



Father Sam's Forum

Even though the new liturgical year begun at Advent has at its core the Gospel of Mark, today we hear from John. As Ordinary Time, which means “counted”, begins, we have this scene that offers us a message about how we help one another to see Christ.

Who has done that for you in the past? Your family? Perhaps a teacher in parochial school or a catechist was instrumental in helping us come to a deeper awareness of our Christian faith. For me, that person was Sister Mary Zucca. Yes, my dog carries her name!

Sister Mary was the principal of Purification of the BVM School in Ellwood City from the time I entered kindergarten until fifth grade. A formidable woman, this Religious was a member of the community of the *Maestre Pie Filippini*, the Religious Teachers Filippini, founded in Italy in the 17th century by St. Lucy Filippini and Cardinal Marcantonio Barbarigo, for the education of women, who were largely ignored at that time in history.

When they came to America at the beginning of the 20th century, the Filippini Sisters ministered to Italian immigrants in parishes in New Jersey and then in other states as their reputation for excellence in education spread. Today they are worldwide and serve in missions in Brazil, Ethiopia, Albania and India, as well as in Ireland, England, Switzerland, Italy and the United States.

Embodying the vision of St. Lucy, Sister Mary was dedicated to imparting the Christian faith to her charges. Taking me under her wing, she saw that I understood the call of God in my life. Somewhat like Eli, who in the first reading today guided the boy Samuel to listen for God's voice, she was my Eli. For that I am deeply grateful to her. I was honored to preach not only at her Golden Jubilee, but at her funeral in 2001.

Who does it for you today? Do you have an Eli, or an Andrew or a John the Baptist in your life? These figures from the readings today are guides for those seeking the Lord. Maybe you have been a guide for another, or maybe God is asking you to be one. Never doubt that God will use us according to His plan and purpose. Where might God place you this year? How might God use your talents to help shape another in the faith?

Next Sunday, January 25, I will celebrate the 12:30pm Mass in a little bit of a different way. As the liturgy is celebrated, there will be commentary and explanation of each part. This “Teaching Mass” is meant to help the ordinary Catholic understand better what the meaning and elements of our worship are about, their history and purpose. Everyone is invited, and during Lent I am offering a three session class on the Mass to further explore its roots and meaning. The Teaching Mass will be repeated on Wednesday, March 18, part of our Lenten parish offerings. Every Wednesday of Lent, we will have Mass at 7:00pm in the Chapel. Visiting priests, as well as Fr. Michael and myself, will serve as the celebrants of these liturgies.

Mass Intentions: Jan. 18—Jan. 25

Sunday, January 18—2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 7:30a **Elmo Checchi** (Sister & Family)
- 10:00a **Barbara Conforti** (Dan & Janice Rowsick)
- 12:30p **For the People of the Parish**
- 6:00p **Trina Lopez** (Greg & Patty Adams)

Monday, January 19—Weekday

- 8:30a **Irene Durkot** (Dutch & Donna Germeyer)

Tuesday, January 20—Weekday

- 6:30a **James Immekus** (Roberta & David Saunier)
- 8:30a **Devassy Chakola** (Maliackel Family)

Wednesday, January 21—Agnes, martyr

- 6:30a **Timothy Sullivan** (M/M John Bruckner)
- 8:30a **Dennis E. Muczinski** (Sadler Family)

Thursday, January 22—National Day of Penance: Anniversary of Roe vs. Wade

- 6:30a **Phyllis Perecko** (Delphine & Dave Larson)
- 8:30a **James W. Ruse** (Gary & Noreen Kosen)

Friday, January 23—Weekday

- 8:30a **Mary Palmer** (Sadler Family)

Saturday, January 24—Francis de Sales, bishop

- 8:30a **Charles Basile** (Wife & Family)
- 5:00p **Schweibinz & Meredith Families** (Claire)

Sunday, January 25—3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 7:30a **Joseph Fisher** (Gregg Baley)
- 10:00a **Deceased Members of the Julkowski & McKenzie Families**
(Ron & Mary Anne Julkowski)
- 12:30p **Andrew Palombo** (Bob Graziano)
- 6:00p **For the People of the Parish**

The Sanctuary Candle burns this week in memory of Elmo Checchi, requested by his Sister and Family, and the Bread & Wine is in memory of Len & Eleanor Wolf, requested by Rick & Michelle Menozzi.

Need confidential assistance? Companionship and understanding for a difficult time? Stephen Ministers are here to help you. Call 724-941-5026.



Pastoral Staff

Lay Ecclesial Ministers

Michael Benya, Business & Facilities Manager—Ext. 201
 Gregory Fincham, Director of Music & Liturgy Ext. 304
 Dennis Gehrlein, Pastoral Associate—Ext. 206
 Janet Roberto, Youth Ministry Director—Ext. 234
 Colette Specca, Director of Religious Education—Ext. 205

Parish Staff

Mary Ann Bitters, Parish Secretary—Ext. 200
 Rachele Buynak, Religious Ed. Secretary—Ext. 208
 Justin Cumer, Maintenance—Ext. 200
 Shirley Jacobs, Administrative Assistant—Ext. 202
 Beverly Jurcic, Director
 St. Benedict's Preschool—724-731-0222
 Cathy Malencia, Formation Coordinator—Ext. 209
 Elaine Motyl, Youth Ministry Assistant—Ext. 234
 Dave Murtaugh, Maintenance—Ext. 200
 Kathy Pfeifer, Communications—Ext. 200
 John Risher, Weekend Maintenance—Ext. 200
 Kevin Wolford, Maintenance Supervisor—Ext. 200

* Religious Education/Youth Ministry—724-941-9587

Serving the Parish Next Weekend: Jan. 24—Jan. 25

Sat. 5:00pm— Fr. Ruffalo

Lectors: Gordon, Buzzatto **Greeters:** Schardt, Reed **EMHC:** Glod, LaCamera, Greenwald, Femiani, Specca, D & T Martin, Getto, Scheuering **Servers:** Hillen, Byrne, Nobers, Getto, Wiegmann

7:30am— Fr. Ruffalo

Lector: Rossin **Greeters:** Henger, Kalaski, J & R Jackson **EMHC:** Petricca, J & S Christopher, Fagioletti, Berger, Barton, Vines **Servers:** E, M, & E Jozwiak

10:00am— Fr. Esposito

Lectors: McKenzie, Wells **Greeters:** Black, Verlato **EMHC:** Bayer, Orient, Glover, Serrino, Gaudy, Kail, Schultz, Spinabelli, Cushma **Servers:** L & J Spinabelli, Cushma, Hilzendeger, Mackay

12:30pm— Fr. Esposito

Lector: Sichi **Greeters:** Fink, Bartoli **EMHC:** McGinnis, Huffner, Smith, Ruggieri, Oldaker, Capozza, Bench **Servers:** Taylor, K & C Bench

6:00pm— Fr. Esposito

Lector: Meyer, Lundquist **EMHC:** Corbett, Eckels, Norton, Slomiany **Servers:** Corbett, Eckels

Readings for the Week of January 18

Sunday: 1 Sm 3:3b-10,19/1 Cor 6:13c-15a,17-20/Jn 1:35-42
 Monday: Heb 5:1-10/Mk 2:18-22
 Tuesday: Heb 6:10-20/Mk 2:23-28
 Wednesday: Heb 7:1-3,15-17/Mk 3:1-6
 Thursday: Heb 7:25-8:6/Mk 3:7-12
 Friday: Heb 8:6-13/Mk 3:13-19
 Saturday: Heb 9:2-3,11-14/Mk 3:20-21
 Next Sunday: Jon 3:1-5,10/1 Cor 7:29-31/Mk 1:14-20

Rest In Peace

Please remember in your prayers **Pearl Murtaugh**, mother of Dave Murtaugh, a member of our staff (Maintenance Team), and parishioner **James C. Rocco**, husband of our Nancy Rocco, who died recently. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.

Children's Envelopes

Envelopes are still available for children who wish to have them. Parents should pick them up in the Narthex of the Church, the Church Office, or outside the Religious Education Office.

Save the Date

A "Just Harvest" luncheon sponsored by Religious Ed will be held on January 31 from 1:30-4:30pm. This fundraiser is our response to the Diocesan call for a Super Bowl Day of Caring. Our goal is to spread awareness about those who are hungry and support them with a financial donation. This meager lunch is a family event open to all parishioners and friends. Watch the bulletin for details!

Manifesting the Kingdom

Next Sunday, January 25, at the cathedral church of our diocese, St. Paul, Jay and Colette Specca will be among those honored by Bishop Zubik with the award "*Manifesting the Kingdom*." This award is given to parishioners who have made a significant contribution to furthering the Kingdom of God in their parish through their efforts in ministry and service. Jay and Colette were the original RCIA team who over the years have worked with sharing our Catholic faith with those interested in becoming members of the Church. We congratulate them for this recognition and applaud them for their continued service to our parish.

Teaching Mass Coming

On Sunday, January 25, Fr. Sam will celebrate the 12:30pm Mass with extended commentary that explains each aspect of our worship. This is a great chance to learn all about the ritual we claim as central to our Catholic faith. Plan to bring your children and see what Mass means. This will be repeated during Lent, on Wednesday, March 18, 7:00pm.

Baptism Correction

Please welcome to our faith community Rylee Lynn, daughter of David & Sharon Wilcox Lacey. We apologize for the error in last week's bulletin.

Hotline for Victims of Sexual Abuse
412-456-3060 or 1-888-808-1235



Mangia Bene—Pasta Dinner

Our Youth Council will sponsor a pasta and meatball dinner in O'Brien Hall on Saturday, February 7, serving from 3:30—7:30pm. Tickets for the event will be on sale beginning January 24/25, after all Masses. Pre-sale price is \$7.50 for adults and \$4.00 for children 10 and under. Tickets will also be sold at the door and the cost is \$8.00 for adults and \$4.50 for children under 10. A special family rate of \$27.00 is being offered for those with larger families. Our menu includes ziti and meatballs, salad and rolls, and beverages. Our young people will offer a bake sale with dessert as part of their service.

Question of the Week

What are rules for marriage in the Church?

Lesson of the Week

**Why should parishioners use envelopes?
Why should they be registered?**

Membership in a parish is regulated by *Canon Law*, within the geographical boundaries of that parish. In our modern society where so many people worship in a parish that is not their territorial parish but one they select—like those who live outside of Peters Township but come here—pastors usually agree that they will accept any who wish to become members who live within a reasonable distance. But what does membership mean? A person is a Catholic because of his or her baptism, and the sacramental records of a person are kept in the parish where that sacrament was celebrated. So, if you were baptized at a church in Donora, for example, the parish there holds the record of that sacrament. But living here, you wouldn't go back to that parish to get the necessary form to act as a godparent. Your membership in the parish where you worship happens through registration, even living within its boundaries, and a kind of census information is taken to help the parish keep records that it uses for a number of reasons, including its reports to the diocese. Unless members are involved in ministries and service, the pastor usually doesn't know everyone by name, especially in large parishes like ours. So the way "role" is taken is through use of envelopes. By using the envelope regularly it says that a person was at Mass. It matters not how much the person gives; that is a matter of what can be afforded and sacrificed, but the very fact that someone uses envelopes demonstrates that the person or family is participating in the life of the parish by attendance at Mass.

Youth Ministry News

Souper Bowl Sunday

January 31— February 1

America's teens are transforming Super Bowl Weekend into an event that encourages people to care for their neighbors in need. Armed with soup pots, our teens will be collecting at the doors of our church, asking you to donate the cost of a bag of chips. Every penny we raise here will be donated to the St. Benedict Conference of St. Vincent de Paul to help local families meet their needs during times of financial difficulties.

Monday Night Course: Sexuality & the Meaning of Life

Father Mike and Janet Roberto are leading a 12-week course for teens on Monday nights from 7:00pm to 8:30pm starting February 3 based on Theology of the Body. There is a \$25 fee for materials and food. Parents, please encourage your teens to get involved. One teen said that she wanted to attend, but is afraid of what her parents would presume if she asked to go.

Youth Ministry Calendar Jan. 18—Jan. 25

Jan. 18—No Teen Night
Jan. 20, 3:00-4:00pm (PBAC)—Busted Halo
Jan. 22—March for Life
Jan. 25, 7:00pm (PBAC)—Youth Teen Night

WOSB Annual Teaching Dolls Workshop

Join the Women of St. Benedict for the annual Teaching Dolls Workshop on January 22 at 9:30am in O'Brien Hall. Every year the WOSB make these dolls for the doctors at Children's Hospital. They, in turn, use them to explain procedures to their little patients. This has been a wonderful endeavor by the women and is conducted by our very own Ann Kruppa. Please consider this wonderful opportunity to reach out to the little ones of our community. Our hostesses will have some delicious refreshments on hand, so come hungry. For babysitting or to lend a sewing machine for the workshop, call Maria Streno at 724-042-5570.



March For Life

The annual March for Life will be held on **Thursday, January 22**, in Washington, DC. Buses will leave St. Benedict's at 6:00am. Donuts and beverages will be provided; however, you should bring a lunch. The trip to Washington, DC takes about 5 hours.

The buses drop the Marchers off close to the National Mall around 11:00am. Some proceed to the Shrine of the Immaculate Conception where those who cannot march may spend several hours visiting and meditating. There is a cafeteria at the Shrine. At 3:30pm the bus returns to meet the Marchers at Union Station and departs at 4:00pm. There is a stop for dinner, at your own expense, on the way home. We will arrive at St. Benedict's parking lot at approximately 11:00pm.

The teens ride for free and have an excused absence from school. Absence request forms for students are available from Janet Roberto.

For bus reservations and additional information, call Ken and Theresa Ross at 724-745-0648.

MARCH FOR LIFE REGISTRATION FORM

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

NUMBER ATTENDING: _____ **Students? Yes/No**

**Cost for the trip is \$15/person, \$30 maximum per family—TEENS ARE FREE!
Make Checks payable to St. Benedict the Abbot.**

Return this form with payment to the Parish Office.

Catholic Men's Fellowship

Catholic Men's Fellowship (CMF), associated with the National Men's Fellowship, is about equipping men in today's world to live their faith despite the pulls that might make it tempting to disregard its teachings. The CMF of St. Benedict offers Catholic men (fathers, husbands and single men) the opportunity to share their faith and love for Christ as Catholic Christian men through prayer and fellowship. We meet every Saturday at 7:30am until 9:00am in Room 204/206. Those interested should contact Ed Corbett at 724-942-6429 or email him at Eccorbett@comcast.net.

The 4th annual CMF Conference of the Diocese of Pittsburgh will take place on April 18, at the AJ Palumbo Center, Duquesne University. There is a line-up of outstanding and dynamic speakers who will enlighten men on how to "be transformed" with God in their daily lives. Tickets are just \$30 for adults and \$10 for students if ordered before February 1, and includes bus transportation and lunch. For further information, contact Ed Corbett.

Christmas Flower Donations—In Memory of...

- Steve Fell & Stephen Skomsky** by Linda Powell
- Parents of M/M Falis** by M/M James Falis
- Deceased Members of Ortenzo & Sautaguida Families** by M/M Salvatore Ortenzo
- M/M Peter Orsini & Mr. Sam Gimiliano** by M/M Peter Orsini
- M/M J. Downs & M/M M. Campbell** by M/M Mickel Campbell, Jr.
- Mahoney & McCabe Families** by M/M Ronald McCabe
- Lee Allan** by Florence Allan
- John O'Neill & Harry Phillips, Sr.** by M/M Harry Phillips
- Parents of Joe & Jackie Walsh** by M/M Joseph Walsh
- Richard J. Klobcar & Alice Boyer** by Alice Klobcar
- Joseph (Joe) Capozza** by Dorothy Capozza
- Joseph & Sadie Kochman & Alma Kelly** by M/M Richard Kelly
- Members of Sirota & Taylor Families who have passed on** by M/M William Taylor, Sr.
- Richard & Ida Gobler** by Dr. & Mrs. Walter Schratz
- Mary & Frank Patt, Helen & Ted Taylor, & Alyson Taylor** by James Patt



Flower Donations—Cont.

Walter Redling & Anna Redling by Walter J. Redling
Hindman & Refesco Families by M/M Donald Hindman, Sr.
Anita & Peter Pacella, Sr. by Peter, Cathy, Jared & Hayley Pacella
Anthony, Frances & Mary Jannelli by M/M Clyde Arillotta
Dominic DeNardo by Carmela DeNardo
Schwerman & Kluglein Families by Carolyn Kluglein
Family and Friends of Tom & Karen Thomas by M/M Thomas W. Thomas
Matorazzo & Rullo Families by M/M Mario Rullo
Gilbert Kamp, Ruth & Janet Kamp, & Gail, Ashley & Paul Phillips by Janet Kamp
Succop & Lutz Families by Marie Succop
Deceased Members of the Coty & Farney Families by M/M Eugene Farney
Deceased Members of the Gannon & Tyler Families by M/M Thomas Gannon
Family Members by M/M Albert Purnell
Sharon Kubinec & Maureen Collins by Sheila Julianne
For My Parents by Lois Tosic
Bill Kauffman by Mom, Dad, Teresa & Mike
In Memory of Donna Pisarcik
Lauren Miller by David, Carrie, Alexis, Erika & Garrett Miller
Michael Kochin & Margaret Taylor by Tim, Sharon, Sarah & Meg Kochin
Loretta & Regis Kelly and Fred & Tess Velan by M/M Arthur Kelly
Deceased Members of the Goncalves & Bertrand Families by M/M Gerard Bertrand
Grego & Menichin Families by Erma Grego
Richard Czajkowski by Marion Czajkowski
Patricia Pastor & Frank Kiefer by Family
Art Russell by Josephine Wisniewski
Jane Blackman, Phil Daly & Al Burke by The Burke Family
Grudowski & Howell Families by M/M Donald Howell
Mackey & Marie Hindman by June M. Thomas
Cecelia & Elphege Bechard and Marilyn & Norman Navrotski by Marilyn Navrotski
Parents, Grandparents, Aunts, Cousins, Uncles by Jo M. W. Lentz
Glod & Rudick Families by M/M Thomas Glod
Margaret & John Fedutes by Mary Jo Stonfer Fedutes & Natalie Vindivich
Marie & Robert Hurst and Nancy & Sam Fatzick by M/M Sanuel Fatzick
Pauline Micklege & Pauline Fidel by M/M Paul Lester Fidel
Annabelle & John Miller and Ivy & Claire Rowsick by M/M Daniel Rowsick
John, Anna, Billy & Carl Kaye by Joanne Barton
Margaret E. Coyne by M/M William Berry
M/M Guy E. Sichi and Pauline Danna by M/M Ernest Sichi
Joe & Rose Kasko by Geraldine Petro

This Week In Our Parish

Sunday, January 18

*Abbey Coffee House Open after
7:30 & 10:00 Masses*

No Religious Education Sessions

Monday, January 19

Parish Offices Closed

7:00p	Aerobics	(PBAC)
7:00p	Catholic Scripture Study	(208)

Tuesday, January 20

8:30a	Special Needs Children	(202)
9:15a	Catholic Scripture Study	(210-213)
10:00a	Church History Class	(204-206)
3:00p	Youth Ministry—Busted Halo	(PBAC)
6:00p	Religious Education Sessions	
7:00p	Contemporary Choir	(Choir)
7:45p	Pastoral Council	(204/206)

Wednesday, January 21

12:00p	AA	(208)
6:00p	Religious Education Sessions	
6:30p	Confessions	(Church)
7:30p	Tae Kwon Do	(OBH)

Thursday, January 22

9:30a	WOSB General Meeting	(OBH)
9:30a	Light Weigh	(213)
12:00p	NA	(206)
6:00p	Aerobics	(PBAC)
6:30p	RCIA	(204)
7:30p	Boy Scouts Troop 1313	(PBAC)
7:30p	Adult Choir	(Choir)

Friday, January 23

8:30a	Special Needs Children	(213)
9:30a	Prayer and Share Group	(Cry Rm)

Saturday, January 24

7:30a	Catholic Men's Fellowship	(206)
9:00a	Aerobics	(PBAC)
11:00a	Confessions	(Church)

Sunday, January 25

*Abbey Coffee House Open after
7:30 & 10:00 Mass*

8:40a	Religious Education Session	
11:10a	Religious Education Session	
7:00p	Youth Ministry Teen Night	(PBAC)

Edward Greenwald & Deceased Members of

Tomlinson Family by Charlotte Greenwald
Sgarrilla Family & Mahouski Families by M/M Walter Mahouski

Our Parents M/M Frank Goodwin and M/M Treas
by Gloria Goodwin

A. Cavaliere & D. Guzzo by M/M Lorenzio Cicala
Leddrue Mayer by Patricia Stanfill

John, Mary Catherine & Kathy Quarture by Shirley, Jack & Pete

Robert Williams by Shirley

Jack Plant by Shirley



TO GET INVOLVED, CALL...

Abbey Coffee House

Ellie Puskarich
724-941-4686

Altar Servers

Kathleen Bench
724-942-0338

Ben's Men

Ernie Sichi
724-916-4595

Boy Scouts

Kevin Dolinar
724-942-0388

Cantors, Choirs,

Bell Ringers

Greg Fincham
724-941-9406

Catholic Men's Fellowship

Ed Corbett
724-942-6429

Catholic Scripture Study

Tara Curry
724-942-7539

Elijah Cup

Carlotta Zuback
724-941-5758

Engaged Couples Program IHN

Ed & Mary Lou Fraticelli
724-941-4230

Eucharistic Adoration

Mary Ann Campbell
724-941-4297

Eucharistic Ministers

Jack McGinnis
724-941-4213

Finance Council

Jeff Lioon
724-941-4908

Food Bank

Susan Brooks
724-942-4287

Funeral Repast

Mary Kay Schaner
724-941-5147

Funeral Server

Dick Gawronski
724-873-7911

Greeters

Erma Grego
724-941-6956

Mary Spinabelli

724-942-2478

Lectors

Dawn Pustay
724-942-2451

Library

Ellen Mavrich
724-941-2446

Liturgical Environment

Emma Diamond
724-941-8315

Ministry to the Sick

Barb Scheuering
724-941-9104

MOMS

Kathleen Chaudhari
724-941-8546

Pastoral Council

Amy Schmidt
724-942-0338

Respect Life

Beth Quinn
724-942-1057

Stephen Ministry

Jay Jarrell
724-941-5026

St. Benedict Gardeners

Linda Maydak
724-941-3123

St. Vincent de Paul

Please call parish office
724-941-9406

Ushers

Don Ligman
724-941-5938

Vocations Council

Bill Barker
724-941-1359

Wedding Coordinators

Lois McCloskey
724-941-6879

Women of St. Benedict

Nancy Huffner
724-941-6805