



Father Sam's Forum

After two white weekends, today we return to Ordinary Time's normal color, green. The readings today are filled with images from nature. The power of sea and sky is presented to us in both the first reading and the Gospel. Storms frighten some people and some animals. Zucca is not a big fan of thunder. Those who have seen the devastation that can come from a storm know its power.

The turmoil of our lives are like storms, and, like those disciples in the boat, we can give in to fear. We can forget that Jesus is with us and that he has power. His command, "Be still!" is one we need to hear when our lives get turned upside down. Amidst the tensions and distress that enter through the events and circumstances we face every day, it is only the Lord who can bring the calm.



Some of us are better than others at dealing with stress and tension. We have learned since childhood how to manage them. And yet, when life overwhelms, it can be very difficult to find the calm that Jesus offers. There can be a hesitation to call on the Lord because we may feel our problems are minor compared to those of other people. Or, we can feel that since God has to be about the care of so many, why would our need get His attention.

Psalm 107 praises God, who alone has the authority over wind and waves. It was written centuries ago when people who sailed the seas knew far less about navigation and weather than we do today. Given the tools they had at their disposal, they were remarkable navigators of the waters. But those sailors of old understood that the power of nature was not theirs to control.

Can we give the control to God? Instead of trying to manage every detail of our lives, can we allow God to bring the surprises and twists as part of a larger plan? Can we even see the storms as being tests for us to grow stronger in trusting that God will turn bad into good and that lessons we might learn from the struggles we have will make us better.

"They cried to the Lord in their distress; from their straits he rescued them." (Psalm 107)

Parish News: Pastoral Council met on June 15 to review the pastoral plan presented on Pentecost Sunday. If you missed the presentation that weekend, you can check it out on our web site. On our home page look for "Father Sam's Pastoral Plan Presentation." Check out page 5 for information about the council's Mass times survey next weekend. Next week's bulletin will have the minutes from the June 15 meeting. Our proposed changes allow us to begin the Envisioning Ministry process here at Saint Benedict. As always, keep the entire scope of our parish in your prayers, *Saint Benedict the Abbot, pray for us!*

Mass Intentions: June 21—June 28

Sunday, June 21—12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 7:30a **For the People of the Parish**
- 10:00a **For our Fathers Living & Deceased**
- 12:30p **For our Fathers Living & Deceased**

Monday, June 22—Weekday

- 8:30a **Deceased of the Mikos & Rodal Families**
(Dennis & Maryann Rodal)

Tuesday, June 23—Weekday

- 6:30a **Ed McCloskey** (The McDonnell Family)
- 8:30a **Jack Clark** (Joan Clark)

Wednesday, June 24—Nativity of John the Baptist

- 6:30a **Mary Bechtold** (Gene & Patty Reed)
- 8:30a **Rose & Joseph Stanio** (Amy Baumgartner)

Thursday, June 25—Weekday

- 6:30a **Mrs. Savio** (Jennifer & Chris Feeney)
- 8:30a **Butch Schultz** (Sandy Mertens)

Friday, June 26—Weekday

- 8:30a **Adele Moritz** (Family)

Saturday, June 27—Weekday

- 8:30a **George Rieger** (M/M Ted Turchick)
- 2:00p **Wedding: Daniel Degan** (St. Louise)
Caitlin McKenna (St. Benedict)
- 5:00p **M/M Joseph Koklich, Jr.**
(Paula & Mark Koerber)

Sunday, June 28—13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 7:30a **Martin Cawley** (Wife & Children)
- 10:00a **For the People of the Parish**
- 12:30p **Rev. Philip Donatelli** (Dan McPoyle)

The Sanctuary Candle burns this week in memory of the Riccio & Berriola Families, requested by M/M R. Ambrosini, and the Bread & Wine is in memory of Joseph F. Keenan, requested by Wife, Eleanor.

The Parish Office is closed today.

The Second Collection next weekend will be for the renovation of the PBAC.



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, Young Adult Minister—Ext. 234
 Colette Specca, Director of Faith Formation—Ext. 205

Parish Staff

Mary Ann Bitters, Parish Secretary—Ext. 200
 Rachele Buynak, Formation Coordinator—Ext. 208
 Justin Cumer, Maintenance—Ext. 200
 Shirley Jacobs, Bookkeeper—Ext. 202
 Beverly Jurcic, Director
 St. Benedict's Preschool—724-731-0222
 Cathy Malencia, Middle School Minister—Ext. 209
 Elaine Motyl, Young Adult Coordinator—Ext. 234
 Dave Murtaugh, Maintenance—Ext. 200
 Kathy Pfeifer, Communications Coordinator—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 27—June 28

Sat. 5:00pm— Fr. Ruffalo
Lectors: Buzzatto, Benya **Greeters:** Reed, Schardt **EMHC:** P & G Adams, Specca, D & T Martin, Baumgartner, B & R Jordan, Mertens **Servers:** A Weaver, Curran, Meyers, Byrne, Nobers

7:30am— Fr. Esposito
Lector: Brugger **Greeters:** Kalaski, Barton **EMHC:** Hollot, E & R McMillan, Basile, Boston, Puskarich, Petricca **Servers:** Peterson, Shaw, Brugger

10:00am— Fr. Ruffalo, Deacon Layton
Lectors: Trapanotto, Wells **Greeters:** Verlato, Becker **EMHC:** Schultz, Kail, Klinar, Glover, A & L Kelly, Faina, Orient, Cushma **Servers:** Cushma, Carrington, Pampena, N & V DeRienzo

12:30pm— Fr. Esposito
Lector: Hajzus **Greeters:** Ragan, Fink **EMHC:** B Smith, Black, Hayward, Capozza, Torres, Oldaker, Baits **Servers:** Toscano Children

Readings for the Week of June 21

Sunday: Jb 38:1,8-11/2 Cor 5:14-17/Mk 4:35-41
 Monday: Gn 12:1-9/Mt 7:1-5
 Tuesday: Gn 13:2,5-18/Mt 7:6,12-14
 Wednesday: Is 49:1-6/Acts 13:22-26/Lk 1:57-66,80
 Thursday: Gn 16:1-12,15-16 or 16:6b-12,15-16/Mt 7:21-29
 Friday: Gn 17:1,9-10,15-22/Mt 8:1-4
 Saturday: Gn 18:1-15/Mt 8:5-17
 Next Sunday: Wis 1:13-15;2:23-24/2 Cor 8:7,9,13-15/Mk 5:21-43

Memorial Donations

The enclosed sheet in the bulletin today depicts the artist's rendering of fabric panels to enhance the beauty of our church as well as cut the reverberation we have from speaking in the space. Look for the color version in the announcement case in the narthex. If you are interested in donating a panel or panels as a memorial for a loved one, call the office. The panels cost \$900 for the 84" ones, \$950 for the 96" ones, \$1000 for the 108" ones, and \$1050 for the 120" ones.

Eternal Rest Grant Unto Them

Please remember in your prayers our parishioner **Armella Stark** and **Alice McCardle**, mother of our parishioner Joanne Dolinar, who died recently. May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen



Your spiritually-adopted baby is now nearly ready to be born. The baby is almost at birth weight and is making mother uncomfortable with its size. Pray that the mother will plan to bring the baby home or place it for adoption.

RCIA Anyone?

It's not too early to begin to think about joining the RCIA this year. In case you aren't familiar, this is the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults, and is about bringing those interested in the Catholic faith into communion with the Church. Perhaps you have always wanted to learn more about the Catholic faith of your spouse or another family member. Maybe you've been coming to Mass but have never formally become a Catholic. Why not come see what it's all about. Stay tuned for more information this summer.

Building Fund Donations

In Memory of Gene Farney

M/M Ted Turchick Donna & Nick Nardine
 8:30 Mass Group

In Memory of Armella Stark

Audrey Hrehocik Donna & Nick Nardine
 8:30 Mass Group

In Memory of Helen Orcutt

Donna & Nick Nardine Bob & Peggy Joseph

In Memory of Fred G. Kluglein

Carolyn A. Kluglein



Sharing Our Treasure

<u>Date</u>	<u>Offertory</u>	<u>Debt</u>	<u>Parish Share</u>
May 3	\$24,084	\$5,493	\$2,505
May 10	\$20,874	\$1,220	\$5,951
May 17	\$21,514	\$4,165	\$3,517
May 24	\$21,522	\$846	\$1,735
May 31	\$18,501	\$1,134	\$1,810
Monthly Totals	\$106,495	\$12,858	\$15,518
Weekly Average	\$21,299		
Weekly Budgeted	\$22,000		

We continue to hold our own in spite of the economy, which is a good thing and very much appreciated. Our Parish Share goal is coming along as parishioners are making good on their pledges and those who did not pledge are contributing by the monthly envelope and second collection for that purpose. We also continue to rely on those who made pledges for the new church to do their best to fulfill those. Our outstanding debt for the church remains over \$1.8 million and we get charged monthly for the interest on that loan. As times perhaps become more difficult for some, we will have to make hard decisions about spending and giving which is certainly understandable. All God asks of us is that we try to do our best.

Catholic Charities' 100th Anniversary Cookbook

Your favorite recipes are wanted! Catholic Charities is creating a cookbook of tasty traditions and cultures of Pittsburgh to celebrate its 100th anniversary in 2010—a long tradition of providing help and creating hope for individuals and families in need. If you have a favorite recipe for an appetizer, main or side dish, dessert, or holiday treat that you'd like to share, visit www.ccpgh.org to submit, or mail to Catholic Charities "Recipes", 212 Ninth Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15222. Include a daytime phone number. The deadline to submit recipes is July 1.

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

Youth Ministry News

Mystery Trip With Fr. Mike

On June 29, we are having a "Mystery Trip" for all teens in grades 10 thru 12. We will be leaving the parking lot at 6:00pm and returning at approximately 11:00pm. You must bring a permission form signed by your parents and \$10 for dinner.

Youth Ministry Mulch Sale

St. Benedict teens will once again be selling mulch this Summer. 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.

Catholic Youth Day at Kennywood

Grab a friend and come hit the rides of Kennywood with a bunch of Catholic teens! We will leave St. Benedict on July 7 at 10:00am and return at approximately 11:00pm. Tickets are \$21.50. Call the Youth Ministry Office to register, and you must have a permission form signed by your parents.

Youth Council

Have you ever wanted to become more involved as a family here at St. Benedict? Here is a great opportunity! There will be a Youth Council meeting July 1, at 7:00pm in Room 210. Plans for the fall are being made so bring us your thoughts and suggestions.

WOSB Garage Sale

The Women of St. Benedict are hosting their annual garage sale on September 18, from 9:00am to 7:00pm and September 19, from 9:00am to 3:00pm. The proceeds from this sale allow the WOSB to support many charities. Please begin to put aside those items appropriate for a sale of this nature; i.e. small appliances, furniture, kitchenware, clothing, etc. If you have any questions/pickup, etc., please contact the chairperson, Jackie Buck, at 724-941-6955. Please **DO NOT** bring items to O'Brien Hall at this time. Days and times for drop off will be announced at a later date.



Ask Father Sam

Now that it is summer what do you say to people who do not dress modestly for Mass?

Lesson of the Week

How is a parish Mass schedule determined?

When I was first ordained, most large parishes had the same weekend schedule, a Vigil Mass at 7:00pm on Saturday, and 7:30, 9:00, 10:30, and Noon on Sunday. The hour and a half between Masses gave people enough time to get in and out of the parking lot, and with three priests there was a way to rotate the schedule fairly, especially when we usually had two weddings every Saturday afternoon.

As the number of priests decreased over these thirty plus years and some parishes changed in size, either shrinking or expanding, the diocese began to offer a measure for how the Mass schedule should look. When reorganization began in the 1990s every parish had to complete a vitality index which demonstrated how alive a parish was by the variety of ministries and programs it maintained. A number of small ethnic parishes or rural parishes, as well as those in the mill towns, were not able to sustain all the ministries and programs that the index included. The result was the mergers our diocese underwent in the years from 1992-95.

With a new century it became evident that what had happened only a few years ago was not going to be sufficient to meet the number of priests projected for the years ahead. Canon Law allows a priest to celebrate two Masses on Sunday, and, in our diocese, by permission of the bishop, we are permitted three if there is real need. Because the Sunday liturgy is so important, parishes are expected to have all the ministries necessary for Mass, that is, lectors, servers, greeters, ushers, cantors, and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion. In addition, guidelines indicate that if the church seating capacity is not at least 50% filled, the parish should re-evaluate the Mass times for better participation.

As the number of priests continues to decline, we have to take a realistic look at how neighboring parishes schedule their Masses. As more large parishes are left with only one priest, and mid-size parishes share priests, how will we best use that resource to allow the faithful to participate in Sunday worship? When we begin to think about this now and not when it actually happens, we are *Envisioning Ministry for the Future*, which is what each parish has been called to do by our bishop. It's not about convenience but about using our resources in the most realistic way for all concerned.

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!

First Eucharist DVD

If you ordered a First Eucharist DVD, they are available for pick up in the Religious Education Office.

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.

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 Middle School Minister, Cathy Malencia, at 724-941-9587 Ext. 209.

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.

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



Mass Times Survey

One of the agenda items at the June 15 Pastoral Council meeting included the schedule for Sunday Masses here in the parish. In the old church the 10:00 Mass was overcrowded and that seems to have carried over to the new building. Council wants to adjust the times to better serve the whole parish and to follow the diocesan guidelines that indicate a Mass should have at least 50% of the church's seating capacity utilized. From our October count in 2008, we found out that the average attendance at weekend Masses is: 852, Saturday 5:00pm Vigil; 345, Sunday, 7:30am; 1129, Sunday, 10:00am; 341, Sunday, 12:30pm; and 235, Sunday, 6:00pm. It becomes evident that only two Mass times fulfill the expectation of the 50%.

So how do we craft a schedule that will take the pressure off 10:00 Mass, keep the parking lot and Friar Lane from the congestion of putting those departing from Mass with parents coming and going for Sunday morning Formation classes, and fill the other Masses?

Next weekend and again on the weekend of July 11-12 we will conduct a survey during Mass to get your input. Three times for the Saturday Vigil have been suggested, 4:30pm, 5:00pm, and 5:30pm. And, two Sunday schedules have been crafted, 7:30, 9:00, and 11:00, and 8:00, 9:30, and 11:30. Once we have a tally from these two Sunday surveys, Fr. Sam will consult council and present to Fr. Larry DiNardo the request to adjust the schedule. We hope to begin the new schedule in September, after Labor Day.

It was also decided that the Sunday evening 6:00pm Mass will be eliminated. Again, the fact that only a very small number attend, coupled with the desire to better use our resources, has led to this decision. Over the years this Mass time has become connected with Youth Ministry, but the plan is to incorporate our young members into liturgical ministries at all the Masses, to use the Teen Band at other Masses, and to encourage worship as a family and not separate the kids from parents for Mass. Youth Ministry's Sunday program, WORD, will begin at 6:00pm in the fall, and may at times include Mass just for the kids as part of the program, but more often it will begin with breaking open the Word for faith sharing and prayer.

We realize some people may feel inconvenienced, but this has to be about serving the whole parish. (*See Lesson of the Week, on page 4.*)

This Week In Our Parish

Sunday, June 21

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

Parish Office Closed Today

Monday, June 22

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

Wednesday, June 24

9:30a	Spirit Day	(204/206)
12:00p	AA	(208)
6:30p	Confessions	(Church)
7:30p	Tae Kwon Do	(OBH)
7:30p	St. Vincent de Paul	(206)

Thursday, June 25

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

Saturday, June 27

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

No Confessions today

Sunday, June 28

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

Marriage Encounter

If you did not have an opportunity to see it at the movies, Worldwide Marriage Encounter is hosting a free viewing of **"Fireproof"** on June 27 at 7:00pm at Gilmary Retreat Center, 601 Flaugherty Run Road, Coraopolis. Spend a relaxing "movie night" with us and hear how the gift of a Marriage Encounter weekend can "fireproof" your marriage. Snacks and beverages will be provided along with a few surprises. There is no cost, but a freewill offering will be accepted. Seating is limited, so please register by June 20. For more information or to register, please contact us at: fireproofme@hotmail.com or phone 724-265-9017.

Retrouvaille

Retrouvaille (*pronounced retro-vi*) has helped tens of thousands of couples at all stages of disillusionment or misery in their marriage. This program can help you, too. For confidential information about or to register for the July program beginning with a weekend on July 10 to 12, call 412-277-3434 or e-mail 3041@retrouvaille.org. More information is available at www.helpourmarriage.com



TO GET INVOLVED, CALL . . .

Abbey Coffee House

Ellie Puskarich
724-941-4686

Altar Servers

Kathleen Bench
724-942-0338

Ben's Men

Jeff Mertens
724-941-6484

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