



Father Sam's Forum

Wow! I want to express my gratitude to so many of you who came out and worked so hard to make our **Autumnfest '09** a reality. Thanks to chairs Ellie Puskarich, Kip & Rita Milavec, and all the volunteers who came together to pull off this event. It was such a joy for me to see the parish at large working together for this purpose. That's community! Grazie! Danke! Merci! Dziekuję! Hvala! Xie Xie! Thank you!

These volunteers shared their time and talents to create something for the rest of us to enjoy. Their treasure is their Catholic faith and their participation in the life of their parish. Where is our treasure? The Book of Wisdom tells us today that *I pleaded, and the spirit of wisdom came to me...all gold, in view of her, is a little sand, and before her, silver is to be accounted mire.* Praying for this gift is what matters, according to the biblical author. Riches and material possessions can't compare to having wisdom.

God's word itself, a living and effective word, according to the Letter to the Hebrews today, is the source of our treasure. From the word, we find guidance for all of life, something upon which to reflect as we make this journey of faith. That's why it is so important to know and understand the bible. I can't preach that message enough. How would we ever expect to understand our faith unless we understand its foundation? It's like trying to practice medicine without knowing science.

The young man of the Gospel wants to find treasure in life. Not in material goods but in keeping God's law. Jesus tells him to take the next step; he has to divest himself and throw himself into complete trust of God by giving away his stuff. If you are like me, you have too much stuff. Every year—in fact, a few times each year—I try to go through and give away what I do not need or use. As a society of consumers, we Americans keep on accumulating things we really don't need. Having so much stuff can get in the way of figuring out what comes first. That's what Jesus warns us against.

So, the next time you think about shopping, ask yourself if you really need what you are tempted to purchase. Is it another piece of clothing you will not wear? Another gadget you don't need? Another knick knack that collects dust? Instead, why not open the good book and let the word of God touch your heart. The treasure we seek isn't some thing—it is meaning in our life, relationship with God.

Parish news: Families of all sizes, ten or one, are all welcome to our **Family Faith Night** this Friday, October 16. "Celebrating the Saints" begins at 6:00pm and includes games and treats. We typically think of October as connected to Halloween, but for Catholics, the association should be with our heroes, the saints. Men and women like us who struggled in their relationship with God and were victorious, our saints provide us models for living, being in the world but not consumed by the world.

All Saints Day this year falls on a Sunday. The next day, November 2, is our annual commemoration of those who died in the past year, our Mass of Remembrance. See page 3 for details.

Mass Intentions: Oct. 11—Oct. 18

Sunday, October 11—28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 7:45a **For the People of the Parish**
 9:30a **Deceased of the Mendola & Catalano Families** (Jerry & Barbara Serrino)
 11:30a **George A. Corbo, Sr.**
 (Beverly & Randy Richert)

Monday, October 12—Weekday

- 8:30a **Michael Yurkovich** (Ron & Neal Haradzin)

Tuesday, October 13—Weekday

- 6:30a **Martin Cawley** (Wife, Virginia & Children)
 8:30a **Lucille McGurk** (Tom & Judy Dunn & Family)

Wednesday, October 14—Weekday

- 6:30a **Casimir Koza, Sr.** (Richard Koza Family)
 8:30a **Anna & Andrew Turchick**
 (M/M Ted Turchick)
 11:00a **McMurray Hills: Wilma Lokash**
 (Jeff & Sandy Mertens)

Thursday, October 15—Teresa of Jesus

- 6:30a **Loving Memory of Husband Dick Stewart**
 (Mary)
 8:30a **Frances Resignalo** (8:30am Mass Group)

Friday, October 16—Weekday

- 8:30a **Thornburg Family** (M/M Gary Buffington)

Saturday, October 17—Ignatius of Antioch

- 8:30a **Helen Orcutt** (Stephen Ministries)
 3:00p **Wedding: Ashley Farley**
Robert Milani
 5:00p **Mary Grace Bodnar** (The Shannon Family)

Sunday, October 18—29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 7:45a **Lydia Campbell**
 (Ann Mayer & Patricia Stanfill)
 9:30a **For the People of the Parish**
 11:30a **M/M Anthony Carlino** (Susan Airey)

The Sanctuary Candle burns this week in memory of Jack Plant, requested by Shirley; the Bread and Wine is in memory of Donald Huffner, requested by his children & grandchildren; and the Altar Flowers are in memory of Martin Cawley, requested by his wife, Virginia.



Pastoral Staff

To reach a staff member, dial 724-941-9406, and then the extension number listed.

Pastoral Life & Worship

Rachelle Buynak, Formation Office Coordinator— 107
 Gregory Fincham, Director of Music Ministries— 108
 Dennis Gehrlein, Pastoral Associate— 109
 Cathy Malencia, Middle School Minister— 110
 Elaine Motyl, Young Adult Coordinator— 111
 Janet Roberto, Young Adult Minister— 112
 Marcia Snowden, Catechetical Assistant—107
 Colette Specca, Director of Faith Formation— 113
 Jay Specca, Coordinator Adult Formation & Liturgy—114

Pastoral Administration

Michael Benya, Parish Campus Manager—105
 Mary Ann Bitters, Parish Secretary—100
 Justin Cumer, Maintenance— 100
 Shirley Jacobs, Bookkeeper— 100
 Jan Martin, Rectory Housekeeper— 131
 Dave Murtaugh, Maintenance— 100
 Kathy Pfeifer, Parish Life Manager — 106
 John Risher, Weekend Maintenance— 100
 Kevin Wolford, Maintenance Supervisor— 100

- Formation Offices: Religious Education/Youth Ministry—724-941-9587

St. Benedict Pre-School

Beverly Jurcic, Director —724-731-0222

Serving the Parish Next Weekend: October 17— October 18

Sat. 5:00pm— Fr. Ruffalo, Deacon Layton
Lectors: Norton, Satler **Greeters:** Reed, Schardt **EMHC:** Norton, LaCamera, D & T Martin, Ligman, Femiani, Specca, McGinnis, Satler **Servers:** Curran, LaRosa, A Weaver, Curry, Figueroa

7:45am— Fr. Ruffalo
Lectors: Hornack, Jung **Greeters:** Barton, Kalaski **EMHC:** Basile, Puskarich, Faina, S & J Christopher, Prado, Joseph **Servers:** Kelly, Wiegmann, Bowlin

9:30am— Fr. Esposito
Lectors: Morosco, Wanninger **Greeters:** Stewart, Becker **EMHC:** Schultz, Torres, Bayer, Orient, Gaudy, McGovern, Serrino, Spinabelli, Wanninger **Servers:** Maher, D & M DeRienzo, L & J Spinabelli

11:30pm— Fr. Esposito
Lectors: Balash, Tallon **Greeters:** Ragan, Bartoli **EMHC:** Capozza, Huffner, Slomiany, Oldaker, Black, Baits, Hayward **Servers:** A & E Ross, Graves

Rest in Peace

Please remember in your prayers our parishioner **Joseph Yatchum**, and **Sue Lauro**, mother of our parishioner Karen Yocca, who died recently. May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in peace.

World Mission Sunday

Next Sunday, October 18, is World Mission Sunday. The second collection will benefit the Society for the Propagation of the Faith in support of the service of priests, religious and lay catechists in more than 1,150 local churches throughout Africa, Asia, the Pacific Islands, and remote regions of Latin America. Let us pray for all who long to hear the hope-filled, life-giving message of Jesus' love and salvation.

There will be mandatory Altar Server Training on October 13 and October 20 from 7:45pm to 9:00pm.

Newly Baptized

Please welcome to our faith family these newly baptized: **Gabriella Denise**, daughter of John & Nicole Rieg; **Cameron Joseph**, son of Daniel & Amy Williams; **Ryland Alexander**, son of Anthony & Kelly DeStefano; **Katherine Victoria**, daughter of Jeffrey & Michelle Hymson; **Asher Michael**, son of Matthew & Heather Curry; **Noah Michael**, son of Michael & Tracy Culan; **Luke William**, son of Joseph & Kimberly Kail; **Landon Joseph**, son of Keith & Mary Rigby; and **Wyatt Robert**, son of Keith & Amy Stetor. May they grow in wisdom age and grace.

Readings for the Week of October 11

Sunday: Wis 7:7-11/Heb 4:12-13/Mk 10:17-30
 Monday: Rom 1:1-7/Lk 11:29-32
 Tuesday: Rom 1:16-25/Lk 11:37-41
 Wednesday: Rom 2:1-11/Lk 11:42-46
 Thursday: Rom 3:21-30/Lk 11:47-54
 Friday: Rom 4:1-8/Lk 12:1-7
 Saturday: Rom 4:13,16-18/Lk 12:8-12
 Next Sunday: Is 53:10-11/Heb 4:14-16/Mk 10:35-45

Children's Liturgy of the Word

We've once again started our Liturgy of the Word for our preschool children at the 9:30am Mass. We would like to expand this program to include ministry at the 11:30 Mass as well, but are in need of more people to help. We will train you and provide the necessary resources you need. If you would like to help, please contact Colette or Marcia in the Faith Formation Office, Teresa Buzard at 724-941-6051, or Dennis our pastoral associate at 724-941-9406.

Protecting God's Children

A training session for the diocesan-required workshop, "Protecting God's Children," has been scheduled for October 12 from 7:00pm to 10:00pm in rooms 204 and 206. Please call Colette in Faith Formation at 724-941-9587 to register for the class.



All Souls Mass

Our annual parish **Mass of Remembrance** to pray for those who have died in the past year will be celebrated on All Souls Day, November 2, at 7:00pm. For anyone in the parish who may have experienced the death of a family member this year, your loved one's name will be read and a candle will be lit in their memory. In addition, our annual *Book of Remembrance*, encribed with the names of those who have gone before us, will be placed near the Easter Candle and baptismal font. We will once again feature a photo display in the church during the month of November, a time when we traditionally pray for and remember the dead. If you have lost a loved one during the past 12 months and want to include them in this display, please bring any size photo (color or black/white) to the church office before October 28. Be sure to include the name of the deceased on the back of the photo and a contact person to whom we can return the photo. Look for the candle reservation form in next week's bulletin.

Family Faith Night



Join us for "Celebrating the Saints" on October 16, from 6:00-8:30pm in O'Brien Hall. Pizza and salad will be provided, please bring a dessert to share. Children are invited to dress as their favorite saint and activities will include a saint parade, "find your saint", games, prizes and, of course, snacks. Please RSVP the Faith Formation Office at 724-941-9587.

Adult Faith Formation, #1

The next "Bible as Theology" session with Fr. Sam is scheduled for Tuesday, October 13, 7:45pm. Those attending should read the 1 & 2 Kings, and look over Isaiah, Jeremiah and Ezra. Bring a bible and a friend.

Adult Faith Formation, #2

The second "Cooking & the Council" meets October 13, 11:00am in O'Brien Hall. Call Jay Specca, ext. 114 to register. Fr. Sam will discuss "The Structure of the Liturgy: bringing yourself to Mass." The menu for the session is *Panis Angelicus* focaccia and *In Vino Veritas* tuna salad. Space is limited.

Halloween Howl

Ben's Men invite you to come enjoy the autumn season at their Halloween Howl on October 24, following the 5:00pm Mass. The evening activities will be both inside (OBH) and outside the PB Activity Center and will include a roaring bonfire, scary stories, hayrides, face painting, marshmallow toasting, mummy wrapping, pumpkin painting, and prizes for the best costumes. Refreshments will be provided. It's free and fun for the entire family! For more information call Kevin Dolinar at 724-942-0388 or Gene Pitowski at 724-941-1833.

Ben's Men Meeting

Ben's Men will meet this month on October 19, at the Teutonia Mannerchor German Restaurant on the North Side. We will travel by motor coach while enjoying libations, snacks and conversation. Upon arrival we will be treated to a tour of this fascinating establishment followed by a buffet dinner including baked chicken, bratwurst, wienerschnitzel, German potato salad, green beans, applesauce, pumpernickel bread, and cherry or apple strudel. The cost is \$25 and space is limited to 47. Call Vic.

WOSB General Meeting

Need to simplify your life? Got too much clutter? The Women of St. Benedict have invited Patty Kreamer to speak at their meeting on October 22, at 9:30am in O'Brien Hall. Patty is President of Kreamer Connect, Inc., a Pittsburgh-based company that works with corporate and individual clients to become more productive and perform better while at the same time simplifying their work and lives. Visit her website at www.byebyeclutter.com to learn more about this dynamic speaker and author. Refreshments will be served by our wonderful hostesses.

Grief/Bereavement Support Group

Grieving the death of someone we love can often seem overwhelming at times, so once again our parish will host a grief/bereavement support group program on Saturdays from 9:30am to 11:00am beginning October 17. This 5-week series is modeled after the Diocese's Emmaus Journey program and is open to anyone who has experienced the loss of a loved one. For more information or to register, please contact our pastoral associate Dennis Gehrlein at 724-941-9406, ext. 109.



Ask Father Sam

What is the Church's view of in vitro fertilization?

Lesson of the Week

What is a "cafeteria Catholic"?

The term "cafeteria Catholic" is usually applied to someone who picks and chooses what doctrines, traditions, or other aspects of the Catholic faith they accept and adhere to as members of the Church. Although some people might believe this is a relatively new concept, it is as ancient as the Church herself.

If we examine the earliest days of Christianity, we can see that disagreements arose on matters of teaching and belief. When we consider that the *Gnostics*, a breakaway sect that held that there were secrets only the initiated could know, the *Arians*, a group that denied the divinity of Jesus as the Christ, and the *Marcionists*, who denied the Old Testament and removed all references to it from their bibles, were all around in the first two to four hundred years of Christianity, the fact that some who began as followers of Jesus went down another path through misconceptions and erroneous beliefs is seen.

The Church that came to be known as Catholic, that is the bishops and leaders and even many educated lay people, continued to proclaim *orthodox* teachings, based on what was handed down from the apostles to their followers.

Now, we have to make a distinction between theological discussion, which is always allowed and has been the way we refine the teachings we hold over the centuries, like the dialogues between the great religious orders, and those who teach what is contrary to the Creed or faith and morals as official Catholic teaching. Those who might be called "Cafeteria Catholics," are not necessarily on the right or left but can be either. Just as the teaching about artificial contraception might not be accepted by some, in the same breath we find others who don't accept that the death penalty is contrary to our faith. Proclaiming to be pro-life means we hold that all human life is holy, and that includes not only working to end abortion, but also capital punishment, discrimination, and poverty.

While, personally, our consciences are to be formed and to guide us, we still must make the efforts to understand the teachings of our faith and where they come from. We can never disregard a teaching simply because we don't like or agree with it.

The Abbey Players

Our new parish theatre troupe for students in grades 7–12 is ready to roll. An initial meeting will be held today, **Sunday, October 11**, 1:00pm in the Pope Benedict Activity Center. Parents and guardians are welcome to attend. A second meeting is set for Sunday, October 18. Sign ups and paperwork will be discussed at both meetings. This troupe will meet bi-weekly on Sundays from 3:30pm to 5:00pm in the St. Benedict Activity Center.

\$50 yearly membership grants the following:

1. Audition for any show put on by the troupe
2. Admission to all club meetings
3. A troupe T-shirt

During the meetings we will:

1. Learn about the theatrical craft
2. Learn games that will enhance an actor's skills.
3. Hold discussions about public speaking, theatre, music, and dance.
4. Provide/Witness demonstrations in regards to theatre. Partake in several field trips (additional fee may apply)

2010 Mass Requests

The 2010 Mass Book will open October 18 to take your intentions. Since we can only accommodate the intentions we can fulfill in the coming year, we must limit the number we accept. We have about 110 unfulfilled intentions in our 2009 Mass book now, and we will schedule those first. With 3 intentions per weekend (one Mass has to be scheduled "for the people of the parish"), and 9 intentions during the week, that gives us about 600 intentions we can accept in one year. Subtract the unfulfilled intentions, and we have about 500 open spaces for your requests. In scheduling, we want to be fair to everyone. So, **only registered parishioners may request intentions, and we will only take 2 Mass intentions per household.** The forms will be included in the bulletin for October 18, and requests will be handled in the order they are received. Because of volume, expect to have your requested dates confirmed as we are able over the following five weeks. In addition to Mass intentions, parishioners may request one candle (the sanctuary candle that burns weekly before the Blessed Sacrament). You may also memorialize the bread and wine used for Mass, and the flowers. The form will include instructions and details. If we have space for Masses after, an announcement will be made in the bulletin.



Middle School Ministry

The annual Faith Rally for Middle School students is set for November 6, beginning at 7:00pm at Bishop Canevin High School, Crafton. The event is designed for young people in grades 6—8 and their parents. Come and join others from across the diocese in this fun and exciting evening of music, laughter, and dancing. The event features Anna Scally, president of Cornerstone Media, Inc., with music our young people listen to everyday promoting Catholic values and healthy relationships. All this for \$10, and parents are free! Registration deadline is October 30. For more information contact Cathy Malencia, 724-941-9587.

Little Bethlehem Christians Returning

The Little Bethlehem Christians, a group that represents 170 Christian families who live in the town of Bethlehem, making their living as olive wood carvers, will return on October 17-18 to display their carved items in O'Brien Hall after all weekend Masses.

Health Ministry at St. Benedict

Many of our older parishioners face a variety of health issues and concerns. Bishop Zubik has asked pastors of the Diocese to look at ways we can be proactive to meet future needs. Mercy Hospital is sponsoring an annual Parish Nurse & Health Ministry Symposium on November 7 from 9 am—3 pm. If you are an active or retired health professional or nurse and would be interest in attending the symposium, please contact our pastoral associate Dennis Gehrlein at 724-941-9406 or the Parish Nurse Office at Mercy at 412-232-5815 for more information. If you are unable to attend the symposium, but are willing to help form a more active ministry at St. Benedict's, please call Dennis.

Calling All Decorators

Advent and Christmas will be here before you know it. Fr. Sam would like to meet with anyone who wants to help in decorating the church for these two seasons. An open meeting will be held on Sunday, October 18, after the 9:30am Mass. Come to the Chapel, and let's hear your ideas and suggestions.

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

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

This Week In Our Parish

Sunday, October 11

*Abbey Coffee House Open after
7:45 & 9:30 Mass*

9:00a	Faith Formation Session	
10:30a	WORD	(YM)
11:00a	Faith Formation Session	

Monday, October 12

8:30a	Special Needs Children	(210)
10:00a	WOSB Yoga	(OBH)
6:30p	Aerobics	(PBAC)
7:00p	Catholic Scripture Study	(208)
7:00p	Protecting God's Children	(204/206)

Tuesday, October 13

8:30a	Special Needs Children	(210)
9:30a	WOSB Shoe Box packing	(PBAC)
9:15a	Catholic Scripture Study	(204/206)
11:00a	Cooking & the Council	(OBH)
6:00p	Faith Formation Session	
7:00p	Contemporary Choir	(Choir)
7:45p	Bible as Theology	(204/206)

Wednesday, October 14

12:00p	AA	(208)
6:00p	Faith Formation Session	
6:30p	Confessions	(Church)
7:45p	Tae Kwon Do	(OBH)
7:45p	St. Vincent de Paul	(206)

Thursday, October 15

9:30a	WOSB Board Meeting	(204)
12:00p	NA	(206)
6:00p	Aerobics	(PBAC)
7:00p	RCIA	(204)
7:30p	Boy Scout Troop 1313	(PBAC)
7:30p	Adult Choir	(Choir)

Friday, October 16

6:00p	Family Saints Night	(OBH)
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Saturday, October 17

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

Sunday, October 18

*Abbey Coffee House Open after
7:45 & 9:30 Mass*

9:00a	Faith Formation Session	
10:30a	WORD	(YM)
11:00a	Faith Formation Session	

Knights of Columbus

Men of the Parish—There will be an open house and informational meeting regarding membership in the Knights of Columbus on October 18 in O'Brien Hall following the 9:30 and 11:30 Masses. Members and officers will be on hand to share information and answer questions.



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

Bowling League

Blaise Hollot
724-942-0748

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

Cub Scouts

Steve Ridge
724-941-9816

Elijah Cup

Carlotta Zuback
724-941-5758

Engaged Couples' Program

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

IHN

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