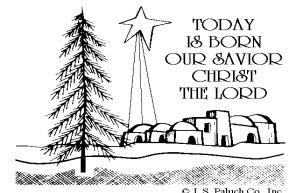
## BANNS OF MARRIAGE

III. Lisa Buchanan & Daniel Conley (St. Mary)

**RIP:** Mary Lou Costello, sister of Patty Grguras

December 16, 2007	Envelopes	Contributions
Offertory	972	\$16,242.66
Cash/Loose Cks.	-	1,256.00
Children's Offertory	41	\$55.75
Christmas Flowers	40	\$875.00
Christmas Charities/ Youth	1	\$20.00
Immaculate Conception	2	\$20.00
Parish Share 2007	3	\$975.00
Christmas Offering	3	\$225.00
Parish Needy	31	\$1,003.00
Religious Retirement	1	\$25.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,094</b>	<b>\$20,697.41</b>

## Daily Readings



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- Monday, Dec. 24:** 2 SM 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16: Lk 1:67-79
- Tuesday, Dec. 25:** Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Acts 13:16-17,22-25; Mt 1:1-15  
Midnight: Is 9:1-6; Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14  
Dawn: Is 62:11-12; Ti 3:4-7; Lk 2:15-20  
Day: Is 52:7-10; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18
- Wednesday, Dec. 26:** Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Mt 10:17-22
- Thursday, Dec. 27:** 1 Jn 1:1-4; Jn 20:1a, 2-8
- Friday, Dec. 28:** 1 Jn 1:5 - 2:2; Mt 2:13-18
- Saturday, Dec. 29:** 1 Jn 2:3-11; Lk 2:22-35
- Sunday, Dec. 30:** Sir 3:2-7, 12-14; Ps 128; Col 3:12-21;  
Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

## **SACRAMENTAL LIFE**



Baptized in Christ  
**Shayna Michele Gaskill**  
**Brody Daniel Torchia**

Congratulations to their parents, godparents, and grandparents. Please join us in welcoming them into our **Parish Family!**

### A Vocation View

Open your mind and heart and listen to God's wisdom spoken in dreams, signs, and wonders. Mary and Joseph trusted and let God work through them. What about you? (Matt. 1:18-24)

### LET THE LITTLE CHILDREN COME TO ME

All families with children under five are welcome to participate in this special ministry. All are invited to attend the 6:00 P. m. liturgy on Christmas Eve which is geared especially to the younger members of our parish family. Information about future activities will be mailed to the homes.

### A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE by Bud Ozar

The child born to Jesus and Mary was named **Emmanuel**, which means "God is with us." Christmas reminds us every child is a sign of God's miraculous presence in our lives. When you look at a child think

*"Emmanuel-God is with us!"*



**SPECIAL THANKS TO Mr. Jeff Wolfendale for lighting the trees at the entrance to our sacred grounds. We use lights at Christmas to remind everyone that CHRIST IS THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD!**

### CATHOLICS COME HOME FOR CHRISTMAS

Welcome home to all those who have come to worship here at St. Mary's, those home from college, those here visiting relatives and those who haven't been coming on a regular basis. We welcome you and encourage you to come HOME often during the New Year!

## **RELIGIOUS FORMATION**

### Faith Sharing for Advent / Christmas

Put yourself in the places of Mary and Joseph. What was God inviting Mary to do? What was Mary's concern about herself? What actions of Joseph showed his confusion? What wisdom was given to Joseph in making his decision? What wisdom from this week's Gospels help YOU to make wise decisions?

**BEST WISHES** from our entire Faith Formation Team! May you **Encounter the Living Christ** each of the days of this **Christmas season** which extends from Christmas Eve till the Baptism of the Lord on January 13.

2<sup>nd</sup> day - December 26 – Saint Stephen, first martyr

3<sup>rd</sup> day - December 27 – Saint John the Evangelist

4<sup>th</sup> day - December 28 – the Holy Innocents

5<sup>th</sup> day - December 29 – Saint Thomas Becket

6<sup>th</sup> day - December 30 – the Holy Family

7<sup>th</sup> day - December 31 – Saint Sylvester

### ANCESTORS REMEMBERED

The gospel accounts point out that Jesus was born from the "line of David". As His ancestors are mentioned, take time to list or remember the ancestors of YOUR family tree, thanking God for them and wishing them "peace". Our faith assures us that even those who "have gone before us marked with the sign of faith" can benefit by our prayers .

### Faith Formation Groups will NOT meet on:

*Monday, December 24 nor December 31.*

Next session will be Monday, January 7, 6:30 PM.

Saturday, December 29 ; Next session Jan. 5, 9:30 AM.

**ALL families use the Gospel weeklies to do at HOME.**

**CHRISTMAS EVE LITURGY for Children, 6:00 PM, Monday, December 24. All children may come dressed as one of the characters or animals of the crèche.**

**PRE-SCHOOLERS** welcome to meet during the 11:00 AM Liturgy. The sessions will be held in **Marian Hall**, NO longer in the school building-Room 7. Contact Megan@ 724-444-4545 or Lee Ann @ 412-492-8043 for details

### ADULT ENRICHMENT

"**HIStory of our Catholic Church,**" get a current perspective with Father Ed, 6:30 – 9:00 PM four Tuesdays in January. Call 412-486-5521 to pre-register.



## YOUTH MINISTRY

### WELCOME HOME

TO ALL OF OUR YOUNG ADULTS  
DON'T MISS OUR ANNUAL YOUNG ADULT  
GATHERING AFTER THIS SATURDAY'S 6 PM  
LITURGY IN MARIAN HALL!

### Luminaria project for Africa

Many thanks to **Nick Sciuolo** for using his Shaler Senior Service project to raise money for the refugees in Gulu, Uganda. Under the guidance of adult sponsor, **Mrs. Rosemary Cather-Kelly**, you will see a beautiful illumination of the driveway and parish grounds on Christmas Eve. If you are still interested in donating to the mission, contact Barb Belski at the CYM office. **Nick and Rosemary will welcome help with assembling, placing and lighting the luminaria on Christmas Eve from 11 AM to 2 PM.** Clean up will be on December 26 from 11 AM to 2 PM.

### T-ROC

Beginning in January, the CORE team has decided to move our faith formation sessions to Sunday evening. We will begin with a 4 week Scripture study. Stay tuned for news of an evening liturgy.

## APPALACHIA REUNION AND MEETING

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29**

Celebrate the 4 PM liturgy, and then gather for a pot luck supper and to reunite with your work crew. **The Foremen also plan to meet with any teens or adults who are interested in participating in our Appalachia experience after the dinner.**

### CYM BASKETBALL

Information will come through email or you may check the CYM phone line at 412-486-4100, ext. 409 for the most current news.

### CYM CALENDAR

<u>Sat. Dec. 22</u>	African mission information meeting 5 PM Young adult party after 6 PM liturgy JV Boy in PAC 9 PM
<u>Sun., Dec. 23</u>	JV Boy in PAC 6:15 PM Varsity Boy in PAC 7:45 PM
<u>Mon., Dec. 24</u>	Luminaria set up 11 AM Marian Hall
<u>Wed., Dec. 26</u>	Luminaria clean up outside 1 PM
<u>Sat., Dec. 29</u>	Appalachia reunion and meeting 7 PM Girl B'ball game at PAC 7:30 PM
<u>Sun., Dec. 30</u>	JV Boy B'ball at PAC 6:15 PM Varsity Boy B'ball at PAC 7:45 PM

## ST. MARY SCHOOL

### OPEN HOUSE

St. Mary School will be having an Open House for prospective new families (Preschool through grade 7) on January 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 – 10:30 AM. If you are a family looking for a value-based, faith-centered environment, please consider St. Mary School as your school of choice. Please call the school office at (412) 486-7611 by January 22<sup>nd</sup> if you plan to attend. **THANK YOU!**

### CHRISTMAS VACATION

The school office will be closed from December 21, 2007 until January 2, 2008. Classes resume on Thursday, January 3, 2008.

### SCRIP OFFICE CLOSED

The Scrip office will be closed December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2007 through January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2008. Regular office hours resume on January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2008.

### VOCATION AWARENESS

Father Thomas Burke, vocation director of the Pittsburgh diocese, will be the celebrant of the 10:00 AM liturgy on Friday, January 11, 2008. Each year someone from the Vocations Office is invited to come and speak to our school children about vocations. We welcome Father Tom and continue to pray for vocations, especially to the religious life.



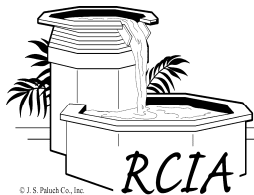
*St. Mary  
of the  
Assumption Parish School  
wishes all members of our  
Parish Family a very  
Merry Christmas  
and many blessing in the  
New Year.*

*We are grateful your  
year-round support.*

## OUR PARISH NEWS

### **Traveling Vocation Chalice**

This prayer tool for vocations is available for families to host in their home as they pray for an increase of church vocations. We thank Jim and Joanne Rosswog who had the chalice this week. They felt honored to host the chalice while praying for vocations. Pete and Dolores will have it during Christmas week. Call the rectory at 412-486-4100 to schedule a time for your family.



**R.C.I.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. We will not meet over the holidays. Our next session will be

on Sunday, January 6, 2008. For more information, call Fr. Ed or Jin Finn at the rectory, 412-486-4100.

### **Rectory Cook**

is needed three to four days a week for the dinner meal planning and preparation, shopping and general work associated with the kitchen. Occasional lunch prep and some major event, i.e. Confirmation dinner for the Bishop. Call Fr. Ed for an interview at 412-486-4100. This is a part-time position/hourly salary.

## *Something to Think About*

### **READING THE BIBLE FROM**

### **THE HEART OF THE CHURCH**

The Bible readings we hear at Mass on Sunday are selected and arranged to show us what the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* calls the unity of the divine plan in the two Testaments (nos. 128-130). The Liturgy invites us to read the Old Testament in light of the New and the New Testament in light of the Old. When we read this way, we see that what God says and does in the Old Testament points us to what Jesus says and does in the New, and what Jesus says and does in the New Testament sheds light on the promises and events we read about in the Old. The divine plan of the two Testaments continues in the Church's Liturgy. That's why we reread and relive the great events of salvation history every Sunday. As the **Catechism** teaches, the Liturgy reveals the mysteries of God's plan and enables us to live them (nos. 1094-1095).

## AROUND OUR TOWN

### **The Veronica Veil Players**

announce auditions for the 2008 production of America's Passion Play, **Veronica's Veil**. We are looking for all ages from young children through older adults. Production run dates are the first three Saturdays, and Sundays in March. Speaking and non-speaking roles are available. Auditions are December 27th and January 3rd from 6:00-8:30PM. Please call 412-431-5550 to schedule an audition.

### **Catholic Youth Association**

Stephen Foster community Center, in Lawrenceville invites all new baby boomers to join one of our three instructor-led fitness classes offered Monday, Wednesday, and Friday beginning January 7th. Classes begin at 9:15AM and run on the hour. All classes are taught by Nancy Klinvex. A completely-equipped gym is available for your use. Classes are \$2.00 each. Tai Chi is also offered every Monday and Wednesday at 10:00AM for \$1.00. Please call Gretchen Fay at 412-621-3342 for more information.

### **Catholic Charities Free Health Care Center**

Consider volunteering at the Catholic Charities Free Health Care Center. We are in need of volunteer dentists, dental hygienists and dental assistants due to the high demand of patients seeking dental care. If you are interested in helping others in the New Year, please contact the Catholic Charities Free Health Care Center at 412-456-6977 for more information.

### **A Lifeline for Marriage**

Retrouvaille helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. It is designed to provide the tools to help get your marriage back on track. It will give you're the opportunity to rediscover each other and examine your lives together in a new and positive way. This program has helped tens of thousands of couples experiencing marital difficulty at all levels including disillusionment and deep misery. For confidential information about or to register for the winter program beginning with a weekend on January 11-13, 2008, please call 1-800-470-2230 or send an email to 3041@retrouvaille.org.

### **PopTabs**

Please continue to collect your pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. Mrs. Alice Maxim, in our school office, is collecting them and delivering the weekly. Needy children and their families benefit from this program.

***PASTORAL IMPRESSIONS*** from Father John

The nine members of our Parish Staff are honored to serve the Parish Family of *St. Mary of the Assumption* on Middle Road. This uniquely sacred time of the year during these days of Christmas and Epiphany makes this honor even more significant to all of us. So, on behalf of the nine of us,

ANTOINETTE

BARB

BOB

FR. ED

FRANCIS

JIM

FR. JOHN

SR. LOIS

ROSE

we extend the blessedness of this sacred season to you and all the members of your family! We ask for your prayers as we share our ministry in service to all of the People of God, in this Parish Family and beyond. Your intentions will always be in our daily prayers and we pledge to serve you even more intensely in the name of the Lord Jesus with the coming of another new year in Two Thousand Eight!!!