

PARISH FAMILY OF ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
December 30, 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

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

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 25th and the Motherhood of Mary on January 1st is entitled **The Feast of the Holy Family**. As the liturgical spotlight centered on the child Jesus on December 25th and on the role of Mary on January 1st, today the emphasis is upon JOSEPH in his role as belonging to the lineage of David. The Gospel of Luke reminds us of the importance of Joseph as the angel appears to him in a dream twice to keep Jesus and his Mother from harm. 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 Tuesday, January 1st, 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 Monday evening, and 8:00 and 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday 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 in that we have another sanctified year in 2008.

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 who 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.

**“WE MISS YOU” PAMPHLETS
AT THE DOORS OF THE CHURCH.
TAKE ONE TO GIVE TO SOMEONE!**

“CATCH THE VIBE”

(1) Contributions must be given before the end of the month to be recorded on the financial statement sent to each home for tax purposes in 2007;

(2) There is still a possibility to place one's name on the “Memorial Plaque” still seen in the foyer of the church for everyone who contributes at least \$2000 to the Campaign that began in 2003;

(3) The Pension Protection Act of 2006 allows anyone to take funds from an IRA and send them directly to the church without paying any income tax on the withdrawal. There are no tax consequences if done before the end of the year.

SICK RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

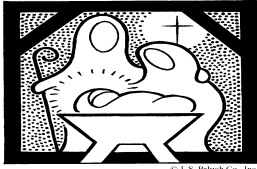
The Parish Family of St. Mary constantly raises in prayer the names of our sick relatives and friends. Once a month we publish in the bulletin the names of those who have been given to us. We remind all parishioners that these names will be published this final time in today's bulletin. After this, we will begin to collect names for our 2008 listing. We will not automatically include the names of the 2007 listing in the 2008 bulletins since many of those who were placed on the list in 2007 are no longer homebound or in need of prayers for a debilitating condition. New names may be placed on the 2008 list at any time during the year, so that, in fact, the listing will grow during the year.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 2007

Today is the final day to make contributions to the Parish Family that will be recorded on our 2007 financial statement. Parishioners wishing to have their donations recorded for tax purposes in the year 2007 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.

CALENDARS STILL AVAILABLE

We remind those who did not receive a 2008 blessed calendar that they may still pick up one at the doors of the church. As this calendar is placed in our homes or other places where we work or play, we pray that the blessings of our generous God will descend upon all those who occupy that space.



Liturgies for the Week

Sunday, December 30, 2007 - Feast of the Holy Family

- 4:00 p.m. Alexandria Politylo - Tom & Babs
- 6:00 p.m. Living & Deceased of Our Parish Family
- 7:30 a.m. Antoinette Mysliwicz & Frank - Daughter
- 9:00 a.m. Marcella & Robert Cray, Sr. - Antoinette & Robert Cray, Jr.
- 11:00 a.m. Joseph & Catherine Leo - Ron & Angie

Monday, December 31, 2007 - St. Sylvester I

- 7:00 a.m. Bernie Meinert - Mom
- 10:00 a.m. Bill Wesolek - Family
- 4:00 p.m. Mary Sutter - Virginia Perry
- 6:00 p.m. Living & Deceased of Our Parish Family

Tuesday, January 1, 2008 - Mary the Mother of God

- 8:00 a.m. Margaret Beley - John & Deanna Lengua
- 10:00 a.m. John Kirby - Mary Jean

Wednesday, January 2, 2008 - Ss. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen

- 7:00 a.m. Catherine Lazzaro - M/M Greg Lopinto
- 10:00 a.m. Margaret Sherred - Sherred Family

Thursday, January 3, 2008 - The Most Holy Name of Jesus

- 7:00 a.m. Mary & Michael Danko - Daughter, Barbara
- 10:00 a.m. Agnes Bernas - Faith Formation Staff & Teachers

Friday, January 4, 2008 - St. Elizabeth Ann Seton

- 7:00 a.m. Clarence Bittner - Jim & Joanne Rosswog
- 10:00 a.m. Gerard Theberge - St. Mary Students

Saturday, January 5, 2008 - St. John Neumann

- 8:00 a.m. Leonard Lang - Francis & Wanda Stretman
- 4:00 p.m. Dick O'Leary - Catherine O'Leary
- 6:00 p.m. Marlene Harvey - Bob & Gina

Sunday, January 6, 2008 - The Epiphany of the Lord

- 7:30 a.m. Living & Deceased of Our Parish Family
- 9:00 a.m. Gerard Walter - Loretta Walter
- 11:00 a.m. Bernie Meinert - Mom



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

Michael Ackman, Anna Marie Belch, Bethann, Thomas & Kevin Butler, Frank Cambest, Troy & Trevor Cignetti, Howard Claus, Carmella Cosentino, Eileen Driscoll, Bob Ebel, Liz Fornaser, Kathie Francis, Rita & Dominick Frollini, Gemma, Eileen Golya, Joseph George, Natalie Gubanic, Kate Heinricker, John Hoehn, Martha Hornak, Ava Hutchenson, Andrew Kadash, Robert Kaminski, Angie Kondrick, Mildred Klein, Katie Lang, Maggie, Regis & Kitty Murphy, Katie Heggstad Martin, Larry McIntyre, Jack & Margie Nist, Hannah Shuker Pallas, Judy Ranalli, Pat Regan, Lee Ruzomberka, Courtney Ryce, Carl Schulze & Family, Annabelle Segriff, Frankie Seiler, Joshua Stanek, Eileen Stegman, Kerry Stiffey, Glen & Laura Tibaldeo, Trevor Tofil, Sister Carmen Torres, Mark Thimons, Harry Trautmann, Jr., Fritz Triglia, Renae Vivaldi-Breskovich, Vickery Family, Paul Z.

Weekly Activities at a Glance

- Sunday** (Church) 9:00AM - Liturgy of the Word for Children
December 30
- Monday** (School) 3:00PM - Drama Club Practice
December 31
- Tuesday** Holy Day of Obligation
January 1
- Wednesday** Classes Resume
January 2
- Thursday** (School) 3:00PM - Drama Club Practice
January 3
- Friday** 6:30PM - CYM Drama Practice
January 4
- Saturday** (Church) 4:00PM - Liturgy of the Word for Children
January 5
- Sunday** (Church) Hospitality Sunday
January 6
- Sunday** (Marian Hall) 11:00AM - Sunday Preschool
January 6
- Sunday** (Marian Hall) 7:00PM - T-Roc/CYM
January 6



RIP: Ernestine Hepp, mother of Anna Mae Ubinger and Ernestine Boss, and William Gallenz.

Offertory Collection

December 23, 2007	Envelopes	Contributions
Offertory	783	\$16,538.55
Cash/Loose Cks.	-	\$1,030.00
Children's Offertory	42	\$64.00
Christmas	30	\$836.00
Christmas Charities/Youth	17	\$285.00
Christmas Flowers	7	\$70.00
Parish Needy	19	\$305.00
Total	898	\$19,128.55

Daily Readings



- Monday, Dec. 31: 1 Jn 2:18-21; Jn 1:1-18
- Tuesday, Jan. 1: Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67;
Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21
- Wednesday, Jan. 2: 1 Jn 2:22-28; Jn 1:19-28
- Thursday, Jan. 3: 1 Jn 2:29 - 3:6; Jn 1:29-34
- Friday, Jan. 4: 1 Jn 3:7-10; Jn 1:35-42
- Saturday, Jan. 5: 1 Jn 3:11-21; Jn 1:43-51
- Sunday, Jan. 6: Is 60:1-6; Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6;
Mt 2:1-12

SACRAMENTAL LIFE

LET THE LITTLE CHILDREN COME TO ME

is a post baptism ministry for parents with children from birth to age five. Many activities are scheduled and all are welcome to plug into any or all of them. Call Monica for more information at (412) 492-0242.

PRAY AND PLAY DAY

Moms and caregivers and children are invited to join us every first and third Wednesday morning beginning at 9:30am in the Children's Liturgy Room. Come and share with your child in this faith-filled learning experience. Call Jodi to find out more at (412)267-3027. Our next meeting will be held on January 9, 2008.

A VOCATION VIEW

Honor your father and mother, your wife, your husband, your children, your brother, your sister. Family ties bind us in love and root us in faith. What will you do to strengthen your family ties? (Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14)

OUR PRAYER VESSEL

Have you noticed the glass vessel placed near the tabernacle? All have the opportunity to fill out an intention slip and place it in the vessel. Every day the special intentions are remembered at Mass church. All our intentions are mentioned each week during the General Intercessions.

WHAT IS THE VALUE OF ONE PRIEST TO THE WORLD?

"Without priests there would be no Eucharist."

Every priest means that more people will have greater access to Christ's saving sacrifice through the Mass, and to Christ's healing pardon through confession. National Vocation Awareness Week will be observed January 13-18, 2008. Our parish Vocation Council has planned a special All School Mass for Friday, January 11, 2008 at 10:00am. All are welcome to attend this Mass and to host the Traveling Vocation Chalice in their homes. By fostering a culture of vocations, the Church is strengthened in its universal call to holiness. To reserve a week to host the chalice, once used by our former pastor, Msgr. Shinar in your homes simply call Jim Finn (412)486-4100 at the rectory.

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE by Bud Ozar

It is good Joseph was tuned into God for directions. He was "warned" to flee to Egypt, then to return to Israel and later to move to Galilee. Open your heart to God's direction in your life. What new place is God leading you in 2008? Listen and let the Lord lead!

RELIGIOUS FORMATION

Faith Sharing for Holy Family Sunday

How have images of FAMILY changed since you were a youth? What pressures and values threaten the stability of families now? Re-read Matthew 2:13-23. Talk to Joseph and Mary about the challenges they faced, and about the challenges YOU face in family relationships.

BLESSING OF THE HOME, is a beautiful tradition to celebrate on the feast of the Epiphany, NEXT Sunday. A handout with a prayer for blessing each room of the house as well as a placard with the initials of the traditional names of magi, Casper, Melchior, and Balthasar is included. Contact our Faith Formation Office at 412-486-5521 if you would like a copy.

Grade 2 Children and Parent/Guardian gather at ONE of the sessions: Saturday, January 12, 9:30 AM in church; Sunday, January 13 in Providence Hall at 10 AM or Noon; or Monday, January 14, 6:30 PM in church. The booklet FIRST EUCHARIST will be given for use in the cluster groups beginning this month.

Parents, please return the YELLOW form with choices checked indicating the day, time, etc. your family anticipates bringing your child to First Eucharist. The forms were given after the concluding prayer at their Reconciliation earlier in December.

Confirmation Candidates, WHO of your group will be willing to be a Spirit-witness at the March for Life and go to Washington, DC on January 22 with OUR marchers. Information was given to each cluster group leader to be distributed during December. Necessary permission forms need to be signed and returned to the Faith Formation office by early January .

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.

Faith Formation Sessions: Saturday, January 5, 9:30AM All students, parents too, gather in Church – Come Let us Adore Christ our Lord in the Manger and in His Eucharistic presence. **This is the Feast day of Saint John Neumann who had served in our church around 1848. He introduced the custom of Eucharistic adoration to the people in his care. All welcome to this Liturgy of the Word and short time of Adoration.**

Monday, January 7, 6:30 PM Grade 2 & parent meet in church, all others gather in classrooms.

YOUTH MINISTRY

T-ROC

Beginning on **January 6**, the CORE team has decided to move our faith formation sessions to Sunday evening. We will begin with a four week Scripture study series starting at **7 PM**. Please gather in the church. The evening will include discussion, Scripture study plus food and fellowship.

TEENS: PLEASE BRING YOUR BIBLES.

FOOD IS ESSENTIAL TO ANY EVENT WITH TEENS.

PARENTS, PLEASE PROVIDE US WITH THE FOLLOWING SNACKS:

Snack to bring if Last Name begins with:

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

Our next dinner at the SOAR shelter will be on Saturday, January 12.

SUPPORT OUR AFRICAN MISSION FUND

Our CYM drama troupe runs the concession stand at our high school CYM basketball games. Please consider providing a food item for the concession stand. Also, come **cheer on our brand new high school CYM teams; see the parish or CYM schedule for home game times. No admission is charged** so that friends and family may come to support the **basketball team**, the **drama troupe** and our **African mission project**.

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; that meeting will begin at 6 PM in Marian Hall.**

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

- Sat., Dec. 29 Appalachia reunion and meeting 5 PM
Girl B'ball game at PAC 7:30 PM
- Sun., Dec. 30 Girl Varsity practice noon to 1:30 PM PAC
JV Boy B'ball at PAC 6:15 PM
Varsity Boy B'ball at PAC 7:45 PM
- Wed., Jan. 2 Drop In 3 - 6 PM
Boy JV and V practice 5 - 6 PM
- Thur., Jan. 3 Play practice Marian Hall 6:30 - 8:30 PM
- Sun., Jan. 6 Girl B'ball practice PAC noon - 1:30 PM
T-ROC 7 - 8:30 PM church and MH
Boy Varsity game 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 24th and 25th 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 22nd 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 21st, 2007 through January 2nd, 2008. Regular office hours resume on January 3rd, 2008.

LIBRARY DONATION: We offer a thank-you to Robert W. Schmitt for his annual contribution to the "Elizabeth Schmitt Memorial Library Fund" that was recently received for our Catholic School Library. This fund was created in 1997 by the Schmitt Family in honor of Elizabeth who served in our school. We thank Mr. Schmitt for his continual support of our catholic school in the name of his beloved wife, and assure his family that they remain in our prayers.



THANK YOU!!!

The St. Vincent DePaul Society wants to thank the Principal, teachers, students and student council for the wonderful food collection at Thanksgiving.

THANK YOU!!!

St. Mary's Fifth Grade Teachers and students for adopting TWO families and donating TWO complete dinners and gifts.

THANK YOU!!!

CCD classes and Family Program for their collection of variety of foods.

THANK YOU!!!

St. Peters Cluster Group for adopting a family for Halloween & Thanksgiving.

THANK YOU!!!

The Family Program Seventh & Eighth grades for donating FOUR baskets on Thanksgiving Day. To all our parishioners for the HUGH and generous variety of food and monetary gifts.

THANK YOU!!!

To a family who donated a complete meal and four extra turkeys. And to all who carried the food and sorted the Thanksgiving collection.

God Bless You All,
Sr. Lois Spinnenweber

GENERAL PARISH NEWS

ADULTS & YOUTH

Get a "HISTORY of our Catholic Church", perspective with Father Ed, 6:30 – 9:00 PM four Tuesdays in January. Call 412-486-521 to pre-register. How has this institution grown from the experience of the "twelve" chosen friends of Jesus to the millions who claim the Catholic Church as "their" spiritual home in 2008 ?

Nativity Raffle

Keith Loiselle is the winner of the beautiful statues of Jesus, Mary, & Joseph. The proceeds will help support children at the Ethiopian mission c/o Fr. Vince Stegman.

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 Pete and Dolores Penezic who had the chalice during Christmas week. They felt honored to host the chalice while praying for vocations. To host it in your home, please contact the rectory at 412-486-4100.



**Rite of Catholic
Initiation of Adults**

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. Our next session will be on Sunday, January 6, 2008. For more information, call Fr. Ed or Jim Finn at the rectory, 412-486-4100.

Offertory Collection

December 25, 2007	Envelopes	Contributions
Offertory	58	\$3,900.00
Christmas Charities/Youth	351	\$17,857.00
Children's Offertory	53	\$65.66
Christmas Offering	976	\$38,126.23
Christmas Flowers	12	\$235.00
Religious Retirement	2	\$55.00
Parish Share 2007	9	\$307.51
Immaculate Conception	11	\$114.00
Parish Needy	20	\$809.00
Total	1,492	\$61,469.40

Around Our Town

Rediscover Your Marriage

Retrouvaille simply means "rediscovery." The program offers the chance to rediscover yourself, your spouse, and a loving relationship in your marriage; tens of thousands headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending. Retrouvaille is not a spiritual retreat, not a sensitivity group, not a seminar, not a social gathering. For confidential information about or to register for the winter program beginning with a weekend on January 11-13, 2008, 1-800-470-2230, send an email to 3041@retrouvaille.org, or visit the web site at www.helpourmarriage.com.

Karuzela Chorus

They proudly present a Polish Christmas Concert at the beautifully decorated *Immaculate Heart of Mary Church* on Polish Hill on Saturday, January 5, 2008 following the 4:00PM Mass. Karuzela Dancers will perform the Polonaise. Children will reenact the Nativity. Admission is free and all are welcome. For more information please call 412-486-1605.

Something to Think About

Our Participation in the Liturgy expresses our Understanding of the Mystery of Christ

The liturgy is Christ acting—carrying out the purpose of his becoming a man and acting as savior in the history of people. God chose to express Himself in the person of Jesus at a particular time and in a particular place in history. He now chooses to manifest Himself in the Body of Christ and make Himself present to people in the actions of His Church: the liturgy.

In and through the Church, Christ is acting in the world of people—whether any particular individual believes it or not. If we wish to participate with Christ, if we wish to express our relationship to God liturgically, we need to participate in the action of Christ in the liturgy. This is its meaning.

So many Catholics attend the liturgy out of a sense of duty or obligation. So many feel that they don't get anything out of it. So many think that they are paying their dues to God by going to church occasionally or attending a religious service.

This is unfortunate. For them, the rich symbolism, the deep meaning, the response-nature of the liturgy, and the spiritual mystery is lost. For them, the liturgy is not expressing a relationship with God. It is not a deeply rewarding spiritual experience. It is not a sign of Christ acting in the world to save it. It is not Christ acting in their lives as he acted during his physical life on earth. All this is because they do not understand what the liturgy really is.

PASTORAL IMPRESSIONS from Father John

It began so imperceptibly on the First Sunday of Advent with the liturgical spotlight outlining for us all the events leading up to the coming of the Christ Child. It will end with the celebration of the Baptism of the Lord with the liturgy then opening up for us the public ministry of the Lord Jesus. In the language of the liturgy of the Church, it has traditionally been called The Christmas Cycle. During this wondrous time we have come to celebrate the two remarkable moments of the Birth of the Lord Jesus and the Epiphany of the Lord. Interspersed between these events we gathered to celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family and the Motherhood of Mary. The anticipatory blue color of the Advent décor melted into the brilliant white of the Christmas Season.

The liturgical music that filled our sacred church during these holy moments captured our hearts and souls with a transforming power that took us “out of this world.” We were carried to the heights of the divine as we celebrated the spiritually enriching events of Catholic liturgy. The believing assembly of these faith-filled experiences reminded all of us that living has a much more significant meaning than all else that we might do in the world around us. When we gathered during this entire Christmas Cycle, within the living tradition of our Faith that spans centuries of growth and development, we proclaimed this CHILD as the genuine fulfillment of the yearning of our lives. Salvation has been afforded to us in the indescribable love of the divine Father. However, it is not simply in his birth that such salvation will come to each of us. We must now journey with the person of Jesus to the death on the cross and the glory of the empty tomb.

Thus, we now look forward to The Easter Cycle, which will begin with the First Sunday of Lent and carry us through the mystery of the Resurrection to the glory of Pentecost. Yet, for the moment we need a breather. We need time to reflect upon all that has already occurred before we begin this next great cycle of liturgical events. In this interim we have Ordinary Time and a return to the color of green. Beginning in three Sundays on January 20th we will have only three Sundays of Ordinary Time before we come to Ash Wednesday. Then, the liturgical celebrations of our Catholic Church will sweep us off our feet and transport us to the magnificent reliving of the mystery of the dying and rising of the Lord Jesus.