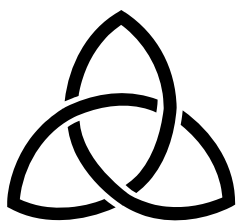




Father Sam's Forum

The Trinity is about relationship. Today's Gospel names God as a divine community of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bridging heaven and earth through the mission of the Son. As those baptized in the name of the Trinity, we are called to build similar bridges of love. It's all about relationship.



Last week's presentation at all the Masses was about our future. But that future builds on our past and reveals itself to us as the present with each new day an opportunity to make real the Kingdom of God. The adjustment in some of the ways we want to do this, from how the parish or the Church in general has done this, is because we must always speak the message of Jesus to the age in which we live. As our parish has grown and new programs were added, there is always a tendency to add without evaluation, to look at what we do as "tradition" because "it's always been done this way," when in fact, it hasn't. Every program, every group, every ministry, every method, had a beginning.

Everything a parish offers and supports comes about because its members are willing to make it happen. We are blessed here to have many parishioners who step forward when asked...but sometimes it seems the same people step forward for everything. This is a great opportunity to connect for those who have thought about becoming more involved and want to really use their gifts, their talents to make a difference. This is stewardship at its best. Some parishes have it already fine tuned. Not everyone can make substantial monetary donations, but they can give some time for things like roof repairs, plumbing renovations, secretarial help or painting crews. Those who own businesses or are professionals can offer the specialty services they provide. Every person has something to give.

This summer we are beginning to offer some new things like the "Movie Night" on the Rectory lawn on Friday, June 19. Everyone can bring a lawn chair and enjoy the film, "Mall Cop". We ask only that children 13 and under be accompanied by an adult. **Spirit Days** are another new offering. These are days for our Confirmation Class of 2009. Beginning with a time of prayer and review, the kids will come together in small groups to dig deeper into what their initiation in Christ means and how the Spirit's gifts might be manifested in their lives.

Staffing News: I am continuing to interview applicants for our open staff positions, finalize the budget and prepare myself for our new fiscal year. As always, keep this work in your prayers and ask God to give me wisdom.

Time Off: After Masses today I will be taking a few days off to rest and renew—and taking with me some work to do quietly away from the distractions of the phone and e-mails. I will be back in the office on Wednesday afternoon. If you need me for anything, just leave a message and when I return I will get back to you.

Mass Intentions: June 7—June 14

Sunday, June 7—The Most Holy Trinity

7:30a **Jack & Dee Heisler** (Leslie & Jim)
10:00a **David Sunseri, Jr.** (Richard & Monica Mahla)
12:30p **For the People of the Parish**

Monday, June 8—Weekday

8:30a **Helen Roth** (Karen, Jim & Jimmy Nickman)

Tuesday, June 9—Weekday

6:30a **Carrie Yelenic** (Richard & Monica Mahla)
8:30a **Harry Watters**
(Ralph, Terry & Debbie Newman & Family)

Wednesday, June 10—Weekday

6:30a **Michael Yurkovich**
(Tom & Marianne Mochen)
8:30a **June Gustie**
(Richard, Janet & Kennedy Ann Palek)

Thursday, June 11—Barnabas, apostle

6:30a **Priscilla Bayer** (Erman & Jo Dee Hartman)
8:30a **Chester & Philomena Jakoski**
(Jerry & Barbara Serrino)

Friday, June 12—Weekday

8:30a **Intentions of Fr. Joseph Keenan**
(John & Rita Milavec)

Sat., June 13—Anthony of Padua, priest & doctor

8:30a **Mike & Anthony Gargano** (Family)
3:00p **Wedding: Garrett Shanafelt** (St. Benedict)
Holly Picard
5:00p **For the People of the Parish**

Sun., June 14—Corpus Christi

7:30a **Living & Deceased Members** (Ben's Men)
10:00a **Joseph & Ann Smith** (Lou & Jan Palatis)
12:30p **Leddrue Mayer**
(Ann Mayer & Patricia Stanfill)

The Sanctuary Candle burns this week in memory of Joseph & Ann Smith, requested by Joe & Mary Ann Smith; the Bread & Wine is in memory of Fred Owsiany, requested by Margaret & Kevin Owsiany; and the Altar Flowers are in memory of Priscilla Bayer, requested by Dan Bayer.



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: June 13—June 14

Sat. 5:00pm— Fr. Ruffalo, Deacon Layton
Lectors: Ellsworth, Gordon **Greeters:** Reed, Schardt
EMHC: T & D Martin, Specca, G & P Adams, C & R Satler,
 Howell, Scheuering **Servers:** J, J & N Bianco, P & M Ellsworth

7:30am— Fr. Esposito
Lector: Luttner **Greeters:** Barker, Turchick **EMHC:** R & E
 McMillan, Hollot, Fagioletti, Berger, S & J Brooks **Servers:** J,
 M, A & B Lyle

10:00am— Fr. Ruffalo
Lectors: Morosco, Dembiczak **Greeters:** Becker, Fisher
EMHC: Faina, L & A Kelly, Glover, Klinar, Kail, Schultz,
 Weaver, Fisher **Servers:** Peterson, S Weaver, Maher, M & A
 Severa

12:30pm— Fr. Ruffalo
Lector: Sichi **Greeters:** Fink, Ragan **EMHC:** Oldaker,
 Torres, Capozza, Hayward, Black, B Smith, Bench **Servers:**
 Traficante, K & C Bench

Newly Baptized

Please welcome to our faith family **Chase Michael**, son of Michael & Lori Chokel, **Benjamin Vincent**, son of Vincent & Mary Beth Caputo, **Sawyer Reid**, son of Alan & Amy Mavretish, **Dominic Vincent**, son of Adam & Megan DeSimone, **Wyatt Richard**, son of Brad & Jennifer Eddy, who were recently baptized. May they grow in wisdom, age and grace.

Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them

Please remember in your prayers **Gonzalo Vazquez**, father of our parishioner Maribel Manzari, who died recently. May his soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Shoe Box Santas

The Women of St. Benedict will be collecting soap, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, razors, etc. for families in Appalachia. As you travel this summer, please save the hotel samples for us. Your cooperation over the past years is greatly appreciated. Last year we packed 433 shoe boxes and we hope to pack more this year. There will be a collection box in O'Brien Hall. If you have any questions, call Jackie Buck at 724-941-6955.

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

Readings for the Week of June 7

Sunday: Dt 4:32-34,39-40/Rom 8:14-17/Mt 28:16-20
 Monday: 2 Cor 1:1-7/Mt 5:1-12
 Tuesday: 2 Cor 1:18-22/Mt 5:13-16
 Wednesday: 2 Cor 3:4-11/Mt 5:17-19
 Thursday: Acts 11:21b-26,13:1-3/Mt 5:20-26
 Friday: 2 Cor 4:7-15/Mt. 5:27-32
 Saturday: 2 Cor 5:14-21/Mt 5:33-37
 Next Sunday: Ex 24:3-8/Heb 9:11-15/Mk 4:12-16,22-26

There will be no confessions on Saturday, June 27 Because the priests will be attending the Ordination at St. Paul Cathedral

Spiritual Adoption



Your spiritually adopted Baby is developing beautifully. The baby's weight is about two pounds! This baby would have a good chance of surviving a normal birth now.

Beginning next week, there will be a baby crib set up in the Narthex to receive your "shower" gifts for the newly born spiritual adoption babies. The crib and the gifts of layette items, diapers, baby clothes, etc. will be donated to *Lifeline of Southwestern Pennsylvania*. Your gifts and your prayers will ease the worry and concern in the hearts of these mothers who are unable to provide these necessities. **Please do not wrap your gifts.** If you have any questions or require more information, please call 724-941-8857.



Ordination to the Priesthood

On June 27, Bishop David Zubik will ordain the following men into priestly service for the Church in Pittsburgh. Please keep them in your prayers.

Daniel J. Langa—St. Paul Parish, Butler

Daniel Langa was accepted into the priestly formation program at St. Paul Seminary following his graduation from Slippery Rock High School. In May 2005, Dan graduated from Duquesne University with a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy. Dan began theological studies at St. Vincent Seminary, Latrobe, in Fall 2005, and is currently in his fourth year. St. Benedict the Moor Parish, Hill District, was the site of Dan's Summer pastoral experience, while his deacon pastoral experience has been at Our Lady of Fatima Parish, Hopewell Township.

John F. Naugle—Holy Innocents Parish, Sheraden

John Naugle is a graduate of Central Catholic High School and Saint Vincent College, Latrobe, with a Bachelor of Science in Economics and Mathematics. John was accepted into the priestly formation program at St. Paul Seminary in Fall 2003. He completed the two-year pre-theology program at St. Paul Seminary and graduated from Duquesne University with a Master of Arts in Philosophy in May 2005. John is currently in his fourth year at Theological College and The Catholic University of America. His Summer pastoral experience has taken place at St. Camillus Parish, Neshannock Township, while the site of this deacon pastoral experience is St. Gregory Parish, Zelienople.

Nicholas S. Vaskov—St. Bernadette Parish, Monroeville

Nicholas Vaskov entered the priestly formation at St. Paul Seminary following his graduation from Central Catholic High School and one year of studies at Duquesne University. In May 2005, Nick graduated from Duquesne with a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy. Nick was accepted for theological studies at the Pontifical North American College in Fall 2005, and is currently in his fourth year. St. Irenaeus Parish in Oakmont has been the site of Nick's Summer pastoral experiences.

Michael A. Zavage—St. Hugh Parish, Carmichaels

After graduating from Carmichaels High School and attending Waynesburg College for one year, Michael

Ordination—Cont.

Zavage was accepted into the priestly formation program at St. Paul Seminary in Fall 2002. In May 2005, Michael graduated from Duquesne University with a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy. Michael began theological studies at St. Vincent Seminary, Latrobe, in Fall 2005, and is currently in his fourth year. St. Gregory Parish in Zelienople was the site of Michael's Summer pastoral experience, while his deacon pastoral experience has been at St. Anne Parish, Castle Shannon.

Youth Ministry News

Movie Night Under the Stars—June 19

Bring the whole family to enjoy an evening of games and a movie up on the Rectory lawn. Kickball, dodgeball and free play starts at 7:30pm with show time for the movie "Mall Cop", rated PG at 9:15pm. Snacks and drinks will be for sale, but feel free to bring your own and a blanket or chairs to sit on. Children under 13 must be accompanied by a parent. If you have any questions, please email them to youthcouncil@stbenedicttheabbot.org

Youth Ministry Mulch Sale

St. Benedict teens will once again be selling mulch this Spring. This fundraising event helps the Youth Ministry program reduce the cost of summer programs and retreats. Please pick up an order form and price list in the narthex of the Church or in the Church Office.

New Recycle Bin

Trying to be conscious of helping the environment as well as making a few dollars for our special projects, we have now placed a paper recycling bin on the parish campus. Located near the Rosary Garden, next to the St. Vincent de Paul clothing donation box, the bin is for all your papers, magazines and newspapers. It cannot take phone books or cardboard. We'll split any reimbursement we get from the recycling among three parish groups; our preschool, our formation office, and our garden group. So bring all your junk mail and old papers and help the parish with this project.



Ask Father Sam

Next week we'll continue our stewardship picture with some parish needs...

Lesson of the Week

Why do we ask parents to pay a fee for our formation (religious education) program?

Continued from last week... When I was a seminarian, one of my summer assignments was to Woodville State Hospital under the supervision of Fr. George DeVille, now administrator of Holy Rosary Parish, Muse. Fr. DeVille always reminded us that "salvation cost money," and I never understood why he said that until I became responsible for the budget of a parish.

The fees we ask for the services provided by the parish are minimal at best for what is received in return. Staff salaries and benefits, costs of materials, even the utilities we must pay, all add up to make the operation of any parish program an expensive endeavor. When we look at a snapshot of the expenses in our large parish we can see this is true. Just the materials for our K-8 program this year cost us \$31,300 as of April 30; our Youth Ministry program cost \$59,500 as of April 30; and the operation and maintenance portion of the budget cost \$281,000 as of April 30.

It is no surprise that there are those who cannot afford the \$35 fee we ask and no one is refused participation in the program because they cannot afford the fee. We know this because if every one of the 1280 students paid the fee we should have realized \$44,800, when in fact we received \$34,640.

Since our buildings are aging we are going to have to face the reality of repairs and replacements. When the Finance Council met on May 21, one of the topics of our discussion included how to generate the funds necessary to meet these? Would we have to take out a loan from the diocese? Since we are still conducting our debt reduction campaign, we couldn't have a second campaign running at the same time, but the additional loan expense, plus interest would be added to the debt.

Of our 2900 households, many do not contribute regularly to the upkeep of the parish, its programs or expenses. We end up relying on the support of only a percentage of the parishioners to operate on a regular basis, doing what some take for granted: the celebration of Mass, preparation of members for the sacraments, that the church is air conditioned or heated. The ability to contribute electronically may help us realize increased income. *To be continued...*

News from Faith Formation

Vacation Bible School 2009

"Crocodile Dock" Vacation Bible School is scheduled for the week of July 13-17 for children in Grades K-4. Get ready for an exciting adventure where you'll be swamped in activities and buzzing with fun. Be sure to turn in registration forms as soon as possible; classes fill up fast!

Calling All Artists - 7th-12th Grade

The Religious Education Department is looking for talented parish students who would enjoy painting the set design for Vacation Bible School. This service opportunity is open to any student willing to help out before VBS begins. We will be painting between June 2 and June 30. You do not have to sign up as a VBS Counselor to participate. To volunteer, please call the Religious Education Coordinator, Cathy Malencia, at 724-941-9587 Ext. 209.

Registration for 2009-10

Registration for the Formation Program (Religious Education) for the coming year will begin early this summer. Watch for more details in the weeks ahead.

Musical Theatre Summer Camp

Accelerando Music Conservatory, a Musical Theatre summer camp, was founded by one of our cantors, Christina Chirumbolo. She is inviting all students interested in theatre arts to come and join her and her all-star staff consisting of Carnegie Mellon Alumni and seasoned Broadway actors. The 3 week camp runs from June 22-July 11 at the Southminster Church in Mt. Lebanon. For registration and further information, contact Christina at 724-255-6860 or accelerandomusicconservatory@gmail.com. Space is limited, so call today!

Widow & Widowers

The Widow and Widowers of St. Benedict the Abbot will meet on June 18 at 6:00pm in Room 208 for a pizza/game night. For further information, please contact Ellie Puskarich at 724-941-4686. New faces are always welcome.



New South Hills Thrift Store

The St. Vincent de Paul Society opened their new Thrift Store on May 18 in the South Hills; it is located at Rt. 88 and Grove Road in Castle Shannon. If you have furniture, workable small appliances, lamps, kitchenware, etc., or have questions as to what donations our stores will accept, please call Gwen Payne at the Pittsburgh SVdP Donation Center at 412-321-1071, ext. 202. Gwen can coordinate and schedule a truck to pick up your donation. Clothing and shoes should continue to be placed in our SVdP Donation Box located adjacent to our Rosary Garden.

St. Vincent de Paul News

Prayer needs no special day; it's timeless and eternal. It is an excellent way to send your love to a family member or friend for Father's Day, graduation, anniversaries, or any other occasion. St. Vincent de Paul Society **Gift of Love Certificates** offer the gift of prayer in a way that petitions Heaven for you and yours. Please consider this special way to honor and pray for a dear friend or family member. **Gift of Love Certificates** and instructions are available in the new St. Vincent de Paul Center located in the narthex of the church. Pick one up to use now or to save for an upcoming special occasion.

Easter Flower Donations

John & Ann Haines	M/M Richard Aurin
M/M Bernard Deverson	Mrs. Patricia Stanfill
M/M Ralph Ruffennach	M/M Thomas O'Shea
Ms. Debra Vensak	Mrs. Marlene Bour
M/M John Cerminara, III	M/M Donald Maydak
M/M Thomas Ostrowski	M/M Lawrence Eakin
James May & Leslie Heisler	M/M Richard Buzard

Dentists Needed

Dentists, your time and skills are need at the Catholic Charities Free Health Care Center. Due to overwhelming demand for dental care among the working uninsured, there is an increased need for dentists who can volunteer in our downtown Pittsburgh location. You set your schedule, we'll provide the parking and a great team atmosphere! For more information, call Roberta at 412-456-6697.

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

This Week In Our Parish

Sunday, June 7

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

Monday, June 8

10:00a	WOSB Yoga	(OBH)
7:00p	Aerobics	(PBAC)

Tuesday, June 9

8:30a	Special Needs Children	(213)
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Wednesday, June 10

12:00p	AA	(208)
6:30p	Confessions	(Church)
7:15p	Exec Com Pastoral Council	(Rectory)
7:30p	Tae Kwon Do	(OBH)
7:30p	St. Vincent de Paul	(206)

Thursday, June 11

12:00p	NA	(206)
6:00p	Aerobics	(PBAC)
7:30p	Troop 1313	(PBAC)

Friday, June 12

Saturday, June 13

7:30a	CMF	(206)
9:00a	Aerobics	(PBAC)
11:00a	Confessions	(Church)

Sunday, June 14

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

Parish Pilgrimage Italian Shrines & Wines

Last call to join the parish pilgrimage to Italy in October. Fr. Sam and a group from our parish will visit the shrines of our patron, St. Benedict, and enjoy the wineries and foods of the central part of this lovely country. Departing October 20, we stay for four nights in a Villa near Siena—home to St. Catherine, and visit her shrines, as well as daytrips to Florence and Lucca. Stopping overnight at Norcia, the birthplace of our patron, we will also visit nearby Cascia, the town of St. Rita. Four nights in Rome include a papal audience, Mass at St. John Lateran, and visits to all the regular sites of classical and religious Rome. We also visit Montecassino, the famous abbey founded by St. Benedict and rebuilt after WWII. Daily Mass is included. Stop by the office for a brochure and more information.



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

Extraordinary Ministers

Jack McGinnis
724-941-4213

Finance Council

Fred Abrew
724-941-4696

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

Military Support

Jamie Christopher
724-747-9396

Ministry to the Sick

Barb Scheuering
724-941-9104

MOMS

Kathleen Chaudhari
724-941-8546

Pastoral Council

Aimee Schmidt
724-941-7046

Respect Life Committee

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

Wedding Coordinators

Lois McCloskey
724-941-6879

Women of St. Benedict

Nancy Huffner
724-941-6805

Youth Council

Sheila Arcuri
724-942-6431