



Father Sam's Forum

One year ago we celebrated the Ordination and First Mass of Father Michael Ruffalo. It's hard to believe it has been one year already. He continues to be a joy in my life and a help in the ministry here. If I could just get him to arrive a little earlier, put his coffee cups in the dishwasher, and turn out a few lights...but then he wouldn't be Michael.

As we welcomed Fr. Michael here to be our new parochial vicar, we were beginning a remembrance of Saint Paul, the great Apostle to the Gentiles. Commemorating the 2000th anniversary of Paul's birth, this saint and patron of our diocese was the herald of the Gospel, and for me personally in the past year, an inspiration in ministry. I tried to listen to his writings in a new way. The Year of St. Paul closes tomorrow, on the Feast of SS. Peter and Paul.

Pope Benedict XVI has announced that this year, beginning actually on June 19, is the *Year of the Priest*. What does this mean? Because we are remembering the 150th anniversary of the death of the patron of parish priests, St. John Mary Vianney (1756—1859), the Holy Father seeks to bring attention to the priesthood through this year-long commemoration. He asks the faithful to pray for us.

We hear routinely now about priests who have been accused of misdoings either by abuse of children, financial misappropriation or some other scandal. Sadly, these reports affect all of us. Whether the accusation is true or not, the media feeds on this kind of news. The priests I know carry a deep and ever present sadness from all of these things, especially because we all know one or more of the brothers who have been removed from ministry. It affects our morale in a way most people might not even consider.

And yet, I find great joy and satisfaction in being a priest. Continuing to believe that I have answered what I know was God's call for my life, that does not make it any easier when caught in the crossfire. People today have no difficulty in telling their priests exactly what they think about any number of things. While there are some things we can change or help, there are others that are beyond us. Like Jesus in the Gospel today, we get caught up in the whirlwind of ministry, always trying to be the servants we are called to be. But we sometimes make mistakes. We are mere mortals too, fallible and sinful, with many faults and weaknesses. But I know of no priest who deliberately tries to harm people or his parish. We want to succeed. We want to draw people to Jesus.

So perhaps this year, you can remember a priest who made a difference in your life. Maybe you can say a prayer for him, whether he's alive or gone to eternal life. Maybe you can drop him a card to say "thanks." Today we remember the anniversary of death of Fr. Donatelli. Like us all he had his faults, but he was a good priest who cared about his people and only wanted to serve them.

Don't expect more from your priests than we can give you. We truly want to love you and celebrate with you as we worship, to be there in your good times and bad ones, to support you and encourage you, to pray for you and your intentions. But we can only do so much. Don't gossip about us when you only have hearsay as your source. Don't be afraid to ask us questions. Don't forget to invite us out for coffee or a glass of wine. We need and rely on your support because after all, we are humans too.

Mass Intentions: June 28—July 5

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)

Monday, June 29—Peter & Paul, apostles

- 8:30a **Jim & Doris Schauer** (Tom & Ann Hayes)

Tuesday, June 30—Weekday

- 6:30a **Marguerite Singer** (Joan Becker)
 8:30a **Stanley Michalik**
 (Jeff & Mary Jeanne Nobers & Family)

Wednesday, July 1—Weekday

- 6:30a **Butch Schultz** (Mina & Family)
 8:30a **Joseph Lucas** (Tom & Phyllis Sproull)

Thursday, July 2—Weekday

- 6:30a **6:30 Mass Group** (Bernie & Pat Suchoza)
 8:30a **Joseph Labriola** (Wife, Alberta)

Friday, July 3—Thomas, apostle

- 8:30a **Henry Flecker** (George A. Flecker)
 1:45p **Manor Care: Robert Dennis**
 (Jim & Sue Ralston)

Saturday, July 4—Weekday

- 8:30a **Mary Lou Maestri** (Family)
 2:00p **Wedding Ceremony:**
Sean Merryman & Heidi Chastel
 5:00p **Lillian Cotugno** (Adult Neurology Staff)

Sunday, July 5—14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 7:30a **Mary Elizabeth Salva** (Rob & Dot Beldon)
 10:00a **Rosemary De Gurian** (Bill & Lilly Kauffman)
 12:30p **For the People of the Parish**

The Sanctuary Candle burns this week in memory of Martin Cawley, requested by Wife, Virginia, and the Altar Flowers are in memory of Patricia Pastor, requested by JoAnn Kiefer.



Pastoral Staff

Lay Ecclesial Ministers

Michael Benya, Parish Campus Manager—Ext. 201
 Gregory Fincham, Director of Music Ministries—Ext. 304
 Dennis Gehrlein, Pastoral Associate —Ext. 206
 Janet Roberto, Young Adult Minister—Ext. 234
 Colette Speca, Director of Faith Formation—Ext. 205

Parish Staff

Mary Ann Bitters, Parish Secretary—Ext. 200
 Rachele Buynak, Formation Office Coord. -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

* Formation Office/Young Adult Ministry—724-941-9587

Serving the Parish Next Weekend: July 4—July 5

Sat. 5:00pm— Fr. Ruffalo
Lectors: Auer, Hruby **Greeters:** Grego, McCloskey **EMHC:** Femiani, Ligman, Norton, Greenwald, Vandewater, Milavec, Sarra, Satler, Scheuering **Servers:** Byrne, Hillen, Curry, Traficante, LaRosa

7:30am— Fr. Ruffalo, Deacon Layton
Lector: DiCello **Greeters:** Barker, Henger **EMHC:** Walnoha, Vines, J & S Christopher, Gavran, Fagioletti, Berger **Servers:** E, M & E Jozwiak

10:00am— Fr. Esposito
Lectors: Mauro, Glover **Greeters:** Verlato, Becker **EMHC:** Stein, McGovern, Serrino, McGinnis, God, Spinabelli, Ruggieri, Mauro, Glover **Servers:** Oberschelp, Mullan, Hilzendeger, L & J Spinabelli

12:30pm— Fr. Esposito
Lector: Balash **Greeters:** Bartoli, McDonnell **EMHC:** Hayward, B Smith, Black, Boyd, Huffner, P Newmaster, Eckels **Servers:** D DeRienzo, Watson, Taylor

Paper Recycle Bin

When placing papers in the recycle bin (located in the parking lot next to the St. Vincent de Paul collection box), please remember to remove them from any plastic bags you may have used to bring them here. Only paper can be placed in this bin, absolutely no plastic—that includes plastic grocery bags. Thank you for your participation in this worthwhile project.

Readings for the Week of June 28

Sunday: Wis 1:13-15;2:23-24/2 Cor 8:7,9,13-15/Mk 5:21-43
 Monday: Acts 12:1-11/2 Tm 4:6-8,17-18/Mt 16:13-19
 Tuesday: Gn 19:15-29/Mt 8:23-27
 Wednesday: Gn 21:5,8-20a/Mt 8:28-34
 Thursday: Gn 22:1b-19/Mt 9:1-8
 Friday: Eph 2:19-22/Jn 20:24-29
 Saturday: Gn 27:1-5,15-29/Mt 9:14-17
 Next Sunday: Ez 2:2-5/2 Cor 12:7-10/Mk 6:1-6a

Parents' Baptism Meeting

Our next gathering for parents asking to present a child for the sacrament of baptism is next Sunday, July 5, after the 10:00am Mass. We'll meet in Room 210 in the Education & Family Life Center. Upcoming gatherings for the months of August and September are scheduled for Sunday, August 9, after the 10:00 Mass, and Thursday, September 3, 7:00pm.

Baptism Dates

Our upcoming dates and times for the celebration of the sacrament of baptism are these: Saturday, July 11, during the 5:00pm Mass; Sunday, July 19, 1:30pm; Sunday, July 26, 1:30pm; Sunday, August 2, 1:30pm; Sunday, August 9, during the 12:30pm Mass; Sunday, August 16, 1:30pm; Saturday, August 22, during the 5:00pm



Parish Directory Update

The final page layouts for our parish directory have been completed and sent to Busson for publication. According to their production schedule, we should receive our directories sometime in early fall. At that time an announcement will be placed in the Bulletin, and announced at Mass, to let everyone who had their pictures taken know where and when they can pick up their free copy of the directory. We will also receive additional copies that will be available for purchase to anyone who did not have their picture taken, but wishes to have a copy of the directory.

Building Fund Donations

In Memory of Armella Yochum Stark

Don & Arden Hamer

John W. Giltinan

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



Staffing News

Jay Speca, a long time member of our parish, has been hired as the new Coordinator for Adult Formation and Liturgy. In this role, Jay will oversee the formation program for adults which includes all the various kinds of sacramental preparation, RCIA, seasonal offerings and parish and family faith gatherings. All who are liturgical ministers will be able to look to Jay for spiritual formation, liturgical training and development. In addition, he will serve as Master of Ceremonies for special liturgical celebrations. Jay was a representative to the Synod of 2000 for the diocese, and has been part of the RCIA process here since its inception. He worked with and was trained by diocesan worship office staff years ago and has a great love for our liturgical heritage.

Committee Meetings

Thanks to all who responded to our call to get involved in parish life. The upcoming July meeting dates for the three committees are:

Communication, Thursday, July 16, 7:30pm;
Adult Faith Formation, Monday, July 20,
7:30pm; and Welcoming, Wednesday, July
22, 7:00pm. All three meetings will be held in Room 210 of the Education and Family Life Center. For more information, call Aimee Schmidt, 941-7406, or Jane, 746-6798.

Parish Picnic News

Last summer's picnic was able to happen through the efforts of the parish staff, but we want to return to a fall event with every group and organization participating. Our staff is unable to coordinate this event and if it is going to happen we need someone to step up as chairperson. We would like to continue the tradition of a picnic as a whole parish event but unless someone agrees to chair this event it won't be able to happen. If you think you have what it takes, call Fr. Sam as soon as possible because planning has to begin now for us to have a successful event.

Spiritual Adoption



Today is the birthday for all of the spiritually adopted babies that we have been praying for and following their development since April 25. Your prayers and the "shower gifts" that have been placed in the crib during the last two weeks will help new mothers to begin brand new lives. God Bless You!

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.

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 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.

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.

Mass Schedule Survey

Our survey takes place today at Mass. Last week's bulletin indicated the Sunday times being considered were 7:30—9:00—11:00, and 8:00—9:30—11:30. With more discussion among the council members, music ministry, and staff, we determined we need more than half an hour between the end of one Mass and the beginning of another. So, the adjusted times are 7:45—9:30—11:30, and 8:00—9:45—11:45. The changes come to begin our *Envisioning Ministry for the Future*, and take the pressure off the 10:00 Mass which draws the largest assembly.



Ask Father Sam

What's happening with the Vicariates?

Lesson of the Week

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

A number of parishioners have approached me about addressing this particular issue. They made the remark that many places enforce a dress code such as some restaurants, clubs, golf courses. Why shouldn't there be one for church? Ok, here are my thoughts.

First of all, God does not care about what kind of clothing we wear in and of itself. That's not what we believe that God is about. So we don't dress to impress God, but we do dress to respect and reverence God. But that isn't the whole answer. You see, this is also about us. We who are the Christian community are supposed to respect and reverence one another much in the same way we respect and reverence the things of God such as the sacred items we find in church, the sacraments and rites of our faith, God's Word, etc.

If that is the case, then out of respect for one another we dress modestly and carefully, not causing any distraction by our apparel. So, bare midriffs, short shorts, mini skirts, halters that expose lots of skin, all these can be distracting. Let's be honest, we all stare. That's one reason. The second one comes from the respect and reverence we owe God simply because God is God and we are not.

When we attend a special function, we want to look our best. And what more special function is there than Mass? Believe me, I understand it is summer and I wear shorts, I wear tee shirts, I wear flip flops. Not a problem, but when we take the time and make the effort to add a little more to our clothing for Mass we are demonstrating the respect and reverence we say we have for the things of God, and for God Himself.

While it might be ok to come with decent length shorts and a polo shirt or blouse, we also have to watch, and this is probably more true of our younger members, that we aren't wearing some article of clothing that has offensive language or anything with a double entendre. This again, is a kind of rudeness toward others because we don't consider how our action in wearing such clothing could be offensive to them.

Basically it comes down to common sense. Just use our heads and think before we dress.

News from Faith Formation

"VBS" Counselor Reminder

Students in 7th, 8th and 9th grade who have signed up to be a Vacation Bible School Camp Counselor for the K-4 program . . . your mandatory counselor work day is scheduled for July 10, from 9:30am until 2:00pm.

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!

Spirit Days

Students who will be in 9th grade this fall and are preparing for confirmation have been scheduled for their "Spirit Days" throughout the summer. Parents of these teens are asked to volunteer as chaperones and to help drive to and from their service sites. Please contact the Faith Formation Office at 724-941-9587 if you can help out.

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. A new option for parents is to lead your children at home in the study of their faith with group and individual break out sessions here during the year. Depending on the outcome of our Mass times survey, the Sunday sessions for K-6 will be either 8:55 - 10:05 and 10:45-11:55, or 9:10-10:20 and 11:00-12:10. Tuesday sessions for K-6 will be from 6:00-7:15. Sessions for the Middle Schools students in grades 7 and 8 will be on Wednesdays from 6:00-7:30. Since we have limited space, parents are encouraged to explore the home-parish program.



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.

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.

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

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.

This Week In Our Parish

Sunday, June 28

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

Monday, June 29

7:00p Aerobics (PBAC)

Tuesday, June 30

6:00p Councils and Parish Staff Picnic (Rectory)

Wednesday, July 1

9:30a Spirit Day (204/206)
12:00p AA (208)
6:30p Confessions (Church)
7:00p Youth Council Meeting (210)

Thursday, July 2

12:00p NA (206)
4:00p Eucharistic Adoration Begins (Chapel)
6:00p Aerobics (PBAC)
7:30p Troop 1313 (PBAC)

Friday, July 3

Parish Offices Closed

4:00p Closing of Adoration (Chapel)

Saturday, July 4

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

Sunday, July 5

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

11:00a Baptism Preparation (210)

In the Spirit of Service and Sacrifice...

Thanks to St. Benedict's Military Support Group, we now have a display case in the narthex of the church. The purpose of the case is twofold: to post parish announcements; and to serve in tribute and as a call to prayer for the members of our parish who are serving in the military. If you have a family member serving in the armed forces, please send a photo, along with name, rank/rate and branch of service to the parish office c/o Jami Christopher. The names will be posted on the board as we receive them. Please pray for these men and women who have made the commitment to serve our country in this way.

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



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