



Father Sam's Forum

I made a mistake in last week's Forum when I said "three" doctrinal feasts. Actually, we have two, and today's is the second, as we honor the Body and Blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. Like the Trinity is about relationship and intimacy, today's feast calls us to consider table fellowship in that context.

Sharing a meal with someone can be a great way to forge a stronger relationship with that person. If you have ever been to a dinner where you were seated with people you didn't know well or at all, by the end of the time together, if everyone was open, you had shared stories and feelings. There was a bond forged...not perhaps a strong one like we do with our families as we share meals with them again and again over time...but still a bond.

To celebrate the presence of Jesus in the Eucharist and our identity as the Body of Christ, we need to realize those bonds. We all have a bond with the people who are at Mass with us, our parish family. So perhaps it's time to speak once again about liturgical courtesy. I receive many complaints from all of you about this subject. Whether it's how people dress to come to Mass, the lack of proper respect in worship, or the rush to leave before the end of Mass, it doesn't ever stop from being what people tell me to "do something about."

Remember three years ago when I arrived here, I said that liturgy was my first priority. As pastor, I understand that this is where we gather the most people every week, and so it is the place where we can listen, pray and be formed as disciples. You'll note the *Question of the Week* next weekend will talk about respect during the Liturgy of the Word (the question is there this week). So here's a gentle reminder of how we should be respectful to one another at Mass.

If you arrive early, why not move in toward the center of the pew so latecomers may be seated without having to crawl over you. We have lots of pew huggers here who claim the end seats. Why? If it's because you have some physical disability, that is understandable; but if it's to be the first out, then you need to stop and think about what that says to others. Leaving the outer seats open for others is an act of hospitality. It's welcoming.

Leaving early is another real sign of disrespect for others. Let alone someone could be trampled, well, maybe not trampled, but some accident could

Mass Intentions: June 6—June 13

Sunday, June 6—The Body & Blood of Christ

- 7:45a **Denise Blehar** (M/M William Blehar)
 9:30a **For the People of the Parish**
 11:30a **Mary & Jack Mitchell**
 (Julie & Tom Dubaniewicz Family)

Monday, June 7—Weekday

- 8:30a **Jack McCloskey** (Lois McCloskey)

Tuesday, June 8—Weekday

- 6:30a **Gene Farney** (Elaine Farney)
 8:30a **Jack Manion** (St. Vincent de Paul)

Wednesday, June 9—Weekday

- 6:30a **Helen Orcutt** (Jay & Colette Specca)
 8:30a **In Memory of our Parents & Family Members** (M/M Michael Gima)
 11:00a **McMurray Hills: Priscilla Bayer**
 (Tom & Marguerite Bubenheim)

Thursday, June 10—Weekday

- 6:30a **James Gallagher** (The Faber Family)
 8:30a **Alice McArdle** (Joanne Dolinar)

Friday, June 11—Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

- 8:30a **Priscilla Bayer** (John & Rita Milavec)

Saturday, June 12—Immaculate Heart of BVM

- 8:30a **Joseph & Ann Smith**
 (M/M Joseph W. Smith)
 5:00p **Antonio Matarazzo, Angela Sirianni & all deceased family members** (Rullo Family)

Sunday, June 13—11th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 7:45a **Jack Reed** (Catherine Kenneweg & Sisters)
 9:30a **M/M J. L. Mayer** (daughter, Patricia Stanfill)
 11:30a **For the People of the Parish**

The Sanctuary Candle burns this week in memory of Priscilla Bayer, requested by the Dan Bayer Family; and the Bread & Wine and Altar Flowers are in memory of the parents of John & Ann Kruppa.

happen if everyone is dashing out at the same time. We all have reasons why we have to leave before Mass is over, but getting a seat at Bob Evans shouldn't be one of them. Neither should the exit time from the lot. Go have some coffee; take the time to talk with people to build community; stay in church and pray. Lots of options here.

Finally, dress, gum, and candy. I've seen a few women whose attire leaves nothing to the imagination. Nothing. God might not care what we wear to Mass, but this is about courtesy toward one another. Chewing gum or munching on candy is just wrong. Some look like cows with their cud in their mouths. We don't want to take the Lord in communion when we have not been prepared. That's disrespectful to our belief that Jesus is truly present in the sacrament.



Pastoral Staff

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

Pastoral Life & Worship

Gregory Fincham, Director of Music Ministries— 108
Dennis Gehrlein, Pastoral Associate— 109
Cathy Malencia, Middle School Minister— 110
Janet Roberto, Young Adult Minister— 112
Lisa Ruggieri, Formation Office Coordinator—107
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, Safe Environment Coordinator—107
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 Preschool

Beverly Jurcic, Director— 724-731-0222

Readings for the Week of June 6

Sunday: Gn 14:18-20/1 Cor 11:23-26/Lk 9:11b-17
Monday: 1 Kgs 17:1-6/Mt 5:1-12
Tuesday: 1 Kgs 17:7-16/Mt 5:13-16
Wednesday: 1 Kgs 18:20-39/Mt 5:17-19
Thursday: 1 Kgs 18:41-46/Mt 5:20-26
Friday: Ez 34:11-16/Lk 15:3-7
Saturday: 1 Kgs 19:19-21/Lk 2:41-51
Next Sunday: 2 Sm 12:7-10,13/Gal 2:16,19-21/Lk 7:36-8:3

Rest In Peace

Please remember in your prayers this week **James K. Martin** and **Peggy E. Wolff**, mother of Pam Slomiany, who died recently. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.

Protecting God's Children

A training session for the diocesan required workshop, "Protecting God's Children," has been scheduled for June 10 from 7:00pm until 10:00pm in Rooms 204/206. Please call Colette in Faith Formation at 724-941-9587, Ext. 113 to register.

Serving the Parish Next Weekend June 12—June 13

Sat. 5:00pm— Fr. Ruffalo

Lectors: M & H Buzzatto **Greeters:** Schardt, Mitchell
EMHC: Norton, Mertens, Greenwald, Sarra, Specca, Milavec, D & T Martin, Pfeifer **Servers:** Byrne, Wiegmann, Curry, Waigand, Rauscher

7:45am— Fr. Ruffalo

Lectors: Wanninger, Di Cello **Greeters:** Henger, Barker
EMHC: Puskarich, Walnoha, Berger, Basile, Petricca, Gavran, Wanninger **Servers:** J, M, A, & B Lyle

9:30am— Fr. Esposito

Lectors: McKenzie, Wells **Greeters:** Verlato, Becker **EMHC:** Orient, Klinar, Schultz, McGovern, Torres, Bayer, Serrino, A & L Kelly **Servers:** D, C & L Schratz; A & D Wells

11:30am— Fr. Esposito, Deacon Layton

Lectors: Hruby, Ray **Greeters:** Bartoli, Fisher **EMHC:** Capozza, B Smith, Slomiany, Boyd, Herald, Baits, P Newmaster, Fisher, Eckels **Servers:** Hillen, A & E Ross

Stephen Ministers Class Forming

A Stephen Minister is a "Christian friend with a caring heart, and through training who will walk alongside a person with difficulties providing emotional and spiritual support." An informational meeting will be held at 7:30pm on June 10 in Room 210. Training sessions will begin in September. For details, please call Jay Jarrell at 724-941-5026.

Safe Environment

If you volunteer in any capacity at St. Benedict Parish you must be in compliance with the diocesan *Safe Environment* policy. If you have any questions regarding the policy or if you would like to know if you are in compliance, please contact Shirley Jacobs 724-941-4999, or shirleyjacobs300@yahoo.com.

Office Spring Cleaning

Old records, forms, and files that have accumulated over the past 30+ years need to go. It's time to *Spring Clean* the Parish Office! In order to clean our parish office, **we will be closed** on June 9. We must clean out the files and reorganize records. No parish business will be conducted on those days, except for emergencies. Fr. Sam is declaring these days in the coming weeks for sorting his files as well: June 9 and 17. No appointments then.

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

Check out this great Catholic site:
www.wordonfire.org



Faith Formation News

Vacation Bible School “High Seas Expedition”

Registration for programs for all age groups:

On-line at stbenedicttheabbot.org, follow the instructions on the home page, or in the Faith Formation Office—**today after all masses**—*FORMS WILL NOT BE MAILED*

“High Seas Expedition” Exploring the Mighty Love of God

During the week of July 12-16 from 8:45am until 12:00 Noon, children entering grades K-6 in the fall will set sail for a voyage on the high seas of God’s love. This fun-filled journey is filled with exciting games, activities, music, snacks, and, of course, Bible stories. When you register, don’t forget to circle a volunteer area—we need many hands on deck to set this ship on course! Contact Colette or Cathy in the Faith Formation Office for more details.

5th & 6th Grade Students Set Sail for a Wild Ride!

Fifth and sixth grade shipmates are invited to join us for the voyage of a lifetime. Our “High Seas Expedition” Bible School sets sail July 12-16 and is designed especially for the “tweeners.” We’ll have the kids exploring God’s mighty love through games and service activities, faith-filled songs and bible stories. Contact Colette or Cathy in the Faith Formation Office for more details.

All Hands on Deck! High School Counselors Needed

High School students interested in serving as a Vacation Bible School counselor for our fifth and sixth grade program should contact the Formation Office for a Registration Form. VBS runs from July 12-16 with the counselor prep day on July 9th. If you like to work with kids, get dirty and wet, and spend some time outdoors, this is the service opportunity for you! Details are available on-line, or you can call Cathy Malencia in the Faith Formation Office at 724-941-9406, Ext. 110 or email cathym@stbenedicttheabbot.org.

Calling All Artists Grades 6-12

The Faith Formation Office 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. . . you do not have to sign up as a VBS counselor to participate. We will be painting on June 17, 18, 21, and 23. To volunteer call Cathy Malencia in the Faith Formation Office at 724-941-9406, Ext. 110 or email cathym@stbenedicttheabbot.org.

We Need Your Help!!

Please save your used paper towel and drinking water bottles for our Vacation Bible School crafts. They can be dropped off at the Faith Formation Office or placed in the containers in O’Brien Hall after all Masses. Thanks for your help!

Blood Drive

Give the gift of life—a gift that has no artificial substitute! Central Blood Bank will be in O’Brien Hall today for our bi-annual blood drive from 8:00am until 1:00pm. This year donors will receive free Pirate tickets. This is a great opportunity for first time donors to get into a life saving habit. Be sure to bring photo ID; you must be 17 years old to donate or be 16 with a signed parental consent. Drop-ins are welcome.

Abbey Community Ministry

We had a great response from many of you who signed up on Pentecost Sunday to help with our program. This is a reminder that we are still recruiting volunteers and would like to have you join our team. You can sign-up as a volunteer online under Abbey Community Ministry on the Parish web site, stop at the Parish Office and complete a sign-up volunteer form, or call the voicemail box at 724-941-9406, Ext. 129. Please leave your name and phone number and someone from the Welcoming Committee will be back in touch with you. We only need a few hours per month of your time. The first volunteer group meeting is on June 15, at 7:00pm in O’Brien Hall. We have much more to tell you about Abbey Community Ministry and show you how you can make a difference in the lives of the parishioners at St. Benedict’s. Hope to see you there!



Ask Father Sam

If hearing God's Word is so important, why do the ushers seat people during the readings?

Lesson of the Week

Why do I have to go through the Safe Environment program? Does this mean people think I am a child abuser?

Someone actually asked this question! It makes me wonder whether people have been paying attention. The US Bishops met in Dallas in 2002 to draft the charter for the *Protection of Children and Young People*. At this time they put into force that churches, schools and youth organizations must ensure that children and youth who worship, study, or participate in activities sponsored by a parish can do so in the safest and most secure setting possible. Parents and caretakers have the right to ask these institutions if they meet the requirements of the *Charter* before they allow their children to become involved with them.



An effective safe environment program will have the following components: 1) A code of conduct for clergy and for any other paid personnel and volunteers in positions of trust who have regular contact with children and young people. *In our diocese, the bishop insists that all liturgical ministers and other parish volunteers get their clearances.* 2) Training for all adults who work with children that consists of: Signs an adult may see in a child who is abused; Signs an adult may see in a person who abuses children; What actions an adult should take when they believe child abuse of any kind may be occurring; The laws and policies regarding the reporting of child abuse. 3) A training program for children that includes age appropriate materials pertaining to personal safety that conforms to Catholic teachings.

To be in compliance you must complete these: 1) PA State Police Criminal Record Check; 2) PA Child Abuse History Clearance; 3) Safe Environment Class (Protecting God's Children); 4) Read and sign the *Code of Pastoral Conduct*; 5) Complete the online database registration. To learn more, contact the Faith Formation Office. You may also contact Shirley Jacobs 724-941-4999, or shirleyjacobs300@yahoo.com.

Youth Ministry News

Youth Group Pirate Game

Join us June 17 as we head off to watch the Pirates take on the Chicago White Sox. For only \$20 you get your ticket, a hat, and a t-shirt. We'll be leaving St. Ben's at 5:30pm and returning around 11:00pm. Tickets are limited, so call Youth Ministry at 724-941-9587 to reserve your spot today.

YM Mulch Sale

Our teens are once again 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 the Parish Office.

Online Giving: think about it— Do you have questions?



So many people do their banking, bill paying and most everything else online today. More and more parishioners are opting to use the online giving services provided by our envelope company, *Our Sunday Visitor*. This is a secure site where you simply register and provide the information so your checking account can be debited on a regular basis according to how you set up the withdrawals. The greatest thing about this is the convenience to know that forgetting your envelope will be a thing of the past. Even when you are away—for a weekend or a month—your parish relies on your financial support, and it happens automatically with online giving. Some people feel they have to place something in the basket because people are looking, but it is really between you and God. You know how you are giving. Check it out by going to our web site and clicking on the link there. For those who sign up for this service, we will not send any more envelopes through the mail—all special collections and second collections can be donated to online now. We even have the fee for VBS registration available now online!

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



Italian Trip Gathering

Everyone who went on our parish pilgrimage last October is invited to gather on Friday, June 11, 7:00pm, for a reunion. Barb Giglotti will host at her home, 341 Snowberry Circle, Venetia. If you need directions, call her at 724-941-2908.



WOSB Shoe Boxes

The Women of St. Benedict will be collecting soap, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, razors, etc. to send to families in Appalachia this Christmas. As you travel this summer, please save the hotel samples for us. Your cooperation over the years is greatly appreciated. Last year we packed 500 shoe boxes and hope to pack more this year. We also need women's size shoe boxes. Please place your items in the collection box in O'Brien Hall. If you have any questions, call Jackie Buck at 724-941-6955.

Parish Picnic Date!

Mark your calendar now for the St. Benedict the Abbot Parish Picnic on August 21. Watch future bulletins for more information.

Car Wash

Abbey Players will be hosting a Car Wash and Bake Sale on June 12 from 4:30pm to 7:30pm, and on June 13 from 10:00am to 2:00pm. Please stop by before or after masses and get your car washed to help raise money for the upcoming production of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat." Donations will also be accepted.

"Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat"

St. Benedict's theatre troupe, Abbey Players, will be performing "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" on June 18 and 19 at 8:00pm in Pope Benedict Activity Center. The show is under the direction of Nicole Marie Gasse and Lorra Brannen and will feature many talented students from our parish and the surrounding communities, as well as Fr. Sam and Fr. Michael. Please call Nicole Gasse at 724-747-0617, or email at nmgasse@gmail.com, for more information or to book your tickets.

This Week In Our Parish

Sunday, June 6

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

8:00a Blood Drive (OBH)

Monday, June 7

8:30a Special Needs Children (210)
10:00a WOSB Yoga (OBH)
5:00p Rehearsal for "Joseph" (PBAC)
6:30p Aerobics (OBH)
7:00p Centering Prayer (204)

Tuesday, June 8

8:30a Special Needs Children (210)
5:00p Rehearsal for "Joseph" (AH)
7:30p Pastoral Council (210)

Wednesday, June 9

Parish Office Closed

12:00p AA (208)
5:00p Rehearsal for "Joseph" (PBAC)
6:30p Confessions (Church)
7:00p Welcoming Committee Mtg. (204/206)
7:45p Tae Kwon Do (OBH)
7:45p St. Vincent de Paul (210)

Thursday, June 10

12:00p NA (206)
4:00p Rehearsal for "Joseph" (AH)
7:00p Protecting God's Children (204/206)
7:30p Boy Scout Troop 1313 (PBAC)
7:30p Stephen Ministry Meeting (210)

Saturday, June 12

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

Sunday, June 13

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

Parish Directories

Have you picked up your Parish Directory yet? We still have a number of unclaimed directories. If you had your picture taken, please stop in the Parish Office, Monday through Friday or Sunday morning, and pick up your free copy. Extra copies are available on a first come, first-served basis for \$10 each to anyone who did not have a picture taken but would like to have a directory.



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

Mike Silvestri
724-941-5238

Wedding Coordinators

Lois McCloskey
724-941-6879

Women of St. Benedict

Nancy Huffner
724-941-6805

Youth Council

Sheila Arcuri
724-942-6431