

# PARISH FAMILY OF ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph  
December 28, 2008

2510 Middle Road  
Glenshaw, PA 15116  
Founded 1834

## PARISH STAFF

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



Web Site: [stmaryglenshaw.org](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

## FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

In the long standing tradition of the Catholic Church, the Sunday between the celebration of the Solemnity of Nativity on December 25<sup>th</sup> and the Motherhood of Mary on January 1<sup>st</sup> is entitled **The Feast of the Holy Family**. As the liturgical spotlight centered on the child Jesus on December 25<sup>th</sup> and on the role of Mary on January 1<sup>st</sup>, today the emphasis is upon JOSEPH in his role as belonging to the lineage of David. Today we offer a special blessing to all of the families of our Parish Family with the hope that each of them will continue to reflect the presence of the Holy Family in this modern world.

## MOTHERHOOD OF MARY: A HOLYDAY

On Thursday, January 1<sup>st</sup>, we will celebrate the Solemnity of the Motherhood of Mary, which is a Holyday of Obligation. It is also a day set aside by the Bishops of the country to pray for peace. The liturgy schedule is 4:00 and 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday evening, and 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. on Thursday morning. As we come to gather around the altar for the beginning of a new year, we will seek the blessing of our generous God for another year!

## CHRISTMAS GRATITUDE

The Parish Family of *St. Mary of the Assumption* is so blessed with the tremendous number of parishioners who make the great events of this holy season so spiritually-enriching. The sounds provided by the Music Ministry filled our sacred church with the beauty of heavenly voices; those who created such a marvelously creative décor opened our hearts to the feelings of the season; and those ministered in the sanctuary with those who served in ushering and hospitality created such a warmth for all of us who gathered for these days. We thank each and every person who gave so much to make this a wonderful expression of our Catholic Faith.

## AN EPISCOPAL RED LETTER DAY

Mark your calendar **now** to be with us on Friday morning, January 9<sup>th</sup> as BISHOP ZUBIK will celebrate the 10:00 a.m. liturgy in the opening week of our 175<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY with an accent upon our Catholic School. This liturgy welcomes all of us to join the Bishop in recognizing the long standing history of our Parish Family in the Diocese. Many who served in the past will be on hand for the event!

## 2009: 175 YEARS OF CATHOLICISM

All parishioners are asked to keep an eye on the many events planned by our "175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee" for the year 2009. EACH month of the year will have one day set aside for a special event marking the 175 years of *St. Mary of the Assumption* at the top of this hill opening its doors and its heart to the growing spirituality of our Catholic Faith. Those of us who belong to this Parish Family in 2009 are standing on the shoulders of so many who have come before us handing on the traditions of Catholicism that we hold so dear. We honor them and those who will come in the future in this yearlong celebration!

## IMPROVEMENTS IN OUR GROUNDS

We asked all members of the Parish Family to be alert for the announcements concerning the Third Phase of our Pledge Campaign as we now look to improving our property with a special field being planned for the grassy knoll, a maintenance building for our large equipment and a garage for the priests of the Parish Family. Details will be forthcoming as these plans are solidified by the Temporalities Commission and the Capital Campaign Committee.

## CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2008

Today is the final day to make contributions to the Parish Family that will be recorded on our 2008 financial statement. Parishioners wishing to have their donations recorded for tax purposes in the year 2008 must have them recorded on their statements. These financial statements will be sent individually to all envelope receivers in our Parish Family next month for their own personal use.

## "VOX POPULI" (part 14)

One of the questions of the survey asked: "How long have you been a member of the Parish Family of St. Mary of the Assumption? Responses: 21 years or more - 48% From 8 to 20 years - 30% From 1 to 7 years - 16% Less than 1 year - 6%

Might this indicate that every year we gain another 6% of our parishioners --- indicating that WE will be here for many years to come and the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary will be a gala event for so many who are here now and we will still be celebrating the Faith on the top of this hill for many years to come!



## LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

### Sunday, December 28, 2008 - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

- 4:00 p.m. Sonny & Nancy Doyle - Jim & Jane
- 6:00 p.m. Dorothy Lang - Husband, Charles Lang
- 7:30 a.m. Living & Deceased of Our Parish Family
- 9:00 a.m. Marcella & Robert Cray, Sr. Antoinette & Robert Cray, Jr.
- 11:00 a.m. Helen Natoli - Dolly Gentile

### Monday, December 29, 2008 - The Fifth Day in the Octave of Christmas; St. Thomas Becket

- 7:00 a.m. Gladys Hefferin - Loretta Konieczny
- 10:00 a.m. Margaret Galla - Bongartz Family

### Tuesday, December 30, 2008 - The Sixth Day in the Octave of Christmas

- 7:00 a.m. Joseph & Catherine Leo - Angie & Ron Beyerl
- 10:00 a.m. Bill Wesolek - Family

### Wednesday, December 31, 2008 - The Seventh Day in the Octave of Christmas; St. Sylvester I; New Year's Eve

- 7:00 a.m. Sam Gentile - St. Mary Faith Formation
- 10:00 a.m. Alexandria Politylo - Tom & Babs
- 4:00 p.m. George & Clara Trauner - Lou & Veronica
- 6:00 p.m. Louis & Mary Ganster - Family

### Thursday, January 1, 2009 - The Octave Day of Christmas; The Blessed Virgin Mary, The Mother of God

- 8:00 a.m. Grace Piano - Friends & Family
- 10:00 a.m. Dick O'Leary - By His Family

### Friday, January 2, 2009 - St. Basil the Great & St. Gregory Nazianzen

- 7:00 a.m. Agnes Bernas - Carl & Nancy Frank
- 10:00 a.m. Marie Kwiatkowski - St. Mary School Community

### Saturday, January 3, 2009 - The Most Holy Name of Jesus

- 8:00 a.m. Bertha Bittner - Family
- 4:00 p.m. Carl Brueckner - William Sutter Family
- 6:00 p.m. John & Barbara Lorkovic - Dick & Carrie Druzak

### Sunday, January 4, 2009 - The Epiphany of the Lord

- 7:30 a.m. Living & Deceased of Our Parish Family
- 9:00 a.m. Mary Mary - Bobbie Bish
- 11:00 a.m. Nicola & Lucrezia Didomenico

## Weekly Activities at a Glance

- Sunday Dec. 28 (Church) 9:00AM - Liturgy of the Word for Children  
(Rectory) 10:00AM - R.C.I.A.  
(Church) 11:00AM - Liturgy of the Word for Children
- Saturday Jan. 3 (Marian Hall) Hospitality Weekend after all Liturgies  
(Church) 4:00PM - Liturgy of the Word for Children  
(Church) 6:00PM - Liturgy of the Word for Children
- Sunday Jan. 4 (Marian Hall) Hospitality Weekend after all Liturgies



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God, Our Father, loving and merciful, bring together and keep all families in perfect unity of love and mutual support. Infuse in each member the spirit of understanding, forbearance, and affection for each other.

Keep quarrels, bitterness, and pettiness far from them, and for their occasional failures instill forgiveness and peace.

May the mutual love and affection of parents be a source of loving obedience and discipline. May their chastity and fidelity be an inspiration to their children.

Instill in children such self-respect that they may respect others, obey their parents and those in authority and grow in mature independence and the tender joys of friendship.

Make the mutual affection and respect of families a sign of Christian life here and hereafter, through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

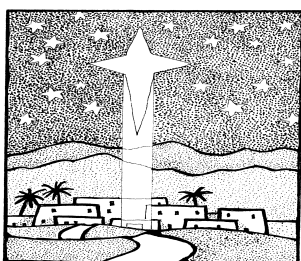
## Daily Readings



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- Dec. 29: 1 Jn 2:3-11; Lk 2:22-35
- Dec. 30: 1 Jn 2:12-17; Lk 2:36-40
- Dec. 31: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Jn 1:18
- Jan. 1: Nm 6:22-27; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21
- Jan. 2: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Jn 1:19-28
- Jan. 3: 1 Jn 2:29 - 3:6; Jn 1:29-34
- Jan. 4: Is 60: 1-6; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6; Mt 2:1-12

Due to production deadlines, the contributions for December 21st will be published in the January 4th bulletin. The December 28th & January 4th contributions will be published in the January 11th bulletin. Thank you for your consideration.



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My eyes have seen your salvation,  
which you have prepared in the sight of all the peoples.

Luke 2:30-31

## SACRAMENTAL LIFE

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Please continue to pray for the individuals who are currently involved in the RCIA experience as they continue their journey of discovering the meaning and the message of the Catholic faith.

We meet on Sunday mornings following the 9:00am Mass in the rectory dining room. We will resume our weekly meetings on Sunday, January 11<sup>th</sup>. All are welcome. Call Father Ed or Jim Finn 412.486.4100 to find out more.

### A VOCATION VIEW

Yours may not be **THE** Holy Family, but you are still a holy family. Share an expression of gratitude for the gift of your family today. Pray for wholeness and holiness for all members of the family of God. (Colossians 3:12-21)

### TRAVELING VOCATION CHALICE

This prayer tool for vocations is available for families to host in their homes as they pray for an increase of church vocations. Call the Ron Ondrizek to schedule a time at 412.486.6851.

### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION ON JANUARY 5<sup>TH</sup>.

*One Lord, One Body, One People!*

Next Monday, January 5, 2009 will be our Eucharistic Day on the feast of Saint John Neumann, C. SS.R. Beginning with the 10:00am Mass and concluding with Evening Prayer and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at 7:00pm. COME! Spend some quality time with the Lord! There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex of our church for you to designate a time to SPEND WITH THE LORD.

### A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE by Bud Ozar

Holy Family Sunday is not just about Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Your family too is called to be a "sign" to the world of a way of life modeled after the Holy Family. Like Mary and Joseph, you will be "a sign opposed" by others. For being different a "sword will pierce your heart." If we are doing it right, pain and Christianity go together!

### LET THE LITTLE CHILDREN COME TO ME

All parish families with children under age five are welcome to participate in this special ministry. All families with young children are invited to the 6:00pm Mass on Christmas Eve. This liturgy is geared to the younger members of our parish family.

### PARENTING POINTERS

Here are some thoughts for December 26<sup>th</sup>.

The day after Christmas can feel like a let down or a relief. Now that the hustle that too often accompanies the lead up to Christmas is over, pay attention to family bonding. Relax together today. Play a game, tell stories of past Christmas's and deceased relatives. Laugh and nap.

### MARRIAGE MOMENTS

Winter Solstice is the longest night of the year. Dark nights can be cozy when warmed by love and candlelight. If this week finds you blessed with pleasant experiences of darkness, pray for those who aren't.

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We still have some openings for New Years Day Masses — if you are an altar server, reader, or communion minister- sign up in the sacristy! Thank you! We have a lot of spots available for Dec. 31 and Jan. 1st.

## RELIGIOUS FORMATION

### Faith Sharing Christmas Week

Besides being the **THIRD** day of Christmas, the feast of the **HOLY FAMILY** is observed on this Sunday. The Scriptures give superb guidance about the relationship and responsibility of parents to create a "holy" family. What are ways that YOU can honor your parents, even if they are deceased? What images of "family" are portrayed in the media? What pressures and values threaten the stability of families? How can the good news of the gospel impact the cultural influences on family life in our time?

### Faith Formation:

**Monday, December 29**

NO session; do lessons and activities from your Gospel Weeklies at home.

**NEXT SESSION, Monday, January 5**

**Feast of Saint John Neumann and Eucharistic Day** here. Youth will participate at the 7:00 PM Evening Prayer and Benediction.

**Saturday, January 3**

9:30 AM All in Church – Come Let Us Adore – Grade 8 serve

### THE SACRAMENT OF Confirmation

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will be celebrated in our parish on Thursday, May 7, 2009 with Bishop Paul Bradley officiating. **Each candidate** has been given or sent a letter with specific information about some important parish events for their involvement leading up to their confirming faith on May 7<sup>th</sup>.



### LIFE is PRECIOUS

and to be protected from the moment of conception till natural death. Come to our LIFE meeting, Jan. 14, 7 PM in St. Mary School, Room 22 - enter at back of school. Members of our parish pro-life group will be forming a LIFE chain this Sunday, 10-11 AM. The feast of the **HOLY INNOCENTS** is ordinarily observed on December 28.

### MIDDLE SCHOOLERS

of our parish family, are welcome in our Parish Activity Center each Wednesday, 3:00 - 4:00 PM. Adult chaperones welcome; call 412-486-5521 to leave messages for Mark, Lee Ann & Mike.

## **YOUTH MINISTRY** **ONLINE DONATIONS FOR** **HOPE Mission Uganda:**

You are now able to make online donations to our mission efforts. We have \$5,000 raised so far to build a new well for the people of Koch Goma; the projected total cost is \$10,000. 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 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.

**MISSION MEETING ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 8 AT 7 PM IN MARIAN HALL**  
**ALL ARE WELCOME**  
Clean water saves lives.  
Check out our website.

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

### **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?

**Cheer on our CYM Basketball teams.**

**NO ADMISSION CHARGE! See times below.**

## **CYM WEEKLY CALENDAR**

Thur., Jan. 1      World Day of Prayer for Peace  
Sat., Jan.3      BOY JV vs. St. Rosalia - PAC 7:30 PM

**NEXT PARISH BREAKFAST**  
**SUNDAY, JANUARY 18**  
**8 – 11 AM**

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](mailto:belskib@verizon.net)

## **ST. MARY**



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### **SUPER BINGO**

The first Super Bingo of the new year will take place on Friday, January 9, 2009. Advance tickets are \$35.00 each or can be purchased at the door for \$40.00 each. Admission includes 12 cards for each regular game and 4 specials. There are 40 regular games at 50 points each; 2 specials at 100 points each, 2 specials at 200 points each, one 500 point jackpot and one 1000 point jackpot. Doors open at 5:30 PM; bingo begins at 7:00 PM. The evening includes raffles, quickie and instant bingos, and lots of delicious food and refreshments. Proceeds benefit St. Mary School. Call Coleen at 412-486-6622 for more information or for tickets.

### **ALUMNI INVITE**

The alumni of St. Mary School are invited to attend a special liturgy on Friday, January 9, 2009, with Bishop David Zubik as the celebrant. This liturgy is part of the 175th parish anniversary celebrations planned for the year. This liturgy will be followed by a light lunch in Marian Hall. Former faculty and staff members will also be invited to attend this special celebration. Your RSVP is kindly requested by December 30, 2008, to Sandy Ondriezek at 412-487-8594.

### **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.



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### **Catholic Vision of Love / Silver Ring Thing**

#### **8<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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.

## OUR PARISH NEWS

### ST. MARY 175TH ANNIVERSARY HAPPENINGS!

**January 5, Monday** - Feast of Saint John Neumann, C. SS.R. is our kick off with **EUCCHARISTIC DAY**. We will open our special day with Mass at 10:00am followed by Eucharistic Adoration all day until 7:00pm when Fr. John Kelly, C.S.S.R. will lead us in Evening Prayer and Benediction.

**January 7, Wednesday** - 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Planning Committee Meeting at 7:00pm in the rectory.

**January 9, Friday** - Mass at 10:00am with Bishop David Zubik, presiding. This Mass will kick off our celebration of National Vocation Awareness Week and highlight the **162 years** of consecutive Catholic education provided by our school. A special invitation is extended to all former teachers and students of St. Mary School to attend. A light lunch will follow. Reservations for the lunch should be made by calling 412.487.8594.

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**YOU are welcome** to add to the preparations. Contact us if you, or someone you recommend, loves to write and will be willing to take the brief stories and photos of our parish history to edit, and add facts from the most recent years. This will be printed in an anniversary booklet. Memoirs of events which you may like to share in a short paragraph may also be included in the anniversary 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](mailto:finnj@stmaryglenshaw.org).

## GOOD NEWS TO SHARE



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### HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

At Christmas, we all long for a place where we can feel at home—where we can be comfortable and enjoy our favorite traditions. Many people are also looking at the spiritual meaning of the holiday to help bring significance and joy to the season. This Christmas make St. Mary's your home for the holidays—come hear beautiful Christmas music, meaningful homilies and the warmth of our parish family. It's just what you need to feel right at home. **WELCOME HOME!** We miss you when you don't come!

### STRESS IN YOUR MARRIAGE?

Retrouvaille is a program for married couples that feel bored, disillusioned, frustrated, or angry in their marriage. Some experience coldness. Others experience conflict in their relationship. Most don't know how to change the situation or even communicate with their spouse about it. This program has helped 10's of 1000's of couples experiencing difficulties in their marriage. For confidential information about or to register for the upcoming program beginning with a weekend on January 9, 2009 please contact Retrouvaille at 412.277.3434 more information is available at [www.helpyourmarriage.com](http://www.helpyourmarriage.com).

**MARKET DAY** has hot soup, meatball pie, and Super Foods for Super Game days. See the flier or go to [www.marketday.com](http://www.marketday.com) to order for January 19 pick up.

### St. Vincent DePaul Library

All are welcome to make use of this library located in the back of the church. Within several weeks of checking out a book/CD/DVD, you are asked to return it as others may have an interest in the item. If you wish to donate appropriate items to the library, please drop a note with your name and telephone number in the slot to the right of the bookshelves and you will be contacted. Also, you are invited to list items you would like to see added to the library.

**Need Help?** Do you know someone who needs the help of the St. DePaul Society? Through no fault of his or her own, someone may have fallen on hard times. They may be having difficulty buying food or paying gas or electric bills or even the rent. Maybe a family has no money to buy a much needed appliance or faces some other need. No one should have to deal with such problems alone. Perhaps we can help. If so, call Sr. Lois Spinnenweber, our Social Minister at 412.486.4021.



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### ST. VINCENT COLLEGE, LATROBE

You are invited to a "Get Acquainted Day Open House" on Sunday, January 18th. Registration is from 11:30AM-11:45AM, followed by an introduction to St. Vincent College and a student panel. For more information, please call 1.800.782.5549.

## ***PASTORAL IMPRESSIONS*** from Father John

TODAY, DECEMBER 28<sup>th</sup> is traditionally set aside to remember “The Feast of The Holy Innocents” as those babies who were slaughtered in the name of the Christ Child. However, because TODAY is a Sunday, the Feast of the Holy Family takes precedence. In memory of this day, we welcome members of our ***Pro-Life Committee*** who will form a LIFE CHAIN on our property this morning in memory of children who have been slaughtered in most violent ways. As all parishioners are invited to join the Committee on the bus that will be sent to Washington, D.C. next month as representative of our Parish Family, our financial support for this day is our way of participating in this witness! Those going to Washington will join thousands who will come from all over the country to remind lawmakers and the world in general of our upholding of the dignity of all life.

THE SANCTITY OF HUMAN LIFE! First and foremost we must put an end to the horror of abortion and euthanasia as we come to “respect life” from the very first moment of conception to the final call by God to the eternal kingdom. Human life is too precious! It reflects the divine image of our God in the world in which we live. It has eternal worth and its value supersedes any power humans have to eliminate it.

THE SANCTITY OF HUMAN LIFE! Individual communities of people continue to speak out as racial profiling, ethnic cruelty and drive-by shootings make front-page news from the smallest town to the largest city all across this nation. There seems to be no end to the multitudinous ways we can discover to violate the life of another human being. In all of this, however, each of us knows that human life has a dignity and importance that supersedes such acts of destruction and cries out for such acts one day to cease!

THE SANCTITY OF HUMAN LIFE! It is not what you and I have done as human beings that bring such sanctity to our human lives, but rather only what God could do in a moment of creation. The sanctity of our human life goes way beyond our own personal achievements, as if to say the more we do the more dignity we possess. Not so at all! Our human dignity finds its fulfillment in the very nature of who we are as human beings, for a loving God has created each of us into the image of the divine. It is God who has made us to live forever for our destiny is way beyond the finality of this world. And in this we are SANCTIFIED!