

PARISH FAMILY OF ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION

Second Sunday in Lent
February 17, 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

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

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT "THE TRANSFIGURATION"

Every year, on the second Sunday of Lent, we proclaim the story of the TRANSFIGURATION. This episode in the life of Jesus appears in all three of the synoptic gospels; and since this is the year we use the Gospel of MATTHEW, we will proclaim his version this year. Even though each evangelist has nuanced the story to further the theology of his gospel, the basic meaning of the story remains the same: Jesus is in a "moment of glory with his disciples in the midst of his journey toward suffering and death." The season of Lent invites us to follow Jesus on this journey as we look forward to the liturgical celebrations of the Triduum.

RITE OF ELECTION

Today our entire Parish Family celebrates the Rite of Election as an integral part of the "Rite of Christian Initiation Of Adults" (RCIA) for those who have been preparing to come into the Church at the Easter Vigil. Congratulations to our catechumens and candidates who will participate in the Rite at the 9:00 a.m. liturgy and then will go the Cathedral this afternoon for a 3:00 p.m. liturgy that will unite them with candidates for all the parishes in the Diocese. We are all asked to remember *Mary Balsamico, Jamie Burkhart, Sean Grimm, Melissa Peterson, Jane Reinert, Donald Schram, David Thens, and Sampson Yee* in our prayers as they continue their journey that will lead them into full communion with the Catholic Church at this year's Vigil on Holy Saturday.

"CATHOLICS COMING HOME"

Do you know anyone who has become distant from the Church AND is desiring to return to the life of the Parish Family? Do you yourself have any questions about this process of coming home to the Altar of the Lord? Do you wish to know more about the "Catholics Coming Home" ministry? Plan to join us for an informal discussion by the members of the Ministry themselves on Thursday, February 28th at 7:00 p.m. in Marian Hall. What a wonderful opportunity for people to return to the regular practice of the Catholic Faith without any fear of judgment or condemnation!

CALL TO CONTINUING CONVERSION

Today the entire Parish Family welcomes the Confirmation Candidates who have been called to the process of Continuing Conversion. Witnessing to all of us that each candidate is currently ready to accept the responsibilities that come with the reception of this sacrament, the Candidate will be asked to sign the BOOK OF COMMITMENT that will be placed on the altar. As these young people present themselves for this commitment, the entire Parish Family will be asked to remember them in prayer as we all look forward to the evening of May 6th when our church will be filled with the coming of the Holy Spirit in the celebration of this sacrament.

"VOX POPULI" (part 2)

The "VOICE OF THE PEOPLE" is one of those dictionary sayings that means that the PEOPLE involved may offer suggestions and corrections to a process that involves all the people. Our Parish Pastoral Council is planning a Sunday when the "Vox Populi" might express itself. All parishioners will be given an ideal opportunity to express their views on the developments in the life of our Parish Family. The Pastoral Council is now in the process of developing a survey that will allow all members to become involved. Keep an eye on this titled bulletin announcement for further explanations!

PARISH SHARE COLLECTION

We thank those parishioners who responded so generously to the 2008 appeal for the Parish Share. Those who have not as of yet may do so any time this month. Simply place your pledge card in the first collection basket, or send it by mail to the church. Those who have made a pledge will begin to receive a card in the mail each month listing the amount of the pledge and how much has been paid already. We hope that all parishioners will use the Parish Share Program as a way of contributing to our own Parish Family; since once we have met our assessment; the overage of the program will be returned to our parish budget to be used at our own discretion.

**RELIGIOUS FORMATION ENVELOPE
MAY BE DROPPED IN TODAY'S
FIRST COLLECTION TO FUND OUR
FAITH FORMATION PROGRAMS**



Liturgies for the Week

Sunday, February 17, 2008 - Second Sunday in Lent

4:00 p.m. Mrs. Carl Hunkele - Family
 6:00 p.m. Joseph Lillion - Gus & Stella Kalaris
 7:30 a.m. James Duffy - Bob & Gloria
 9:00 a.m. Living & Deceased of Our Parish Family
 11:00 a.m. Sally & Joe Ollio 25th Wedding Anniversary
 6:00 p.m. Residents of Koch, Uganda - CYM

Monday, February 18, 2008 - Presidents' Day

7:00 a.m. Agnes Bernas - Mary Beth Palko
 10:00 a.m. Becky Wesolek - Family

Tuesday, February 19, 2008 - Lenten Weekday

7:00 a.m. Clarence Bittner - The Mitsch Family
 10:00 a.m. Dorothy Lang - Cathy Pecher
 7:00 p.m. Lenten Enrichment - Fr. Semler

Wednesday, February 20, 2008 - Lenten Weekday

7:00 a.m. Paul Berrang - Family
 10:00 a.m. Mae Gentile - Dolly Gentile
 6:30 p.m. Memorial Liturgy

Thursday, February 21, 2008 - St. Peter Damian

7:00 a.m. Special Intention - The Urso Family
 10:00 a.m. Pearl Smith - Josephine Blythe
 7:00 p.m. Christian Mothers/Women's Organization

Friday, February 22, 2008 - Chair of St. Peter

7:00 a.m. Petar Penezic - Pete & Dolores Penezic
 10:00 a.m. Eileen W. Palmer - St. Mary Students Room #15
 2:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross
 7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross

Saturday, February 23, 2008 - St. Polycarp

8:00 a.m. Elizabeth Berrang - Family
 4:00 p.m. Reid DeRunk - Dan & Shirley Stepnick
 6:00 p.m. Matthew C. Mogus - Rita & Jim Finn

Sunday, February 24, 2008—Third Sunday of Lent

7:30 a.m. Living & Deceased of Our Parish Family
 9:00 a.m. Charles Stepnick - Pat Power
 11:00 a.m. Marco & Vincenza Imbarlina - Marco & Rose Imbarlina

Weekly Activities at a Glance

Sunday February 17
 (Church) Rite of Call - Grade 8 - All Masses
 (Marian Hall) 9:00AM - Liturgy of the Word for Children
 (Church) 9:00AM - R.C.I.A. Rite of Sending
 (Marian Hall) 11:00AM - Liturgy of the Word for Children
 (PAC) 1:00PM - CYM Drama Play
 (Church) 6:00PM - CYM - TROC Mass

Monday February 18
 (School) 8:00AM - Bus Leaving for Confirmation Retreat
 (School) School in session - Snow Make-up Day
 No CCD Program

Tuesday February 19
 (Church) 2:45PM - Children's Cantor Practice
 (Pantry) 6:00PM - Open Pantry
 (Church) 7:00PM - Lenten Enrichment Mass

Wednesday February 20
 (Marian Hall) 9:15AM - Let the Little Children Come to Me Meeting
 (Marian Hall) 1:30PM - 55 Specials - Bingo/Cards
 (Church) 2:45PM - Children's Choir Practice
 (JAM Center) 3:00PM - CYM Drop-In
 (Rectory) 7:00PM - Temporalities Commission Meeting
 (Church) 7:30PM - Adult Choir Practice

Thursday February 21
 (Church) 7:00PM - Christian Mothers Liturgy/Meeting
 (Church) 8:00PM - Adult Hand Bell Practice

Friday February 22
 (School) 10:00AM - School Mass
 (Church) 2:00PM - Stations of the Cross
 (Marian Hall) 4:30PM - Fish Dinner
 (Church) 7:00PM - Stations of the Cross

Saturday February 23
 (School) 9:30AM - CCD Program

Sunday February 24
 (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
 (Church) 7:30PM - CYM-TROC Living Stations of the Cross

R.I.P.: Please pray for the repose of the souls of Anna Heh and Regis Klein and Mary Procopio, mother of John Procopio, William F. Duderstadt, father of William Duderstadt.

Widow/Widowers Group: will meet on Sunday, February 24 at 4:00 p.m. at Venice Restaurant, 2909 Mt. Royal Blvd. across from Dehaven Court. Everyone is welcome. Any questions call Barb at 412-486-4209 or Marge at 412-486-5621.

Offertory Collection

February 10, 2008	Envelopes	Contributions
Offertory	821	\$17,137.01
Cash/Loose Cks.	-	\$483.00
Children's Offertory	48	\$43.41
Catholic Schools	2	\$35.00
St. Anthony	5	\$52.00
Parish Share 2008	384	\$47,875.45
Parish Needy	44	\$797.00
Total	1,304	\$66,370.87

Daily Readings



Monday, Feb. 18: Dn 9:4b-10; Lk 6:36-38

Tuesday, Feb. 19: Is 1:10, 16-20; Mt 23:1-12

Wednesday, Feb. 20: Jer 18:18-20; Mt 20:17-28

Thursday, Feb. 21: Jer 17:5-10; Lk 16:19-31

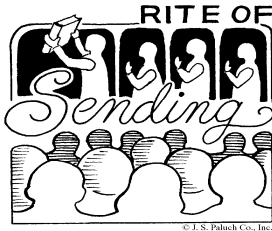
Friday, Feb. 22: 1 Pt 5:1-4; Mt 16:13-19

Saturday, Feb. 23: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

Sunday, Feb. 24: Ex 17:3-7; Rom 5:1-2, 5-8; Jn 4:5-42 [5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42]

SACRAMENTAL LIFE

CONGRATULATIONS to our RCIA catechumens and candidates who will celebrate the Rite of Election and the Rite of Call to Continuing Conversion at St. Paul's Cathedral this afternoon. Please continue to pray for the following as they continue their journey to the Easter sacraments:



Mary Balsamico
 Jamie Burkhardt
 Sean Grimm
 Melissa Peterson
 Jane Reinert
 Donald Schram
 David Thens
 Sampson Yee

TRAVELING VOCATION CHALICE- This prayer tool for church vocation is being hosted by Mr. and Mrs. Al Yarzabinski. All families, singles and shut-ins are encouraged to host this Traveling Chalice sponsored by our Vocation Council. Call the rectory to schedule a time (412)486-4100.

A VOCATION VIEW

This Lent Jesus invites us to go up on a mountain, to spend extra time in prayer. Don't be afraid of what you might experience. Trust that God is leading you to greater understanding. (Matt. 17:1-9)

MILITARY PRAYER LIST- PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR THE SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN LISTED ON OUR PRAYER LIST NEAR THE SACRED HEART STATUE. A CANDLE IS KEPT BURNING TO REMIND US TO KEEP ALL IN PRAYER. To add someone to the Military Prayer list simply call the rectory with the information.

CATHOLIC, BUT NOT CONFIRMED?

If for some reason, you have never been confirmed, please accept the invitation to become a fully initiated member of the Catholic church. We will begin a series of confirmation preparation sessions and those who attend will receive the sacrament of Confirmation on Tuesday, May 6, 2008 when Bishop Zubik comes to our parish. To register for these sessions or to find out more, call our Pastoral Associate, Jim Finn at (412)486-4100.

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

Help is needed at the Tuesday evening Lenten Masses at 7:00pm. Please sign the volunteer sheet in the sacristy.

LET THE LITTLE CHILDREN COME TO ME MINISTRY-

a post-baptism ministry for parents with children from birth to age five years of age offers programs geared to be spiritually supportive to parents. Are all welcome! Call Monica at (412)492-0242 for more information.

PRAY AND PLAY DAY- is held on the first and third Wednesday of the month. Meet in the Children's Liturgy Room at 9:30am. We will meet with Wednesday, Feb. 20th. Call Jodee to find out more at (412)267-3027.

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

by Bud Ozar

Today's gospel tells us to LISTEN which is a challenge as cell phones, IPODS, TV and radio constantly distract us. This Lent dedicate 10 minutes a day to sit quietly and allow God to speak to your heart. Caution: listening to God can change you and your family.

RELIGIOUS FORMATION

Faith Sharing for the Second Sunday of LENT

Jesus has three of his friends with him on the mountain when he appeared "dazzling", with Moses and Elijah. This awesome experience transformed the disciples. In what ways might they have changed? Imagine yourself on the mountain. What would you say to the three, or to Jesus? or Moses? or Elijah? Jesuit poet, Gerard Manley Hopkins wrote: "In a flash, at a trumpet crash, I am all at once what Christ is, since he was what I am, and this, Jack, joke, poor potsherd, patch, matchwood, immortal diamond, IS immortal diamond." We are all mere shards or bits of wood, but have been redeemed by Jesus and **transformed** into marvelous jewels. Reflect on transformation as you go about your life this week.

Confirmation Candidates will participate in a Retreat, Monday, February 18, 8:30 – 2:30 PM at Kearns Spirituality Center. Keep all our youth in your prayers.

Service Opportunities with our Lenten dinners each Friday. Call 412-486-5521 to be on the schedule. You need to bring your list of service done to your interview with a staff member.

Faith Formation Sessions will NOT be held on Monday, February 18 due to the President's Holiday. Students are to do the lesson at home.

ADULT ENRICHMENT toward VOTING with an informed conscience. Participate with our deanery Thursday, February 28 at the Pope John Paul I center, 9th Street, Sharpsburg. "Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship" will be part of the discussion led by representatives of our diocese. RSVP to 412-456-3156 or jglover@diopitt.org. Sufficient handouts @ \$5.00 pkg., will be prepared for you.

RICE BOWLS are available in the foyer of our church. Take one home to use in connection with the HOME CALENDAR GUIDE which you received with the parish mailing. Your monetary sacrifices will be sent to Catholic Relief Services toward support of the many families helped in third world countries. The HOME CALENDAR page has stories of persons being helped by CRS.

THANKS for BLANKETS donated for our activity at the Lovewalk. At least 47 youth and adults represented our parish on the walk last Sunday. The blankets were donated to the Felician Sisters to give to the needy served at their outreach pantry.

MARKET DAY orders may still be submitted on-line at www.marketday.com or call Lee, 724-443-1147 before noon THIS Tuesday. Pick up will be Monday, February 25, 6:30 till 7:30 PM in Marian Hall. Our profits go to continue updating our Marian Hall kitchen equipment. Thanks to all Market Day patrons.

SPRING TRAINING moved such Major League Baseball players: Mike Piazza, David Eckstein, Jeff Suppan, Mike Sweeney, Jack McKeon and Rich Donnelly to be sports heroes". They are now featured in the MOVIE: "Champions of Faith", 30 minutes, which will be shown on Saturday, March 15, 7:00 PM in Marian Hall. Hot dogs, popcorn, and beverages will be served. All parishioners welcome to attend. Call 412-486-5521 to say how many will attend these unique stories of faith.

YOUTH MINISTRY

**TONIGHT - SUNDAY EVENING LITURGY WITH
FR. MICHAEL FROM UGANDA 6 PM FEBRUARY 17**

Snack to bring if Last Name begins with:

- A - E** Fruit
F - K Veggies and Dip
I - L Non-caffeine soda or beverage
M - Q Chips or Pretzels
R - Z Desserts

**ALL TEENS IN GRADES 8 - 12: CROSSWALK RE-
HEARSAL 7 PM SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17 AFTER THE
T-ROC LITURGY WITH MR. AND MRS. PENEZIC.**

HELPING WITH OUR HAWAIIAN LUAU

Our committee, under the direction of Dr. Lillian Cavanaugh, **will meet at 7 PM after the T-ROC liturgy** to finalize plans and tasks. This meeting is open to any volunteers wishing to help with this exciting parish event, please come to **Marian Hall**.

If you can't make the meeting, here is what we need:

- Volunteers to help with the **Hawaiian luau on April 12**
- Food donations for our meal
- Corporate sponsorship for our bigger meal items e.g., the meat for the Hawaiian luau
- Items for our silent auction

Promotion of any of these events in your workplace **Betty Hengelsberg has donated a set of Christmas dishes for our silent auction.** We will accept auction items or monetary donations to offset the personal cost of our mission trip to Africa. Please call 412-486-4100, ext. 409.

MISSION TRIP TO UGANDA

Now we know that we will focus on rebuilding the town of Koch, Uganda. But, first we have to get there! **Each mission worker must come up with close to \$2,500 to make this trip** (this includes air fare, medical insurance plus room and board). Please help our team of 8 members to offset their personal expense to carry out this mission of service. **Can you help? If you would be interested in donating money toward our travel fund, it would be most appreciated.** Please make donation checks out to St. Mary Parish with the memo "African mission travel fund" and leave at the rectory for Barb Belski.

CYM CALENDAR

- Sat., Feb. 16 **"Play On" in the PAC 8 PM**
 Sun., Feb. 17 **"Play On" in the PAC 1 PM**
 T-ROC Liturgy 6 PM
 Luau planning meeting 7 PM
 Crosswalk Practice 7 PM
 Boy varsity game 7:45 PM
 Wed., Feb. 20 Drop In for Grades 6 - 12
 begins in PAC 3 PM till 5 PM
 then 5 - 6 PM at JAM center
 High School pick up basketball
 in PAC 5 - 6 PM for girls and boys

ST. MARY SCHOOL

RECYCLING - The school is still collecting empty ink cartridges and old cell phones for recycling. Please feel free to drop them off in the school office or in the back of church. Thank you!

STATIONS OF THE CROSS - Please join the school community for Stations of the Cross during Lent at 2:00 PM in the church. Students in grades 4 through 8 will pray the Stations every Friday beginning February 8th through March 14th.

The students in grades 1 through 3 will also pray the Stations on the following Wednesdays at 1:50 PM: February 20th, and 27th, as well as March 12th. Come and pray with us!



St. Mary
tion & Din-

School Auc-
ner 2008

Reach for the Stars!

Saturday, March 1, 2008 at 5:30 p.m.

Pittsburgh Field Club, Fox Chapel

Evening Includes:

Wonderful Silent & Live Auction & Raffles

Sit down Dinner

Entertainment by Five Guys

Featuring Drew Martier

Tickets \$45/person To purchase tickets or for

more info call Melissa at 412 492-9349/

melissabattaglia@comcast.net



"Play On"

Drama for charity

Saturday, February 16 8 PM.

Sunday, February 17 1 PM

Both performances in the Parish Activity Center

Light concessions in Marian Hall

before both performances.

**Admission is a FREE WILL DONATION
toward our African mission.**



GENERAL PARISH NEWS

CALLING ALL MEN!

Keep open Sat. April 12, 2008 on your calendars! The Third Annual **GATHERING OF CATHOLIC MEN** will be held on the campus of Duquesne University at the A. J. Palumbo Center. This year we hope to fill **TWO** buses for this event! How can we do this? If you make a reservation to attend and invite at least one of your friends. Call Jim Finn (412)486-4100 for registration information...don't delay- do it **TODAY! NOTE- Make your reservation with Jim Finn if you wish to ride our bus and get the special group rate of \$35.00.**

MENS RETREAT COMING SOON! REGISTER TODAY!



March 7-8-9 at St. Paul's Retreat House on the south side. Call Charlie Fischer at 412-487-4667 or Carl Lichvarchik at 412-903-7607 or Jim Karcher at 724-444-5798 to register or find out more! All are welcome to spend some time with the Lord. Plan now to attend!

LENTEN ENRICHMENT SERIES- Father Albert Semler, a native son of our parish will be here on **TUESDAY, FEB. 19 at 7:00 P. M.** for our Lenten Enrichment Series Mass and homily. Fr. Al will continue to discuss the power of **HOPE** in our lives. Come and bring a friend!

NEXT WEEK THE LIVING STATIONS OF THE CROSS on SUNDAY, FEB. 24th at 7:30 P.M. in church. All ages welcome!

Women's Lenten Conference- The 11th Annual Women's Lenten Conference will be held on Sat. March 1, 2008 at St. John Neumann Parish in Franklin Park. Register by sending fifteen dollars payable to: TASH. TO: Fr. Scott Seethaler, OFMCap., 221 36th Street, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15201.

St. Vincent DePaul Library

Several months ago a small library sponsored by the St. Vincent DePaul society was opened at the back of our church. All are welcome to make use of this facility. There is no need to sign out for any item. However, 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. Thank you.

Assumption Cemetery of St. Mary

Please remove all Christmas wreaths and decorations in our cemetery before March 1, 2008. If you are unable to do so, our maintenance crew will remove and discard. Thank you.

LENTEN FISH DINNERS: Our third Lenten Fish Dinner will be served on February 22nd, from 4:30PM - 7:00PM.

Adults - 8.00, Seniors - \$7.00,

Children - \$3.00 and Children under age 3 - \$1.00.

Please remember to drop off your desserts. Families with the last name beginning with I - L, please drop off your treats by Friday, Feb. 22nd, by 4:00PM. Thank you and see you at the "Fish Fry."

What's Happening in Our Town

Christian Mothers Women's Organization

We will meet on February 21st starting with Rosary at 6:30, Mass at 7 and program begins at 8:30 after a brief meeting. Music for listening pleasure (and perhaps dancing) will be presented by Marie Doerge and the Contemporary Ensemble. **Snacks, appetizers, desserts are needed.** Please be generous. **Men and or guests are welcome.** Beer and wine will be provided.

We do not meet in March as we will be participating in our churches Lenten services, this meeting will be the last before our Covered Dish Dinner in April, so we need to discuss what is happening. Please plan on attending so we can decide on our choices for an entree, ticket price and etc.

Our own Vice President, Marilyn Buck, is contemplating being our President for Sept. 2008. Theresa Goeller will stay on as Secretary and Ann Mitch as Treasurer. We may just need a Vice President. This will also be discussed Feb. 21st.

Come Join Us on Wednesday, March 5th at 7:30PM in Marian Hall and listen to Father Jim Conroy, S.J., who will give us tips on how to "Deepen our Prayer Life." The Let the Little Children Ministry is sponsoring this evening and asks that all Moms and Dads arrange their schedule to come. All parishioners interested in going a step further should also come. Fr. Jim conducted our Parish Mission Renewal in October and promised to come back in Lent to set up a series of sessions to form those interested in developing an Ignatian spirituality. Call Jim Finn for more information at 412-4186-4100.

"40 Days for Life" is a peaceful and prayerful campaign to change minds and hears about abortion. It include Prayer, Fasting, and 24/7 Vigil outside Planned Parenthood abortion facilities. 40 Days is being held simultaneously in 60 cities in 31 states during Lent. St. Mary's time slot is Wednesday, March 5, 2008, from 12:00noon to 6:00PM. Please volunteer for 1hour or up to 6 hours. Would you please prayerfully consider joining us on that day? Please contact Ginny Dougherty at 412-486-8241 to sign up and more information.



MASS INTENTIONS

Since the great number of MASS INTENTIONS that are given to our Parish Family cannot be satisfied in our parish church, we remind all parishioners that some intentions will be sent to the Missions. Not only does that mean that the intentions will be said long before they could be said in our parish church, but the stipend connected to the intentions goes to help the work of the missions in needy areas of the world. The following intentions have been sent to the Missions and those who requested them can be assured that these masses will be celebrated shortly.

Mass said for:

Guido & Maria Sicher
Mary Folan
Martin Cloonan
Paul & Antoinette Schlereth
Russell Cvetic

Requested by:

Lena Sicher 3 Masses
John & Margaret Thomas
John & Margaret Thomas
Mullen Family
Antoinette & Rudy

PASTORAL IMPRESSIONS from Father John

In the official liturgical language of the Church it is called VIOLET, the color most universally creating the mood of the Season of Lent. In the eyes of most of us who come to the church during these days, we speak of “purple” as the color of the season. I have always wondered why this color distinction? Could it be that “violet” is first and foremost a “flower” before it is a color to most of us? Try this experiment: say to a person “what is violet” and see if that person says “a flower” or “a color” as the first response. Interestingly enough, when one looks up the word “violet” in the dictionary, the first description given is that of a “flower.” Finally, the fifth definition in the listing is “the color bluish-purple.” Not so when one looks up the word “purple” in the dictionary. First and foremost, it is “..a color having components of both red and blue..”

So, whether one uses the liturgically correct name of “violet” or the more commonly used expression of “purple” for the color that looms so brilliantly throughout the church during this season, it is certainly not the shaded BLUE that we experienced during the Season of Advent. Advent spoke to us of anticipating the joyful birth of the Son of God, Lent cries out to us about the sorrowful death of this beloved Son of God. We have captured the emotional tones of the two different seasons with the use of two different colors!

Historically speaking, the Liturgical Colors of the Catholic Church only came into official existence in the 12th century when Pope Innocent III was careful to prescribe the colors for the vestments to be used by the priest celebrant. The shading of the colors was left up to the vestment makers, as long as the actual hue was somewhat close to the color in the spectrum. It was during this time Lent became identified with the color violet (purple) “Violet” was the color worn distinctly by persons of imperial or high rank. It was identified as a color for regal, princely or imperial events. It then became identified with the Season of Lent because the Lord Jesus was princely in his acceptance of suffering, regal in his taking of the cross of condemnation, imperial in his dying for the will of his Father. We now come together to celebrate the great Season of Lent and allow the outstanding color of the season to speak to us of the central mystery of our faith and await the glorious white of the Easter Season when that mystery will find its fulfillment in the Resurrection of the Lord Jesus!