



## Father Sam's Forum

Prayer is always important for the Christian. When you read this, I will be at the beach, praying as the waves crash against the shore. My annual days away during the summer are always a special time for me to reconnect with friends from seminary days. As we listen to the events of the past year that have unfolded in one another's lives, we laugh and we commiserate.

Can you pray when you gather with family and friends? Is it formal or informal? Is there a deep sharing? Do you remember the stories that bind you more intimately? God is present in these moments, even though we may not always recognize that presence.

Prayer takes many forms. The most familiar Christian prayer, "Our Father," has a place of honor as it centers the Gospel today. We learn prayers as children and while these can be formative—I remember Sister Josephine from the second grade who told us to pray one "Hail Mary" every night at bedtime to remember the souls in Purgatory—praying is more than just reciting words. Matthew's Gospel gives us note of that...not to recite long prayers like the pagans who go on and on.

When our new and veteran altar servers met a few weeks ago, they came for lunch each day and of course we prayed before we ate. The veterans came first one of the days, leaving the rookies in church. So I took a chance and asked them to lead the grace before the meal. One of the boys asked if it had to be formula prayer or not. "Nope," I said. So off he went, remarkably well in his words. It was thoughtful, and the other kids perked up and listened as one of their own prayed. What a witness for them!

We all find ourselves drawn to different prayer forms. Some people like the silence of Eucharistic Adoration; some the repetition of the Rosary; still others the meditation from Scripture; and some the ability to consider nature as they pray. All these are valid forms of prayer. We can't expect everyone to like the same kinds of prayer because we are all different...and that's good.

We've been working at something called *lectio divina*, an ancient way of praying where we listen not for the meaning of a text from the bible, but how that text speaks to us right now, where we find ourselves in our lives. **What form of prayer speaks to you?** Never stop praying.

## Mass Intentions: July 25—Aug. 1

### Sunday, July 25—17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:45a **For the People of the Parish**  
 9:30a **Peggy E. Wolff** (Anne, Peggy & Liz)  
 11:30a **John & Mary Richert**  
 (Randy & Beverly Richert)

### Monday, July 26—St. Joachim & St. Anne

8:30a **Edythe Massack** (Joseph Massack, Husband)

### Tuesday, July 27—Weekday

6:30a **Marge Adams** (Sadler Family)  
 8:30a **Alfonso Brunatti** (Foutz/Barrett Family)

### Wednesday, July 28—Weekday

6:30a **Patrick F. Flaherty** (Jean Cason)  
 8:30a **Frank Kiefer** (Wife, JoAnn)

### Thursday, July 29—St. Martha

6:30a **Susan Broman** (Frank & Tina Casilli)  
 8:30a **Anna & Andrew Turchick**  
 (M/M Ted Turchick)

### Friday, July 30—Weekday

8:30a **William Lauth** (Maura Lauth)

### Saturday, July 31—St. Ignatius of Loyola

8:30a **Carol Seaman** (Neil & Daughters)  
 5:00p **Special Intention** (Bob & Irene Gordon)

### Sunday, Aug. 1—18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:45a **Peggy Wolff**  
 (Scott & Yvonne Spencer & Family)  
 9:30a **For the People of the Parish**  
 11:30a **David Wenslovas** (Wenslovas Family)

***The Sanctuary Candle burns this week in memory of Deceased Family Members, requested by M/M Michael Gima; the Bread & Wine is in memory of the Kluglein & Schwerman Families, requested by Carolyn Kluglein; and the Altar Flowers are in memory of Frank Kiefer, requested by Wife, JoAnn.***

## Summer Census Don't Forget to Complete Your Form

We continue the updating of our census data. 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. The forms are also available in church for you to complete/update and return in person, via mail, or in the collection.

**Check out these great Catholic sites:  
[www.wordonfire.org](http://www.wordonfire.org) & [www.Other6.com](http://www.Other6.com)  
 a place to blog about your daily lived-out  
 experience of faith.**



## 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 July 25

Sunday: Gn 18:20-32/Col 2:12-14/Lk 11:1-13  
 Monday: Jer 13:1-11/Mt 13:31-35  
 Tuesday: Jer 14:17-22/Mt 13:36-43  
 Wednesday: Jer 15:10,16-21/Mt 13:44-46  
 Thursday: Jer 18:1-6/Jn 11:19-27  
 Friday: Jer 26:1-9/Mt 13:54-58  
 Saturday: Jer 26:11-16,24/Mt 14:1-12  
 Next Sunday: Eccl 1:2;2:21-23/Col 3:1-5,9-11/Lk 12:13-21

***Rev. Ron Mrozinski will be visiting our parish next weekend to speak at all Masses on behalf of Cross International Catholic Outreach which was founded to create a meaningful link between parishes in America and the priests and nuns working in the Church overseas in the Caribbean, Central America, Philippines, and Africa.***

## Serving the Parish Next Weekend July 31—August 1

**Sat. 5:00pm**— Fr. Mrozinski

**Lectors:** Ellsworth, Specca **Greeters:** Mitchell, Patnesky  
**EMHC:** P & G Adams, Baumgartner, Greenwald, Glod,  
 McGinnis, Femiani, Vandewater, LaCamera **Servers:** P & M  
 Ellsworth, Wiegmann, Peterson, Curry

**7:45am**— Fr. Mrozinski, Deacon Peck

**Lectors:** Hollot, Jung **Greeters:** J & R Jackson **EMHC:**  
 Walnoha, Berger, S & J Christopher, Gavran, Basile, Faina  
**Servers:** E, M, & E Jozwiak

**9:30am**— Fr. Ruffalo, Deacon Layton

**Lectors:** M & H Buzzatto **Greeters:** Stewart, Verlato **EMHC:**  
 Layton, T Mauro, Cushma, Serrino, Schultz, Kail, Orient,  
 Capozza, Stein **Servers:** Z & J Verner, Cushma, Mackay,  
 Hilzendeger

**11:30am**— Fr. Ruffalo, Deacon Peck

**Lectors:** Zuk, Hajzus **Greeters:** Fisher, Becker **EMHC:**  
 Eckels, Fisher, Bench, Huffner, Hayward, Baits, Slomiany, P  
 Newmaster, Oldaker **Servers:** Taylor, K & C Bench

## Rest In Peace

Please remember in your prayers this week **Alberta Labriola**, who died recently. Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord.

## Golden Wedding Celebration

The Diocese of Pittsburgh is again planning its annual Golden Wedding Celebration for couples who have been married for 50 years. This year's celebration will take place on Sunday, October 3, beginning with Mass at 3:00pm at St. Paul Cathedral. Bishop Zubik will be the celebrant. A reception will follow in the lower hall at the Cathedral. If you are a parishioner celebrating your 50th wedding anniversary in 2010 and would be interested in attending the celebration along with other jubilarian couples, please call the parish office no later than August 8. Invitations will be sent out after responses have been received.

**Fr. Sam will be on vacation until August 5.**

## Whole Community Catechesis

Several features taken together compose this approach that we call Whole Community Catechesis. Here are the first three.

1. Conversion—the turning of our hearts to Christ must become an essential part of every catechesis process.
2. Households of faith—every person has to see that their household plays an integral role in all we do, and families have to get involved at the everyday level, not as occasional guests who drop in when it's convenient.
3. The RCIA is our model; breaking open the Word is the approach that helps lead folks to ongoing conversion, love of Scripture, a heart for the materially poor, and deeper commitment to community life.



## *Pastoral Council Notes*

The Parish Pastoral Council met on June 8. Members in attendance included Aimee Schmidt, Fr. Sam, Dave Bowlin, Ed Corbett, Ed Guna, Erik Mertens, Mark Kimes, Gil McGurl, Jane Sarra, Ellie Puskarich, and Angelo Pampena. Absent were Dale Buttgereit, Chris Norton and Becky Pfeifer. Staff present included Fr. Michael, Deacon Jack, Dennis Gehrlein, Kathy Pfeifer, Janet Roberto, Colette Specca, and Jay Specca.

Angelo Pampena led the group in prayer using the faith sharing model we are implementing throughout the parish. Fr. Sam presented an overview of the new guidelines for councils, "One Body, One Mission." Every parish in the diocese will be required to use them as they move forward in pastoral planning.

New member installation will take place at the 11:30 Mass on July 11, our parish feast day. To be installed are Dave Bowlin, Mark Kimes, Chris Norton and Ellie Puskarich.

Fr. Sam presented an overview of the budget for the new fiscal year. Members of the Finance Council had meetings with parish staff to determine the costs of each program and ministry. Looking at the deficit in income from the current budget, the new budget will try to be as realistic as possible given the economic situation.

St. Benedict celebrates its Golden Anniversary in 2012. Fr. Sam would like to gather a committee of parishioners to coordinate a series of special events throughout the anniversary year, from May 2011 through May 2012. Our Regional Vicar, Fr. Fred Cain, would celebrate the opening Mass of the anniversary year, and Bishop Zubik would celebrate the closing Mass in 2012. Council was asked to have a member as a representative on this committee.

Kathy Pfeifer offered an overview of the Diocesan Safe Environment Program and the clearances required by every volunteer. She gave an update to council members who were lacking in some piece of their requirements. Colette Specca told the members that she has additional "Protecting God's Children" workshops coming in the fall.

Aimee Schmidt reported on the progress of the committees from the Pastoral Plan presented at Pentecost 2009. The Communication Committee worked on updating our web site, making the bulletin available online and gathering over 1200 e-mail addresses for a regular "blast" tool to communicate happenings in the parish. Proposed next steps will be to assist the Welcome Committee with any communication efforts related to Abbey Community Ministry. It was recommended that this group be involved in the planning for the 50th anniversary.

The Adult Faith Formation group has taken on a Lenten program for 2011 called "Great Adventure" that will look at the themes of the bible over an eight week period. Volunteer meetings have been held to get leaders for the program.

Colette Specca, Director of Faith Formation, offered the council a vision for implementing Whole Community Catechesis at the parish. It is an intergenerational approach that looks at everything we do as formational and is based on the faith sharing model of inquiry, intention, discernment and conversion that RCIA uses. Various activities that WCC may include are retreats, breaking open the Word, a question of the week, small faith communities, etc. Getting everyone to understand that we are life-long learners is the goal.

Dennis Gehrlein revealed plans for a Health Fair for seniors in September. The parish health ministry program is in its initial phase, and we are looking to define how we can use this resource to meet the needs of parishioners.

Member Jane Sarra introduced HOPE Ministry, (Helping Others Pursue Employment) a model developed by St. Ferdinand Parish, Cranberry, that is seeking a South Hills partner. We have a parishioner who will lead the group, and recruitment of team members is underway.

Fr. Sam led the group in prayer at the adjournment of the meeting at 10:00pm.



## Ask Father Sam

*When I visited Rome I saw a church with the strange name St. Mary Major. Why is it called that?*

## Lesson of the Week

*Can you explain the new census form? Is it secure to complete online?*

The diocese requires every parish to update its census information at least every ten years. We have not done that here at SBA for some time, so we are overdue to have an updated census of our more than 2,500 households. The new form tries to be inclusive of all those things that will help us be better at what parish life is meant to be.

Designed by some members of our Pastoral Council and Welcome Committee, this new form is based on our former form and includes information that can help us determine some parishioner needs. For example, we have members who were not married according to the form of Catholic marriage, that is, by a priest or deacon as the official witness, so the question about validation of marriage is included at the top of the form. Also, with Catholics being divorced and remarried, the question about talking to a priest about an annulment is there.

While the online giving site at OSV (Our Sunday Visitor) is a secure site, much like your online banking would be, the web site for the parish is not. Although the information we ask from the census is not anything others could not learn from general searches on the computer like your address or phone, there may be some folks who are apprehensive about that information being out there in cyberspace.

My suggestion is to complete the form and, instead of sending it via email, print the hard copy and bring it to the office or drop it in the basket at Mass. The most important piece is that everyone complete an updated form. Sometimes in-laws have joined the household as parents age; children who were officially residents while in college have moved away and are still listed; or your address or phone number may have changed.

The final piece is that a census for a parish should be a tool to see what skills the parish can have as a resource from its members. That's why we ask "Job Skills/Competencies" on the form. Is someone adept at financial management or HR—human resources? Are you an artist or a musician? All these can be used to serve God.

## Youth Ministry News

### Mission Trip Prayers

This week we have a group of teens and young adults heading to the foothills of Appalachia, Kentucky to give a week of their time in service. Their work will include fixing up mobile homes, working in thrift stores, warehouse sorting, and various outreach to the people living there. We ask for your prayers for their health and safety, but most importantly, that they get to encounter Christ in a whole new experience.

### Campfire Moved to Pool Party

Instead of our regular campfire on August 5, the Schratz family has graciously opened their home to invite all teens for a pool party from 7:00pm to 10:00pm. Bring your friends for some food, music and fun. For directions, call Janet at 724-941-9587 or look for the Facebook invite.

### Volunteer Locally

On August 7 all teens are encouraged to help the St. Vincent de Paul Society at their thrift store in Castle Shannon. Help is needed to restock and clean up the store after their monthly sale. We will be leaving St. Benedict's at 8:30 am and returning at 1:30pm. Parents are needed to help. Call Janet to sign up.

### New Servers Training Round 2

We will offer another camp for new altar servers this summer the second week in August. Watch the bulletin for the exact dates and further details. Those entering the 4th grade or higher are eligible to serve in this ministry. Those who are already servers may participate in the camp as well.

### Abbey Community Ministry

We are still counting on everyone's involvement to help us make this new outreach effort a success. We have to remember that WE are the Church—each one of us who is baptized. And that means it is up to US to be Christ in our neighborhoods, schools, and places of work. We can make a difference. If you haven't yet signed up to be part of this neighborhood ministry, you can find the forms in the narthex. The groups are being formed and leaders training is next.



## Weekend Custodial Help Needed

We are looking for a person to help with weekend custodial services working about 12-16 hrs. on Saturdays and Sunday morning. Tasks include general maintenance, cleaning bathrooms in the church and hall, setting up of classrooms and halls, and custodial services for weekend events and activities. During the winter months, snow shoveling and salting of walks and parking lot, driving an automatic pickup truck and plowing is required (training to operate plow will be provided). If you are interested, please contact Mike Benya at 724-941-9406, Ext. 105.

## Safe Environment Update

When completing the on-line database for the diocese please be aware that you **must** complete all 10 sections. If one section is left unfinished, the application is not accepted. It also applies if you are filling out a hard copy of the application; it will be returned to you if any section is left empty. If you have any questions, please contact Shirley Jacobs at 724-941-4999 or shirleyjacobs@yahoo.com

## Parish Picnic Chairpersons' Meeting

There will be a chairpersons' meeting on August 3 at 7:30pm in Room 206. For further information, please contact Ellie Puskarich at 724-941-4686, or Rita and Kip Milavec at 724-942-8529. Anyone interested in helping out is welcome to attend.

## Life Line Screening

Life Line Screening, a provider of community-based preventive health screenings, will be at our parish on August 30 from 8:30am until 5:30pm. Come for screenings for the carotid artery (stroke), heart rhythm, abdominal aortic aneurysm, peripheral arterial disease, and osteoporosis. Appointments are limited, and pre-registration is required. Call 1-800-679-5192 to register. This event is sponsored by Ohio Valley General Hospital.

***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, July 25

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

### Monday, July 26

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

### Wednesday, July 28

12:00p	AA	(208)
6:30p	Confessions	(Church)
7:45p	Tae Kwon Do	(OBH)

### Thursday, July 29

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

### Saturday, July 31

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

### Sunday, August 1

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

10:45a	Parents' Baptism Meeting	(206)
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## Win Steeler Tickets

Ben's Men is offering the annual raffle to win season tickets. You can purchase a chance for only \$15. The winner will receive \$500 plus 4 tickets to every pre-season and regular season game in 2010.

## WOSB Bridge Group

Any women interested in playing bridge once a month starting in September, please call either Lois McCloskey at 724-941-6879 or Shirley Mitchell at 724-941-4169.

## Share the Harvest

Do you have more produce coming up in your garden than you can use? Here is an opportunity for you to share those extra vegetables with the local Food Bank. Tables will be set up by the church entrance before Sunday Masses through the month of August. Please put the vegetables in plastic bags and place them in the baskets on the table. They will be delivered to the Food Bank. Thank you for supporting local families with healthy food!



## 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