



## Father Sam's Forum

**D**iscipleship means sharing. In his third pastoral letter, *The Church Sharing!* Bishop David Zubik called all Catholics in our six county diocese to look seriously at how we live out the call to discipleship. One of the five essential elements of parish life the bishop identified was stewardship, which according to the new guidelines for Parish Pastoral Councils, *One Body, One Mission*, means *the element which encompasses prayer of thanksgiving for the many gifts of God and the sharing of those gifts through acts of service.*

The readings today help us to focus on what it means to be a disciple. From Elijah's handing on the mantle of his role as a prophet to Elisha, to Jesus' call in the Gospel, "Follow me," there is a definite emphasis on sharing our gifts. When did Jesus call you? Because we believe that at our Baptism we are called to discipleship, it is the faith journey of our entire lives that makes the response to the invitation of Jesus.



While we are all busy people, the excuses given in the Gospel for not following don't measure up when we consider the gift of salvation given us in the first place by Christ. As I have said over and again,

salvation is free, discipleship costs. What that means is that while we cannot do anything to earn God's love, we can respond to that love by loving in return.

We have a number of opportunities to respond in service to others. Even our kids can do that, and, in fact, should be taught to do that from an early age. Our pre-school children put that into practice all through the last year by reaching out to care for others through their efforts to collect coins they received when they did special things at home. Our children in formation had projects that allowed them to focus on others too. So did our Youth Council. All of us as members of the Body of Christ are called to service. It is a way to follow the Lord. Here's the question for your reflection this week. *How do you follow Jesus?*

## Mass Intentions: June 27—July 4

### Sunday, June 27—13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:45a **For the People of the Parish**  
 9:30a **Stan Karnash** (Annette Karnash, Wife)  
 11:30a **M/M Joseph Koklich, Jr.**  
 (Mark & Paula Koerber)

### Monday, June 28—St. Irenaeus

8:30a **Rocco DiBiasi** (The Siconolfi Family)

### Tuesday, June 29—Saints Peter & Paul

6:30a **30th Wedding Anniversary**  
**Tim & Bic Farley**  
 8:30a **Dale Linder** (Therese Linder)

### Wednesday, June 30—Weekday

6:30a **Joseph Valeri** (Teri & Carl Valeri)  
 8:30a **Cletus & Clara Wine** (Marks Family)

### Thursday, July 1—Weekday

6:30a **Lucille Oberle** (Barbara Watt)  
 8:30a **Jack Manion** (Walt Redling)

### Friday, July 2—Weekday

8:30a **Deceased Members of Mikos & Rodal Families** (Dennis & Maryann Rodal)  
 1:45p **Manor Care: Victoria Hucko**  
 (John & Beth Huton)

### Saturday, July 3—St. Thomas

8:30a **Jack Reed** (M/M Merle Cagnon)  
 5:00p **Ralph Antone** (Fran Uhrine)

### Sunday, July 4—14 Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:45a **Joseph Labriola** (Wife, Bert)  
 9:30a **For the People of the Parish**  
 11:30a **Patricia Latinovich** (Barbara Henney)

*The Sanctuary Candle burns this week  
 in memory of Earl Williams, requested by  
 John & Rita Milavec.*

*The second collection this week will be the  
 annual Diocesan Peter's Pence collection.*

## Pastoral Council News

Four new members of our Parish Pastoral Council will be installed on Sunday, July 11, at the 11:30 Mass. It is the parish feast day, so an appropriate time for this ceremony. Each member will receive a copy of the newly published guidelines for pastoral councils in our diocese, *One Body, One Mission*. The councils came to the decision to bring on new members by staggering the terms so that we would always have older members with newer ones. Current members of the council are: Aimee Schmidt, facilitator; Jane Sarra, recorder; Dale Buttgerit, Ed Corbett, Ed Guna, Gil McGurl, Erik Mertens, Angelo Pampena, and Becky Pfeifer. New members joining the council are Dave Bowlin, Mark Kimes, Chris Norton, and Ellie Puskarich.



## 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  
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 27

Sunday: 1 Kgs 19:16b,19-21/Gal 5:1,13-18/Lk 9:51-62  
Monday: Am 2:6-10,13-16/Mt 8:18-22  
Tuesday: Acts 12:1-11/2 Tm 4:6-8,17-18/Mt 16:13-19  
Wednesday: Am 5:14-15,21-24/Mt 8:28-34  
Thursday: Am 7:10-17/Mt 9:1-8  
Friday: Am 8:4-6,9-12/Mt 9:9-13  
Saturday: Eph 2:19-22/Jn 20:24-29  
Next Sunday: Is 66:10-14c/Gal 6:14-18/Lk 10:1-12,17-20

## Eucharistic Adoration

This is our monthly 24-hour adoration which begins Thursday at 4:00pm and concludes Friday at 4:00pm in the Chapel. All are welcome to come and spend some time in prayer before the presence of the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.

## Serving the Parish Next Weekend July 3—July 4

**Sat. 5:00pm**— Fr. Esposito, Deacon Peck  
**Lectors:** Dembiczak, Pustay **Greeters:** Mitchell, Patnesky  
**EMHC:** Mertens, Norton, LaCamera, Vandewater, Femiani, Baumgartner, Klinar, Greenwald, Specca **Servers:** Dembiczak, M & C Reisz, Curry, Hillen

**7:45am**— Fr. Esposito, Deacon Peck  
**Lectors:** Rossin, Gohring **Greeters:** R & J Jackson **EMHC:** J & S Brooks, Basile, Petricca, Gavran, Fagioletti, Faina  
**Servers:** Brooks, Peterson, Bowlin

**9:30am**— Fr. Ruffalo, Deacon Layton  
**Lectors:** Smore, Ross **Greeters:** Verlato, Becker **EMHC:** Spinabelli, Weaver, Layton, Schultz, Orient, Capozza, Stein, Bayer, Torres **Servers:** Spinabelli, Kelly, S Weaver, Hilzendeger

**11:30am**— Fr. Ruffalo  
**Lectors:** Balash, Zuk **Greeters:** Fisher, Ragan **EMHC:** L & K Newmaster, Bench, Fisher, Eckels, Huffner, Hayward, Slomiany, Baits **Servers:** K & C Bench, Taylor

## Abbey Community Ministry Update

At our informational meeting on June 15 we received a lot of great ideas and volunteer names who agreed to help us facilitate and coordinate the activities with their teams. We are planning to begin with four teams which include the Parish's demographic areas. Over the next month a more definitive program service model will be discussed. The enthusiasm and interest has been great and we have had very positive comments from many of our parishioners. You still have time to get involved and share your time and talents. Please sign up in the Parish Office, online, or complete a registration form in the Narthex of the Church on the Welcoming table. Watch the Bulletin for further updates. We look forward to having you join us!

## Rest In Peace

Please remember in your prayers this week former parishioners **Jean Conwell** and **Henry Jalowka**, who died recently. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.

## Attention Altar Servers: Old & New

Join Deacon Michael Peck for a summer experience to brush up on your ministry! We are looking for our veteran servers as well as anyone who wants to accept this important ministry in service to our parish. To be eligible, you must be entering the 4th grade or above. Our *Summer Boot Camp* will be held on these days: Tuesday, July 6, Wednesday, July 7, and Thursday, July 8. Training begins at 11:30 in the church and lasts until 2:30, and includes lunch in O'Brien Hall at 12:30. To register for the camp, call the office. Veteran servers can attend any one of the days, new servers should plan to attend the three training days.



## VBS News

**VBS Registration is available online at [stbenedicttheabbot.org](http://stbenedicttheabbot.org); follow the instructions on the home page. **FORMS WILL NOT BE MAILED.****

### **“High Seas Expedition”** *Exploring the Mighty Love of God*

Plan to join us for a fun, faith filled week July 12-16 from 8:45am until 12:15pm. Campers will enjoy games, activities, music, snacks, and Bible stories. Be sure to register as soon as possible; we are filling up fast! Contact Colette or Cathy in Faith Formation for more details.

### **5th & 6th Grade Students**

The program for fifth and sixth grade VBS is full.

### **Calling all Volunteers!**

The Faith Formation Office needs your help with VBS prep work and set up. Many hands are needed on June 28 & 29, and July 6, 7, and 8. To volunteer call Cathy Malencia at 724-941-9406, ext. 110 or at [cathym@stbenedicttheabbot.org](mailto:cathym@stbenedicttheabbot.org).

### **We Need Your Help!!**

Please save your used cardboard paper towel tubes 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. **We have enough water bottles—Thanks for your help!**

## **Attention** **2010 Confirmation Parents**

A make-up meeting for parents who missed the two previous Confirmation informational meetings will be held on Sunday, July 18, following the 9:30 Mass. Join us in the PBAC at 10:45am. Learn about our September 12 event which includes recognition of the candidates at Mass and brunch. If you have any questions contact Colette in Faith Formation.

**Check out this great Catholic site:**  
[www.wordonfire.org](http://www.wordonfire.org)

## **More About...** **Whole Community Catechesis**

*Why can't we continue calling it CCD or religious ed or religion class? Aren't our children supposed to learn about their faith?*

The Second Vatican Council opened a new chapter in the life of the Church, asking us to rediscover what it means to be baptized, to be known as disciples or followers of Jesus Christ.

It would help tremendously to stop referring to people in our catechetical process as students. In our culture, the word “student” suggests academic learning, even if the meaning of the word could be broader. It suggests a school year period of study, ending in graduation. That ending is a key problem. Nearly every adult in the Church today believes that he or she has completed their religious education. They are no longer students. They are adults now.

However, learning to follow the way of Christ never ends, as the bishops tell us in their documents. There is no graduation from catechesis; it's a lifelong journey of faith, a lifelong process.

So instead, why not give those engaged in faith formation another name? Maybe we can just call them “learners” since all of us are learning how to follow Jesus our whole lives. Parents learn how to follow Jesus through the sacrifices they make for their children. Older folks learn through reflecting on the lessons of their lives and giving up control as they age; younger people learn by seeking the wisdom of their elders; married people learn by joining their lives to their spouses; children learn by looking to the examples we give them as caring and serving adults.

## **Health Ministry Update**

Members of our Health Ministry support team continue to meet and offer ideas on how we can get a viable program going for our parish. We will be sponsoring a health resources fair on Thursday, September 30 beginning with a talk by Fr. Scott Seethaler, OFM, CAP. If you are a health care professional or service provider and are interested in helping us, please contact Dennis Gehrlein, pastoral associate, at x109 for more information.

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



## Ask Father Sam

*Can you explain the excommunication of the nun who worked at the hospital in Arizona?*

### Lesson of the Week

*What's this about an alternative model for Sunday faith formation for kids?*

When we consider that our census shows that our largest age group is the one from 5—13, we can appreciate the mighty endeavor it is to offer faith formation to those children. From my earliest days as a priest, I have always believed that any efforts to share faith need to be rooted in the liturgy, because it is there, around the altar, listening to the Word of God and strengthened for life by the Eucharist, that we are most who we are.

The challenge for us with such a large program here is always getting enough volunteers to assist in this awesome task, and to shape a format that will both allow parents to own up to their responsibility and covenant as the first teachers of their children in the ways of faith, and to give them the support and help they need in doing that. We know, and this is just the sad fact, that about 2/3 of our children do not regularly come to Mass. That means that neither do their parents. How can they be shaped by the liturgy if it remains something foreign to their experience?

As an alternative to the classroom format we have used in our parish for so many years, we are also looking to incorporate a pilot format whereby the children would begin their session in the classroom but end it at the liturgy. With a combination of doctrine (teaching), focus on the Word in language suitable for their age level, and then celebration in the context of the larger community, this new format will strive to introduce the children to a deeper appreciation for the bible as God's Word that is formative for their lives.

As mentioned in the bulletins over the past few weekends, as we move to something known as *Whole Community Catechesis*, our aim is to make sharing the faith the focus of everything we do. We want to help families and "households of faith" no matter the ages, with children and without, to be more in tune with hearing and cherishing the Word of God. Personally, I think this is an exciting chance for us to rediscover the ancient roots of our Catholic faith in a way that was obscured over time. Stay tuned for more about this throughout the summer.

## Youth Ministry News

### Catholic Youth Day at Kennywood

Come along July 6 to Kennywood as we meet up with hundreds of teens from throughout the Diocese. The day starts with Mass, and then we are off to ride the coasters and eat our way through the park. We will be leaving St. Ben's at 10:00am and returning around 11:00pm. Tickets are \$21.50 and reservations must be made by July 2 by calling the Young Adult Office.

### Camp Fire Thursdays

If you couldn't join us this past Thursday for ultimate frisbee, come on any Campfire Thursday. Come and hang out at the church for games, fun, and a good old bonfire. Each night we will be doing something different such as ultimate Frisbee, water games, open jam session, and more. The nights will go from 7:00pm to 10:00pm. This is open to all incoming freshmen and older. Bring your friends. The dates for campfires are July 1 & 8, and August 5, 12 & 24.

### Day of Service

All teens are welcome to come to the Church July 8 from noon until 4:00pm for service hours. We will be doing some cleaning, painting, and yard work. Just show up at the Young Adult Office.

### Car Wash

The Youth Group will be hosting a car wash during the morning Masses today and July 18. You may even drop off your car and have it cleaned while you are at Mass. We are accepting free will donations and all monies raised will help support youth group events and the mission trip.

### 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.

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



## Summer Census

In order to plan for current and future needs of the parish, it's time to update our census data. Beginning today, our new census sheet is available on our web site. We are asking *everyone* to take a moment and complete one. You may have had some changes in things such as who lives at home, cell phone numbers, e-mail addresses, or maybe you even moved. We will hold three "Census Sundays" on July 4, 11, and 18. New forms will be available in the narthex for you to complete/update and return.

## Centering Prayer Update

For the month of June, our Centering Prayer group at the parish will gather Monday evenings in the Chapel from 7:00pm to 8:00pm. New members are always welcome to see what this quiet prayer experience is all about. Contact our pastoral associate Dennis at 724-941-9406, Ext. 109 with questions.

## H.O.P.E.

### Helping Others Pursue Employment

Due to our current economic times, we are exploring the possibility of establishing a ministry to provide practical and spiritual support to our fellow parishioners who are either unemployed or underemployed. The ministry is in need of career services and volunteer leaders who will give a few hours of time each week to the program. If you have experience in human resources, recruitment, career counseling, networking, resume writing, interviewing, or are an employer who would like to volunteer your business experience, please contact George Armes at 724-348-8770 or email [georgearmes@comcast.net](mailto:georgearmes@comcast.net) to learn more about helping those who have been affected by these economic times. You can also contact him through St. Benedict's web site at [www.stbenedicttheabbot.org](http://www.stbenedicttheabbot.org). A meeting for those interested in offering their gifts and talents will be held on Tuesday June 29, at 7:00pm in Room 210.

## WOSB Shoe Boxes

The Women of St. Benedict are collecting soap, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, razors, etc. to send to families in Appalachia this Christmas. As you travel this summer please save hotel samples for us. 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.

## This Week In Our Parish

### Sunday, June 27

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

### Monday, June 28

6:30p	Aerobics	(PBAC)
7:00p	Centering Prayer	(Chapel)

### Tuesday, June 29

7:00p	HOPE Ministry Initial Meeting	(210)
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### Wednesday, June 30

9:00p	Spirit Day	
	Confirmation Candidates	(Off-Site)
12:00p	AA	(208)
6:30p	Confessions	(Church)
7:45p	Tae Kwon Do	(OBH)

### Thursday, July 1

12:00p	NA	(206)
4:00p	Eucharistic Adoration Begins	(Chapel)
6:00p	Aerobics	(PBAC)
7:00p	Parents' Baptism Meeting	(206)
7:30p	Boy Scout Troop 1313	(OBH)

### Friday, July 2

4:00p	Closing of Adoration	(Chapel)
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### Saturday, July 3

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

### Sunday, July 4

**Parish Office Closed**

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

## Retrouvaille

Are you married to a stranger? Do you feel alone? Do you argue—or have you just stopped talking to each other? This program has helped countless couples who may be experiencing marital difficulty at all levels, including disillusionment and deep misery. For confidential information about or to register for the program beginning with a weekend on July 9, please contact Retrouvaille at 412-277-3434 or [3041@retrouvaille.org](mailto:3041@retrouvaille.org). More information is available at [www.helpourmarriage.com](http://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

### **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 Servers**

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