

# PARISH FAMILY OF ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
October 26, 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

## **NOVEMBER'S TWO-FOLD LITURGICAL CELEBRATION**

November begins with two major events: the Solemnity of All Saints set for November 1<sup>st</sup> and the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls Day) on November 2<sup>nd</sup>. These magnificent liturgical celebrations have a long history in the traditions of our Catholic Faith, and the faithful make special efforts to come to church on each day! All of us are encouraged to set aside a few moments on each of these days to reflect on their meaning.

### **ALL SAINTS DAY**

On Saturday, November 1<sup>st</sup>, we will celebrate All Saints Day, one of the six holydays of the ten universal holydays of the Roman Catholic Church that is celebrated in the United States. For those who would like to maintain their commitment to this day, we will have two liturgies at 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. on Saturday morning. Come, join the Community of Faith as we remember the saints of old!

### **ALL SOULS COMMEMORATION**

November 2<sup>nd</sup> celebrates the Commemoration of All The Faithful Departed. Family members of those who have been buried from our parish church since last November 2<sup>nd</sup> have been invited to join us at 6:00 p.m. Saturday evening for a liturgy commemorating their loved ones. Since November 2<sup>nd</sup> is a Sunday, the regular Saturday evening and Sunday morning schedule will be in effect.

### **PRAYING FOR THE DEAD**

November is a time to remember those who have died when we are still able to acquire a plenary indulgence by visiting a cemetery. Those who visit the dead, as we recall being one of the Corporal Works of Mercy, are asked to fulfill the requirement for this plenary indulgence. We will continue to remember the dead in our prayers at the Altar of the Lord each day during this month set aside for special memorials of our loved ones.

**BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE  
IN THE FOYER OF THE CHURCH**  
*PLACE THE NAME OF A LOVED ONE  
IN THE BOOK FOR ALL TO REMEMBER*

## **OCTOBER: RESPECT FOR LIFE**

As the month of October comes to a close for another year, we are reminded that our "RESPECT FOR LIFE" never comes to an end. This year's theme of "Hope and Trust In Life" demands that we are mindful of the dignity of human life from the moment of conception to the time of natural death. Also we recognize the principal of human dignity that calls us to act preferentially on behalf of the poor and to protect the environment for future generations. We must support all efforts to curtail torture, racism and genocide, and to end war and terrorist attacks on innocent life. The Holy Father visiting our country encouraged us to overcome the weary skepticism of modern culture with a fresh commitment to hope and to trust in the important of human life.

### **PLEDGE CAMPAIGN REPORT**

As we enter into the final two months of 2008, when most of the pledges of the campaign should be fulfilled, we are happy to report that of the nearly 1100 parishioners who made a contributed to the Pledge Campaign only 97 are still paying on their pledges. Once these 97 persons have fulfilled their commitment, then the parish debt of this entire project will be eliminated. We encourage them to complete their pledge as quickly as possible so that we can eliminate the interest that we are paying on the parish debt at this time.


### **"VOX POPULI" (part 7)**

Members of the Pastoral Council are now looking very intensely at the survey suggestions that fall under the categories of "Mass" (268 replies), "Music" (74 replies) and "Homily" (72 replies) to determine the "voice of the people" for determining our goals and objectives in our parish life. The Council assures all parishioners that every response will be considered, even though many of them will not substantially effect our goals and objectives.

### **RENEWAL APPRECIATION**

A special sense of gratitude to our Renewal Committee for the choice of another significant speaker for our renewal days! Thank you to all those who made this past week so spiritually enriching for all those who participated in these important days in the life of our Parish Family!

*Love your neighbor  
as yourself*



## LITURGIES FOR THE WEEK

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

4:00 p.m. Reid DeRunk - In Memory of Paul & Sandy Bell  
6:00 p.m. Joan Paragi - Joyce Struhoe  
7:30 a.m. Joshua Holliday Speck - Carolyn Lippiello & Lisa Scalone  
9:00 a.m. Frank Kelly - Daily Family  
11:00 a.m. Gladys Hefferin - Hefferin Family

**Monday, October 27, 2008 - Weekday in Ordinary Time**

7:00 a.m. Francis Werling, Jr. - Family  
10:00 a.m. William J. Settino - Wife & Children

**Tuesday, October 28, 2008 - Ss. Simon and Jude**

7:00 a.m. Edward Bittner - Family  
10:00 a.m. Michael J. Daniels - Sheila & Family

**Wednesday, October 29, 2008 - Weekday in Ordinary Time**

7:00 a.m. Maria Scolieri Distilo - M/M Gregory Distilo  
10:00 a.m. Alphone Buzzelli - Family

**Thursday, October 30, 2008 - Weekday in Ordinary Time**

7:00 a.m. Paul Leo - Rege & Children  
10:00 a.m. Norm Lis - Daughter, sally

**Friday, October 31, 2008 - Halloween**

7:00 a.m. Anna Krupski - Kevin & Patti Golden & Family  
10:00 a.m. Gene A. Pietragallo, Sr. - St. Mary's 5th Grade

**Saturday, November 1, 2008 - All Saints Day**

8:00 a.m. Omar Buchwalter - Jody & Rick Fortier  
10:00 a.m. Anna Nath Ahearn - Eileen Turiak  
4:00 p.m. For Our Parish Family  
6:00 p.m. For all the Faithful Departed

**Sunday, November 2, 2008 - Commemoration of All the  
Faithful Departed**

7:30 a.m. Dorothy Lang - Husband, Charles Lang  
9:00 a.m. Antonino Scolieri - Tina Mantella & Family  
11:00 a.m. Robert Moyeroff - Daughter & Family

### *Weekly Activities at a Glance*

- Sunday Oct. 26** (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  
(Marian Hall) 12:00PM - Pro-Life Breakfast  
(Marian Hall) 6:00PM - Burning Hearts Youth Group  
(PAC) 7:00PM - Youth Group
- Monday Oct. 27** (Marian Hall) 2:45PM - Brownies #804  
(School) 6:30PM - CCD Program - All Grades  
(Rectory) 7:00PM - Finance Council
- Tuesday Oct. 28** (Marian Hall) 2:45PM - School Band  
(Pantry) 6:00PM - Open Pantry  
(Rectory) 7:00PM - St. Vincent dePaul Meeting
- Wednesday Oct. 29** (Marian Hall) 1:30PM - 55 Specials - Bridge ONLY  
(Church) 2:45PM - Children's Choir Practice  
(Church) 7:30PM - Adult Choir Practice
- Thursday Oct. 30** (School) No School - Teacher's Clerical Day  
(Church) 8:00PM - Adult Hand Bell Practice
- Friday Oct. 31** (Church) 10:00AM - School Mass
- Saturday Nov. 1** (School) 9:30AM - CCD Program  
(Church) 4:00PM - Liturgy of the Word for Children  
(Marian Hall) Hospitality Weekend - After All Liturgies  
(Marian Hall) 7:00PM - CYM
- Sunday Nov. 2** (Marian Hall) Hospitality Weekend - After All Liturgies  
(PAC) 7:00PM - Youth Group

### **A VOCATION VIEW**

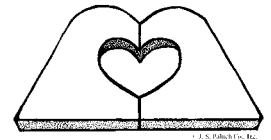
How do you en flesh the great commandment of love? Be aware of how others show this vital commandment. Encourage those who you respect to dedicate their lives to ministry in the Church. (Matt. 22:34-40)

### **CHARACTER**

Character is much easier kept than recovered. Thomas Paine

October 19, 2008	Envelopes	Contributions
Offertory	798	\$17,410.25
Cash/Loose Cks.	-	\$1,558.00
Children's Offertory	38	\$58.30
Mission Sunday	282	\$4,300.75
All Saints Day	5	\$51.00
Bishop Ed. Fund	2	\$6.00
Parish Share 2008	14	\$1,285.00
Parish Needy	19	\$507.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,158</b>	<b>\$25,176.30</b>

### *Daily Readings*



**"YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD, YOUR GOD,  
WITH ALL YOUR HEART,  
WITH ALL YOUR SOUL,  
AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND."**

- Oct. 27:** Eph 4:32 - 5:8; Lk 13:10-17  
**Oct. 28:** Eph 2:19-22; Lk 6:12-16  
**Oct. 29:** Eph 6:1-9; Lk 13:22-30  
**Oct. 30:** Eph 6:10-20; Lk 13:31-35  
**Oct. 31:** Phil 1:1-11; Lk 14:1-6  
**Nov. 1:** Rv 7:2-4, 9-14; 1 Jn 3:1-3; Mt 5:1-12a  
**Nov. 2:** Wis 3:1-9; Rom 5:5-11 or 6:3-9;  
Jn 6:37-40, or any readings from no. 668  
or from masses for the Dead nos.  
1011-1016

**SACRAMENTAL LIFE**

**BAPTIZED IN CHRIST**



**Joseph William Baun  
Caden Grace Bridge  
Jackson Aaron Fox  
Jacob John Hickenboth  
Jordan Ann Lydon**

Congratulations to their parents, godparents, and grandparents. Please join us in welcoming them into our parish family!

**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. To schedule, call Ron Ondrizek at 412.486.6851. Thank you to Dan & Dori Monahan who will be hosting the chalice the next two weeks.

**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. Call Monica 412-492-0242 for more details. All welcome to participate!

**PARENTING POINTERS**

Parenting is hard and serious business, but sometimes we conscientious parents need to loosen up. Amid the hectic search for costumes and treats for Halloween, take time to enjoy this playful holiday with your younger children. Yes, check their candy, but it's not a sin to eat something less than nutritious once a year.

**R. C. I. A.**

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 will discuss the New Testament this Sunday at 10am until 12 noon in the rectory dining room. Next Sunday we will discuss The miracles and parables of Jesus. Call Father Ed or Jim Finn (412)486-4100 to find out more.

**WORSHIP COMMISSION MEETING**

Our meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00P.M. Please submit your agenda items to Tom Goral at 412.487.6244.

**A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE by Bud Ozar**

Halloween is the night before All Saints Day. Today's gospel asks us to concentrate on loving our neighbor. Our closest neighbors are the people with whom we live. Anyone can be "saint" in front of strangers but the daily acts of patience, acceptance, forgiveness, listening, and dying to oneself within the family are religious acts. Family life is the turf of sanctity.

**RELIGIOUS FORMATION**

**Faith Sharing for 30<sup>th</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time**

Jesus was challenged by the religious leaders of his day to say which was the greatest of the 613 laws of the Torah to which Jesus replied: "Love God above all, and love your neighbor as yourself." **Love is the challenge** to each of us moment by moment, no matter where we are, at home, at our place of employment, at the supermarket, in the parking lot, every place. Even as we lie sleepless we can send out love to those who come to mind or remember those in the direst of situations, refugees, those in war torn countries, those in critical care in hospitals. Because God IS Love, love is the peace and healing available to all.

**C.C.D. Faith Formation**

**Monday, Oct. 27** ALL Grades meet in church for Liturgy of the Word and sharing with the elder guests. Then to classrooms, welcoming them to meet each member.

**Saturday, Nov. 1** All children and family members meet in classrooms to prepare for Liturgy at 10 AM in Church. Representative from each grade will "be" a Saint in this All Saints observance.

**Grade 2 Cluster Groups**

Any one who missed the October sessions, please meet on Sunday, October 26th at 10:00AM in Marian Hall, near the stage with Mrs. DiPietro.

**DIDGERIDOO raffle** held last Sunday, Oct. 19 was won by Anne Holtz of our parish family. Thanks to ALL who participated in the raffle. The \$171.00 profit will help to support the neediest students in Fr. Vince Stegman's mission in southern Ethiopia. Anne promises to come and play some tunes on the instrument as soon as she learns to play it.

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**Our Lady of Victory Parish will be implored in a novena to begin October 27 through November 4, Election Day.** All are urged to pray the rosary daily that those elected to office will uphold the sanctity of life, which begins at conception. A kit with a statue of Mary, video, and rosaries is available for loan from our Faith Formation Office. Call 412-486-5521 if you will like to use it during the novena.

**Middle School Faith Rally – Time to Sing and Dance !**

LAST CALL to register for the rally to be held on Friday, November 7, 7:00-9:00 PM at Seton La Salle High School. You may still be able to get aboard! Leave a message for Mark Tobin, 412-486-5521.

**GOT "GOOD NEWS"?**

An essay contest for HIGH School Youth, sponsored by the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. See [www.onefamilyinmission.org](http://www.onefamilyinmission.org) for details.

# YOUTH MINISTRY

## **"PRAYING SCARED"**

Youth in Grades 9 – 12  
and their parents/guardians:

Tonight's LIFE NIGHT for the teens will include Open Gym, games, a short session about "How do you pray when you are scared or hurting"? PLUS information about fundraising and future CYM events.

### **MANDATORY FUNDRAISER PLANNING MEETING FOR ALL PARENTS**

**We ask each parent or teen to bring the following to tonight's Life Night to contribute to our hospitality, depending on the first letter of your last name:**

- A – I fruit tray
- J – R veggie tray
- S – Z desserts

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

**CYM BASKETBALL, DRAMA, APPALACHIA, NCYC AND FALL RETREAT REGISTRATION WILL CONTINUE TONIGHT.**

**CYM BASKETBALL OPEN GYM WILL BE FROM 6-7 PM** for all youth in Grades 9-12, FOOD TO FOLLOW OPEN GYM. PLAN TO STAY FOR THE FUNDRAISING MEETING! Our coaching staff so far includes Mr. Philip Fitzgibbons and Mr. Paul Mitsch. However, we must have more parent help if we are going to enter diocesan league basketball. Certified adult volunteers, please call Barb Belski ASAP if you can help.

**SAVE THE DATE - SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1**  
Join us on Saturday, November 1st for the premiere of our HOPE: Mission Uganda 2008 movie, filmed during our recent trip to Uganda. The movie begins at 8 PM in Marian Hall; the program for the evening includes the movie screening, a brief presentation, and a Q & A session. Light refreshments will be served and a silent auction including donated baskets plus jewelry and handbags from St. Monica's Girls School in Gulu, Uganda will take place.

*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**

### **SUPER BINGO**

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!

### **FREE SCHOOL UNIFORMS**

"Gently Used" uniforms are available at school. A clothing rack is located in Providence Hall (old gym) with donated school clothing including pants, shirts, skirts, and jumpers. Any school family can take the items; please leave the hangers. Donations to the exchange can be sent through the school office or dropped off in the Scrip Office between 8:00-10:00AM. Please make sure donated clothing is clean and sized. Thank you!

### **PAPER RECYCLING BINS**

**THANK YOU** for all your support in recycling paper in our three bins located on our property. The proceeds from our bins support our School Development Committee. Please remember that cardboard, cereal boxes, tissue boxes, and phone books are NOT allowed.



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## *Burning Hearts*

### **Parents and Middle Schoolers!**

By popular demand, the Hay Ride has been canceled in favor of the Steeler's Game. Come join us in Marian Hall, Sunday, October 26th, at half time, to watch the second half of the game followed by a Karaoke Singing Contest judged by Paula Abdul and Simon Cowell. ("Middle School Idol") Win the Grande Prize! We will end promptly at 8:30PM. Permission slips for the Diocesan Middle School Youth Rally concert need to be in the CCD Office ASAP! We will meet at 6:00PM, Friday, November 7, 2008 and journey to Seton-LaSalle High School as St. Mary's representation! See you all on Sunday! Thank you!

Mark Tobin, Middle School Coordinator

## **School**



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## OUR PARISH NEWS

### READERS MEETING

There will be a meeting for **ALL READERS** in Marian Hall at 7:00PM - 9:00PM on Thursday, November 6<sup>th</sup>. The meeting will begin with a review of Ministry issues and distribution of workbooks for the new liturgical year.

### LECTIONARY CYCLE

On Thursday, November 6, at 7:30PM, Father John will speak to our Reader's Ministry as well as interested parishioners who wish to come to hear about the Lectionary Cycle in the Liturgical Year. Please feel welcome to join us!

### 175<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY MEETING SET FOR WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup> IN THE RECTORY

Those interested in serving on the planning committee for our 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2009, are asked to come to the rectory on November 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00P.M. Call Jim Finn for more details 412.486.4100.

### CATHOLIC MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

All men and young men are invited to come to the rectory on Thursday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, from 7:30pm until 9:00pm. If you can't make it on November 6<sup>th</sup> we usually meet on the **first Thursday of each month**. Call Ron Stone (724)502-2077 for more details and to find out how you can get involved.

### Christian Mothers Women's Organization

Congratulations to the newest members of Christian Mothers! We are so happy to have you. Ladies, please pray that all Christian Mothers and Christians everywhere recognize the link between civic responsibility and their Christian beliefs that call for a respect for life from conception to natural death. If you would like to become a Christian Mother and were unable to attend the installation Mass, we will hopefully have another installation of new members in May, 2009. Plan to attend an upcoming Mass and meeting to learn what we're all about! Our next meeting is November 20th, our annual covered dish dinner/surprise auction where guests are welcome. Please contact Marilyn for details, 412-492-8367 or jambuck@verizon.net.

### Cahal Dunne

Come and join us for an evening of fun with Cahal Dunne, singer, songwriter, pianist, and comedian at St. Mary's Parish in Marian Hall on Saturday, November 29, 2008, at 7:30PM. You are welcome to BYOB, and enjoy coffee and cake that will be served. Please call Sr. Lois for tickets at 412-486-4021 which will be on sale for \$12.00. Proceeds are for our Marian hall Kitchen renovations.

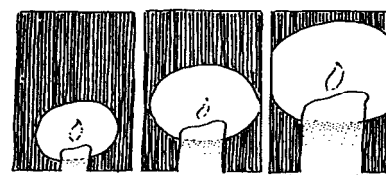
### St. Vincent DePaul Society

The Homeless Ministry is in dire need of silverware to complete dish sets. When the homeless are able to get off the streets, this ministry helps them to furnish an apartment. There will be a box in the "Cry Room" marked **SILVERWARE** if you are able to donate your old sets.

### MARKET DAY SPECIALS

PUMPKIN, Pecan, Cranberry, Apple PIES available from MARKET DAY for this November 17 pick up; in plenty of time for Thanksgiving. Fliers available at church exits.

## GOOD NEWS TO SHARE



### 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? Information pamphlets are available at the exits to the church. Pamphlet includes a registration form. Car pooling is available.

### WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

November 14-16 at the Bishop Connare Center in Greensburg, PA. For more information or to register, contact Mary & Lou Locante at 412.635.7775 or check us out on the web at [wwme-pittsburgh.org](http://wwme-pittsburgh.org).

**ARE YOU interested in attending "SISTER'S CHRISTMAS CATECHISM", humorous, interactive drama, on 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).

**GERMAN** Mass, Saturday, November 8, 4:00 PM at Saint Catherine of Sweden Church, Wildwood. The "Gedenkgottesdienst", Memorial Mass will be enhanced 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 Arch abbey, Latrobe. A Dinner-dance follows with German food and beer available for purchase immediately after Mass in the social 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.

### 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:

Fred W. Bostic  
Raffaele Ricci  
Giusseppe Ricci  
Hilda Bostic  
Fred W. Bostic  
Nancy Gliotti

#### Requested by:

Giovanna Ricci  
Giovanna Ricci & Mary Bostic  
Giovanna Ricci & Mary Bostic  
Mary Bostic  
Mary Bostic  
The Mitsch Family

**PASTORAL IMPRESSIONS by Jim Finn**

On this World Priest Sunday, I wish to share with you some of the thoughts contained in two of the most recent Pastoral Letters written by Bishop David Zubik and our former bishop, now Archbishop Donald Wuerl. Both of these Shepherds of the Church have given us much food for thought.

Every Christian has a vocation. Each of us is called by God to some particular way of carrying out the one great service or ministry of love. Our initial response to God's call is faith. The process is timeless. God speaks to us. We reply. Faith is free and personal.

The call from God comes in a variety of forms. Many are called to marriage and to family life, some are called to a single life dedicated to a particular purpose. Still others are called to manifest in religious life the outpouring of God's gifts on the church. Still others are called to walk more closely in the footsteps of Christ by being identified with Him as head of His body - His - family... the church. The sacrament of Holy Orders allows one to participate in Christ's mission in a unique way. The priest is an authentic, authoritative and special representative of Christ.

Bishop Zubik in his Pastoral Letter **THE CHURCH ALIVE** asks, "Why is the Ministerial Priesthood so necessary?" The ministerial priesthood guarantees that people today can experience the same Jesus Christ: the forgiveness He offers, the sacramental consolation given to those of His day to people today, and most importantly, the guarantee of the Holy Eucharist. There can be no Eucharist without the ministerial priesthood.

We are fortunate to have three priests in our parish. This World Priest Sunday gives us the opportunity to thank Father John, Father Ed and Fr. Bill for their dedication to the Church and to the people of God for a combined total of one hundred and twenty years of priestly ministry. May God bless them and reward them! Let us all continue to pray, during this Year of St. Paul for an increase in the number of happy and holy vocations in our church - that there will be many more happy and faithful marriages; that there will be more recognition of the importance of dedicated single people, that there will be more priests, deacons, sisters, and brothers.