

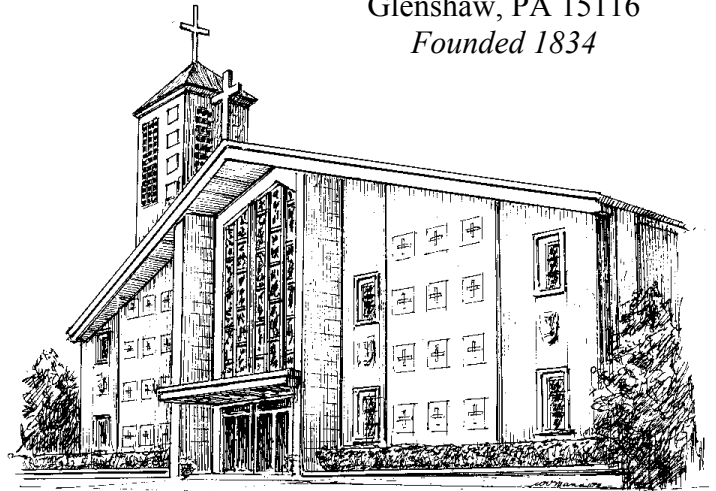
PARISH FAMILY OF ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION

Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 19, 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

E-Mail: rectory@stmaryglenshaw.org

Parish Family Administration Office: 412-486-4100

Religious Formation Office - 412-486-5521

Parochial School - 412-486-7611

Youth Ministry Office - 412-492-9344

Marian Hall - 412-684-1112

Social Ministry Office - 412-486-4021

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

WELCOME FATHER SUTMAN

It is with great joy and that we open the hearts of our people and the doors of our church to *Father Frank Sutman*, a Dominican priest who will speak at all the liturgies TODAY and lead us in our 2008 Parish Family Renewal. Father brings a wonderful reputation endorsed by the members of our Renewal Team and he will remain with us until Wednesday evening. What a special time in our Parish Family as all members and their friends are invited to join us for our Parish Renewal, that time each year when all our activity is halted so that we can collectively deepen our relationship with the Lord Jesus!

EVENING SESSIONS FOR ALL

Each evening at 7:00 p.m. Father Sutman will conduct the Renewal

MORNING SESSIONS FOR ALL

Each morning during the 10:00 a.m. liturgy Father will preach a special homily

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

On Wednesday morning at 10:00 a.m.

The Communal Anointing of the Sick for those seeking the strength of the Lord Jesus in their sickness, age or debilitating condition

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

The opportunity for everyone to celebrate **The Sacrament of Reconciliation** will be available each day.

WEDNESDAY EVENING FINALE

The Wednesday evening liturgy will be followed by a social in Marian Hall

RELIGIOUS ARTICLES ON SALE

Religious articles may be purchased each day in the foyer of the church

CATHOLICS COMING HOME

Members of our "Catholics Coming Home" MINISTRY will be on hand during the days of Renewal to reach out to those who are using the Parish Renewal as an occasion to return to the regular practice of their Faith. They will have a flyer on hand to offer to those who know of someone who is making their Renewal for that purpose. We ask all parishioners to be supportive of this Ministry.

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

"So that all nations may hear the Gospel"

World Mission Sunday is an opportunity for us to nurture the missionary spirit of the Church while we encourage the prayerful and financial support of the Church's missionary work. It is our baptismal responsibility that mandates that we participate in the missionary efforts of the Church. We are called to offer our prayers and our generous support, through the Propagation of the Faith, to continue the mission of our Lord.

SECOND COLLECTION AT ALL OF TODAY'S LITURGIES

POLITICAL ACTIVITY IN THE PARISH

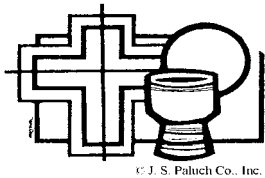
Again this week we have been warned about the about the use of political materials in the Church. This time the warning has come from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. The Bishops ask that we print this statement: "We strongly urge all parishioners to register, to become informed on key issues, and to vote. The Church does not support or oppose any candidate, but seeks to focus attention on the moral and human dimensions of issues. We do not authorize the distribution of partisan political materials on parish property."

AFTERNOON USE OF MARIAN HALL

We remind all those who use Marian Hall on weekdays that they are NOT permitted in the Hall until 1:30 p.m. There is a very strict regulation of the Diocese that adults are not to be present with children in this setting unless the adults have their clearances. We hope that ALL GROUPS will abide by this regulation, or else they will not be permitted to use Marian Hall for their activities.

"VOX POPULI" (part 6)

The Pastoral Council continues to assess the information on the surveys. The Council will make sure that the various Ministries and Groups in the Parish Family will be given the ideas offered by the parishioners that pertain to that ministry or group, who will in turn be asked to report back to the Council with their recommendations pertaining to the suggestions of the parishioners.



LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, October 19, 2008 - Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 4:00 p.m. Joy Wetzel - Ann Scanlon
- 6:00 p.m. John A. Bell - Don & Joan Hammel
- 7:30 a.m. Madlyne Marie Campbell - The Bresnei Family
- 9:00 a.m. Deased Member of the Charles T. Benson Family
- 11:00 a.m. Living & Deceased of Our Parish Family
- 7:00 p.m. Parish Renewal Service

Monday, October 20, 2008 - St. Paul of the Cross

- 7:00 a.m. Marie Gaslevic - Family
- 10:00 a.m. Rose Sobehart - M/M Joseph Rezak & Melissa Parish Renewal Mass
- 7:00 p.m. Parish Renewal Service

Tuesday, October 21, 2008 - Weekday in Ordinary Time

- 7:00 a.m. Mary Lou Blum - Dorothy Bigley
- 10:00 a.m. Victoria Kucharska - Josephine Blythe Parish Renewal Mass
- 7:00 p.m. Parish Renewal Service

Wednesday, October 22, 2008 - Weekday in Ordinary Time

- 7:00 a.m. Mary & Joseph Hart - Family
- 10:00 a.m. Jon Smith - Yates Family Parish Renewal Mass - Anointing of the Sick
- 7:00 p.m. Parish Renewal Service

Thursday, October 23, 2008 - St. John of Capistrano

- 7:00 a.m. James Berrang - Family
- 10:00 a.m. Shirley Kornick - Family

Friday, October 24, 2008 - St. Anthony Mary Claret

- 7:00 a.m. Phillip Lewis - Mary Serwick
- 10:00 a.m. Maylena Walsh - St. Mary School Families

Saturday, October 25, 2008 - Blessed Virgin Mary

- 8:00 a.m. John Creaturo - Wife & Daughters
- 4:00 p.m. Reid DeRunk - In memory of Paul & Sandy Bell
- 6:00 p.m. Joan Paragi - Joyce Struhoe

Sunday, October 26, 2008 - Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 7:30 a.m. Joshua Holliday Speck - Carloyn Lippiello & Lisa Scaloni
- 9:00 a.m. Frank Kelly - Daily Family
- 11:00 a.m. Gladys Hefferin - Hefferin Family

Weekly Activities at a Glance

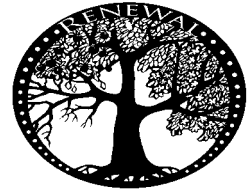
- Sunday Oct. 19** (Church) 9:00AM - Liturgy of the Word for Children
 (Church) 9:00AM - Family Program
 (Rectory) 10:00AM - R.C.I.A.
 (Marian Hall) 10:00AM - Protecting God's Children Workshop
 (Marian Hall) 5:00PM - CYM Pot Luck Supper
 (Church) 7:00PM - Parish Renewal Service
- Monday Oct. 20** (Church) 10:00AM - Parish Renewal Mass
 (Marian Hall) 6:00PM - Market Day
 (School) 6:30PM - CCD Program - 7 & 8 Grades
 (Church) 7:00PM - Parish Renewal Service
- Tuesday Oct. 21** (Church) 10:00AM - Parish Renewal Mass
 (Marian Hall) 2:45PM - School Band
 (Church) 7:00PM - Parish Renewal Service
- Wednesday Oct. 22** (Church) 10:00AM - Parish Renewal Mass
 (Marian Hall) 1:30PM - 55 Specials - Bingo/Cards
 (Church) 2:45PM - Children's Choir Practice
 (Church) 7:00PM - Parish Renewal Service
- Thursday Oct. 23** (Church) 8:00PM - Adult Hand Bell Practice
- Friday Oct. 24** (Church) 10:00AM - School Mass
- Saturday Oct. 25** (School) 9:30AM - CCD Program
- Sunday Oct. 26** (Church) 9:00AM - Liturgy of the Word for Children
 (Church) 11:00AM - Liturgy of the Word for Children
 (Marian Hall) 12:00PM - Pro-Life Breakfast

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE by Bud Ozar

Jesus was exasperated when he scolded: "Why do you put me to the test?" It is natural for children to test parents; this is how they learn and how we teach limits, rules and values. Be like Jesus in today's gospel; he was firm, honest and direct. The phrase in today's gospel is famous: "Pay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to god what belongs to God." Taxes insure the government gets it share of our families resources, but what about our debts to God? How much times does your family give to God in conversation (prayer) or in service to our fellow humans who are in need?

October 11, 2008	Envelopes	Contributions
Offertory	670	\$15,643.45
Cash/Loose Cks.	-	\$769.00
Children's Offertory	33	\$164.16
All Saints Day	1	\$10.00
Mission Sunday	7	\$99.00
Catechetical Program	8	\$105.00
Parish Share 2008	8	\$265.00
Parish Needy	36	\$364.00
Total	763	\$17,419.61

Daily Readings



- October 20:** Eph 2:1-10; Lk 12:13-21
- October 21:** Eph 2:12-22; Lk 12:35-38
- October 22:** Eph 3:2-12; Lk 12:39-48
- October 23:** Eph 3:14-21; Lk 12:49-53
- October 24:** Eph 4:1-6; Lk 12:54-59
- October 25:** Eph 4:7-16; Lk 13:1-9
- October 26:** Ex 22:20-26; 1 Thes 1:5c-10; Mt 22:34-40

SACRAMENTAL LIFE

Congratulations Golden Jubilarians

Mr. and Mrs. James Buckley

Jim and Mary joined the other couples at the Golden Anniversary Mass last Sunday at the Cathedral and presented the gifts to Bishop Zubik along with MaryAnn and Jack Fisher.

A VOCATION VIEW

God has called you by name. You are a child of God. Are you aware of your strength in God? (Isaiah 45:1, 4-6)

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

The letter of St. James states that the sick are to be anointed in order to raise them up and save them. Great care and concern should be taken to see that those of the faithful whose health is seriously impaired by sickness or old age receive this sacrament. The sacrament may be repeated if the sick person recovers after being anointed and then falls ill or if during the same illness the person's condition becomes more serious. A person may be anointed before surgery. Elderly people may be anointed if they have become notably weakened even though no serious illness is present. Sick children may be anointed if they have sufficient use of reason to be strengthened by this sacrament. **The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick will be celebrated on Wednesday, October 22, during the 10:00AM Renewal Mass. Please take advantage of this opportunity to obtain God's healing grace.**

WORLD PRIEST DAY

Is a national celebration that will take place next Sunday, October 26th. Its mission is to celebrate and affirm the men who commit their lives to the Lord and the church via the Sacrament of Holy Orders. **WORLD PRIEST DAY** gives us the opportunity to thank, affirm and share our love and support of all priests throughout the Church Universal but in a special way Father John, Father Ed, and Father Bill. Our parish vocation Council will present our priests with a Spiritual Bouquet. All are welcome to contribute to this spiritual bouquet made up of anonymous individual pledges of sacrifice made in honor of all priests. Pick up a form at the church exits and return by Wed. to the rectory.

LET THE LITTLE CHILDREN COME TO ME

This is a unique ministry for parents with children from birth to five years of age. Church Tour books are available at the rectory. Cost: \$5.00. To connect with this group or to find out more call Monica at 412.492.0242.

PARENTING POINTERS

You've probably heard of "active listening." Maybe you use this communication technique frequently. Regardless, try to "listen by speaking" today by looking for an opportunity to rephrase something of importance your child says today to confirm that you really understand.



Interested in finding out more about becoming a Catholic? You are welcome to plug into a process called the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults.

We meet every Sunday morning at 10:00am in the rectory dining room. This week's topic is: The Old Testament and next week we will discuss the New Testament. All are welcome. Call Fr. Ed or Jim Finn to find out more at 412.486.4100.

RELIGIOUS FORMATION

Faith Sharing for 29th Sunday Ordinary Time

In his first letter to the Thessalonians 1:1-5, Paul commends their community for growing in faith, hope and love. Reflect on our parish family community and think about: what works of faith happen here? What do our community members do as works of love? In what direction do you see the Holy Spirit leading the Church of this twenty-first century? How do we, and can we, draw strength from one another as Christians?

C.C.D. Faith Formation

Monday, Oct. 20, Grade 8, Room 23 come to assist at Market Day - a helpful service for the parish family. Grades 6 & 7 meet in classes at 6:30 PM; ALL Grade 8 meet in Marian Hall by 6:30 PM. All these middle school grades will participate in the parish renewal liturgy at 7:00 PM. Families of younger children welcome also. The children of Grade 5 and younger do NOT meet in class.

Saturday, Oct. 25 – Respect for Life Liturgy of the Word at 9:30 AM with invited elders. All families gather in church.

DIDGERIDOO Raffle

to be held THIS Sunday, Oct. 19; \$1.00 each, 6 for \$5.00 till 11:30 AM. Drawing will be held **before noon** at the Faith Formation Office. This unique musical instrument has caught the eye of many who hope to be the winner. THANKS for support which will help the neediest students in Ethiopia.

YES, YOU may use the Lady of the Rosary Kit with a statue of Mary, video, and rosaries which is available for loan from our Faith Formation Office. Call 412-486-5521 to arrange for use.

Middle School Faith Rally - Time to sing and dance!

THIS Wednesday, October 22, is the deadline to register for the RALLY to be held at Seton-LaSalle High School, Friday, November 7. Registration forms available at the Faith Formation Office. Adult Chaperones welcome. Leave a message for Mark Tobin, Coordinator of "Burning Hearts", 412-486-5521.

- ◆ **Call Dori**, 412-492-9891 if YOU want to get in on the **Bible Study, Tuesdays, 1:00-2:30 PM** in our Faith Formation Conference center, lower floor of the school building.

- ◆ **Did Saint Paul write a GOSPEL? Hear about it at a one evening session with Dr. Scott Hahn**, this Wednesday, October 22, 7:30-9:00PM at St. Paul Seminary Auditorium. All Adults welcome! Car-pool possible; call 412-486-5521 to arrange.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Youth in Grades 9 – 12 and their parents/guardians
DON'T MISS

**Tonight's LIFE NIGHT
Parish Mission Week**

Begins this Sunday, October 19, 2008



THIS WEEK'S LIFE NIGHT WILL BEGIN WITH A POTLUCK SUPPER AT 6 PM IN MARIAN HALL. THEN ALL TEENS AND PARENTS WILL GO UP TO THE CHURCH FOR THE MISSION TALK.

Bring enough of the following to serve 8 - 10 people if your last name begins with:

- A - F Main dish
- G - L Fruit or fruit juice
- M - R Salad
- S - Z Desserts

This will be the **second opportunity** for the mandatory meeting for all teens and parent/guardians regarding fund raising if you want to participate in: **basketball, drama, Appalachia mission, the annual fall retreat or NCYC. At least one parent or guardian needs to attend to get information** about all of these activities.

Our fund raising begins in November and it should be fairly easy IF everyone helps out.

ALL TEENS ARE ASKED TO WEAR THEIR FAVORITE CYM SHIRT TO THE PARISH MISSION TALK.

[basketball shirts are to be worn over another shirt]. If you don't have any CYM shirts, Mrs. B will have some to sell for \$5 at the supper.

CYM BASKETBALL, NCYC AND FALL RETREAT REGISTRATION WILL OCCUR TONIGHT AT THE MISSION TALK

OPEN GYM WILL BE FROM 5-6 PM THIS SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19 [just prior to the supper and mission talk]

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



GROCERY AND SCRIPT NEWS

Because of the importance of the "grocery and script" sales that take place on the weekends, the "Development Committee" has opened up the possibility that all parishioners might have access to this operation during the week. The "Development Committee" is the "brain and brawn trust" of our catholic school families all of whom have the responsibility to raise 10% of the total cost of the school through fund-raisers. With a school that costs over \$1,300,000, the fund raising must be over \$130,000. Raising this money is the responsibility of ALL the families in the school. The talented members of the Committee are hoping to involve all of us in this process. All those going shopping during the week might simply pass by the school, pick up your purchasing power certificates and use them immediately that day. For the customer there is no charge for this service and the customer does not lose any value in purchasing power. The store then reimburses the school for the use of these certificates. Thereby, without any cost to the parishioner, the school is able to support the necessary fund-raising component of the budget. Might you be a parishioner who will begin to use this service each shopping day???



SUPER BINGO

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Another Super Bingo will be held in Marian Hall on Friday, November 7, 2008. Advance tickets are \$35 each or \$40 at the door. Admission includes 12 cards for each regular game and four specials; 40 regular games at 50 points

each, two specials at 100 points each, two specials at 200 points each; one 500 point jackpot and one 1000 point jackpot. Doors open at 5:30 PM; regular bingo begins at 7:00 PM. The evening also includes raffles, quickie and instant bingos. All proceeds benefit St. Mary School. Call Coleen at (412) 486-6622 for more information or tickets.

ONE-SIDED PAPER

We are still requesting donations of one-sided paper for school use. Please check that no personal information is included on the printed side. Donations can be dropped off in the school office Monday through Friday. Thank you!

Pittsburgh Chapter of Women Basketball Officials

are sponsoring a Basketball Shootout on October 25th and 26th, taking place at Mt. Alvernia's gym. The shootout benefits the Breast Cancer Awareness. **St. Mary's Girls JV Basketball** team will participate in the event. If you would like to see the girls play and/or are interested in supporting our cause, please come and join us. All donations will be given to local centers dedicated to the diagnosis, research and treatment of breast cancer. Chinese auctions will be held for donated gift baskets and other donated items. For further information/times or if you would like to make a donation please call Eileen Witmer at 412-298-4921.

OUR PARISH NEWS

Holy Communion Ministers, Readers and Altar Servers

The next schedule for your ministries will be mailed out before the end of October. Please contact Susan Urso, Parish Secretary, in the Rectory Office by Monday, October 20th, if there are dates that you will not be able to serve due to unavailability in November & December. Thank you.



St. Mary's Choirs are always open to new members, but there are some particular instrumental positions that need to be filled at this time. Our brass group could use a trumpet and a trombone or bass instrument (tuba, euphonium, baritone.) This group needs the experience of high school or older players. Also we could use a couple of people in the adult hand bell group. Some experience at reading music and an understanding of rhythm is needed to play in this group. I know that St. Mary's has many talented people who could help us.

TRAVELING VOCATION CHALICE

Our parish Vocation Council sponsors an ongoing project to assist those who wish to pray for an increase of vocations to the priesthood and religious life. All are invited to host this prayer tool in their homes. Call Ron Ondrizek to schedule the chalice at 412.486.6851. Thanks to Mike and Donna Polito for hosting it.

LAST CALL FOR THE WOMEN'S RETREAT

Call one of our promoters to make a Reservation for the **November 7-8-9 Women's Retreat** to be held at St. Paul's Retreat House. You owe it to yourself to experience a weekend away for it, resting in the Lord! Call Irene 412-487-1779, Elma 412-486-3508 or Pat 724-443-6885. You'll come away relaxed and refreshed! Why not give it a try?

"SISTER'S CHRISTMAS CATECHISM"

This humorous, interactive drama, will be performed at City Theater, South Side in December. Deacon Fran will drive the bus if we have a group wanting to attend, Tuesday, December 16, leaving St. Mary's at 6:00 PM @ \$35.00 per ticket for the show. A free will offering will be asked to help with bus expenses. Call 412-486-5521 soon if you wish to reserve a seat on the bus, or send check payable to "St. Mary CCD" for ticket(s)

MARKET DAY Pick up in Marian Hall **THIS Monday, October 20, 6:15-7:00 PM** (time change due to Parish Renewal at 7 PM) Helpers welcome to unpack items 5:00 PM on; call Lee at 724-443-1147.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1 - JOIN US!

It is almost here...the video of our H.O.P.E. Mission Uganda. Join us at 8 PM after Hospitality in Marian Hall for the report of our assessment mission trip last June plus our future plans. Light refreshments will be served. We will also have a silent auction that will include some items made in Uganda.

Attention High School Students & Parents!

What: Pro-Life Breakfast with guest speakers
Who: All High School Students, Parents, & other Adults are invited.
When: Sunday, October 26, 2008
Time: After the 11:00AM Liturgy
Where: Marian Hall
RSVP: Ginny Dougherty at 412-486-8241 or 412-726-2136

**GOOD
NEWS
TO
SHARE**

**World
Mission
Sunday**

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Protecting God's Children Workshop

A workshop will be held here at St. Mary of the Assumption Parish, **TODAY**, Sunday, October 19, 2008 from 10:00AM to 1:00PM in Marian Hall. Deacon Frances Dadowski, Master Catechist, will be conducting the workshop. All employees and volunteers of St. Mary of the Assumption Parish and School must attend this workshop in order to be in compliance with the Diocese of Pittsburgh, IF you have not already done so. If you have questions regarding this program, please contact Susan Urso, Parish Secretary at 412-486-4100. Please contact the Faith Formation Office at 412-486-5521 to register or to register by email: ccdoffice@stmaryglenshaw.org

CATHOLIC MEN'S FELLOWSHIP HOLY HOUR

All men and young men are invited to join Bishop Zubik on Saturday, October 25th at St. Paul Seminary for adoration and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, talk about getting excited about our faith and refreshments beginning at 8:30am and ending at 10:15am. Car pools will leave St. Mary's at 7:45am. Call Jim Finn, Pastoral Associate 412.486.4100 if you are able to drive or if you need a ride. Single and married men of all ages are invited. The Second Saturday Men's Group and the 1st Thursday Men's Group are especially encouraged to attend. Bring a friend!

OKTOBERFEST

G.T.E.V. D'Lustigen Isartaler Bavarian Club celebrates their 33. **Stiftungsfest anniversary) Saturday, November 8th, 2008** at Saint Catherine of Sweden Church, Wildwood. **Gedenkgottesdienst**, Memorial Mass at 4:00 PM with a local German choir. A worship aide with both English and German will help to participate with presider Fr. Warren Murrmann, O.S.B., of St. Vincent Archabbey, Latrobe. A Dinner-dance follows with German food and beer available to purchase immediately after Mass in the church hall. Music by "**Die Lustigen Almdudler**" German band from Rochester, NY from 6.30 - 10:30 PM. Performances by the Isartaler dancers and chorus during the band breaks. Tickets are \$10 at the door; (\$8 in advance). For reservations, call Theresa Goeller 412-487-1870.



GOT "GOOD NEWS"? Essay contest for HIGH school youth, sponsored by the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. See www.onefamilyinmission.org for details.



St. Vincent de Paul Society

The Student Council of St. Mary School coordinated a school project. Each student brought in a can of food for our Food Pantry. The variety of food was terrific. Because of these wonderful students, we were able to surprise our families with "extra" food. We congratulate these students for taking interest in serving the needy. God bless you all! Sr. Lois Spinnenweber
 ... Also, we are collecting pennies for Peanut Butter! If you would like to donate, please contact Sr. Lois at 412.486.4021
 ... Also, Giant Eagle and Panera's donates bread and baked goods for our pantry! **We are truly blessed!**

Pastoral Impressions by Rose Stegman

My mind is still filled with images enjoyed as I journeyed to Virginia and back this past weekend. The autumn transformation of trees was a pleasure to behold in the drive along the turnpike. Brilliant reds, yellows, shades of orange, tan and green created a tapestry of delight. While reflecting along this journey, thoughts of Saint Paul's missionary journeys came to mind. This week's observance of **World Mission Sunday** converges with this year's observance of **the Year of Saint Paul**, so it is a timely moment to focus on **our common call to mission** and the gifts Paul offers us to share on whichever mission we are called to embark. Paul traveled from Tarsus, Jerusalem, around the Mediterranean world and finally to Rome with greater challenges than a drive along the turnpike. Recalling a trip with my brother in southern Ethiopia, the twelve hour journey over rough, unpaved roads and through towns where the youth and children would extend their hands in hopes of receiving something was probably much more like the travels of Paul. The physical hardships were buffered by the opportunity to "live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me".

(Galatians 2:20)

Paul was *a man on the move* with the intent to teach, or remind others of the exquisite life into which we are immersed since baptism. He reminds us in his letters that we share in the gift of freedom as children of God; we dare to call God, OUR Father; we are participants in the challenging work of reconciliation with every creature; we can live in JOYFUL expectancy for Jesus' coming again; we are to keep our focus clear and sharp that it is **what GOD does in Jesus** which is much more important than any of our actions; and to "pray always" and be leaders in the ways of love, "uncontaminated by self-interest". **CELEBRATE today** in the truth that we share the privilege to be sent – on mission – with the same messages as Paul. And pray for those called to leave homes and journey in foreign lands for the sake of sharing God's love.