



Father Sam's Forum

“**A** rich man produced a bountiful harvest.” That’s the parable we hear in today’s Gospel. Luke tells it because we are meant to consider in reflection the things that really matter. Gaining more and more and then trying to figure out where to keep it all is a real problem. There are reality shows on TV these days that focus on how much stuff people tend to accumulate. One shows the messiest homes in America, and I can’t even begin to fathom that there are people who live like this. Piles of stuff all over the place take up so much space there is no room to live there.

Why do we consume so much? Decades ago, the bountiful harvest wasn’t meant for hoarding but for sharing. My grandfather had one of those depression gardens where everyone benefited from the produce grown there. We are trying another new endeavor here in the parish that will help us to share our bounty. By bringing in the excess produce from your gardens—I mean, how many zucchini can one family consume?—we can share with those who aren’t so fortunate to have fresh vegetables. It is my dream to have a real garden planted on our parish property for next spring so we can work there as a community of faith—young and old—to cooperate with God who gives us gifts from the earth. This harvest would be shared with the Food Bank and other local places that feed the hungry.

When we think of accumulating too much, we can also look at how we spend our time. Many of us do it in front of the computer or TV. Americans are notorious for that. When we are constantly bombarded with images and media we risk losing sight of real person-to-person communication. Again from reality TV, the Nanny who helps parents deal with problems in the home showed a dad who wore earphones while driving. He placed a barrier to his communication with his kids. When the earphones were gone, he was actually able to converse with them. Imagine! Person to person.

We see these things, yet we cling to false gods based on what society tells us we should have or do. The gospel of the world is *more is better, and the more you have the happier you will be*. Our style of living is far beyond the simplicity of the Gospel. The Gospel urges us to store up treasures in heaven. What does that mean? **What things do you think matter to God? How do you stay focused on God while attending to the necessities of life?**

Mass Intentions: Aug. 1—Aug. 8

Sunday, August 1—18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Monday, August 2—Weekday

- 8:30a **Helen Kassab** (Jeff & Sandy Mertens)

Tuesday, August 3—Weekday

- 6:30a **Jack Manion** (Gregory & Rebecca Greenleaf)
8:30a **Lucille McGurk** (Tom & Judy Dunn & Family)

Wednesday, August 4—St. John Mary Vianney

- 6:30a **Mrs. Ann Mayer**
(Daughter, Patricia A. Stanfill)
8:30a **Eric Scheuering** (Mom & Dad)

Thursday, August 5—Weekday

- 6:30a **Alice Ann Rudzinski Family**
(Carol Bobro & Family)
8:30a **Gene Farney** (Judie & Dave Burrows)

Friday, August 6—Transfiguration of the Lord

- 8:30a **Annabelle & John Miller**
(Janice & Daniel Rowsick)
1:45p **Manor Care: Frederick Henning**
(Shirley Deitzel Family)

Saturday, August 7—Weekday

- 8:30a **Jack Manion** (Family)
5:00p **For the People of the Parish**

Sunday, August 8—19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 7:45a **Special Intention of Joanna Kuczma**
(LaRosa Family)
9:30a **Dorothy Wasieleski** (M/M Ed Wisniewski)
11:30a **James Gallagher** (Debbie & Bob Bradel)

*The Sanctuary Candle burns this week
in memory of Annabelle Miller, requested
by Janice Rowsick.*

PLEASE NOTE:

Over the past couple of weeks you may have noticed flyers and pamphlets attached to your cars in the parking lot after Mass. Let it be known that these flyers are **NOT** endorsed by St. Benedict the Abbot Church and those placing them on your cars did not receive permission by either Fr. Sam or myself. All parish endorsed information will be given to you through the media of bulletins, inserts, the website, email, or handed to you as you leave the Church. We are working to resolve this matter.

Fr. Michael

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



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

Serving the Parish Next Weekend August 7—August 8

Sat. 5:00pm— Fr. Ruffalo

Lectors: Dembiczak, Pustay **Greeters:** Grego, McCloskey
EMHC: C & R Satler, Scheuering, Milavec, Sarra, Specca,
 Mertens, Klinar, Norton **Servers:** Curran, Nobers, Hillen,
 Byrne, Dembiczak

7:45am— Fr. Ruffalo, Deacon Peck

Lectors: Brugger, Rossi **Greeters:** Kalaski, Turchick **EMHC:**
 Barton, Petricca, Fagioletti, E & R McMillan, S & J Brooks
Servers: Brugger, Brooks, Bowlin

9:30am— Fr. Esposito, Deacon Peck

Lectors: Ross, Mahla **Greeters:** Becker, Verlato **EMHC:**
 Capozza, Stein, Walnoha, Glod, McGovern, L & A Kelly, Torres,
 Weaver **Servers:** Kelly, S Weaver, D & M DeRienzo, Pampena

11:30am— Fr. Esposito, Deacon Layton

Lectors: Oliverio, Auer **Greeters:** Ragan **EMHC:** Hayward,
 Baits, Slomiany, P, K & L Newmaster, Oldaker, McGinnis, Herald
Servers: Oberschelp, Watson, Wallach

Eucharistic Adoration

This week 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.

Rest In Peace

Please remember in your prayers this week **Nancy Hilzendege**, mother of John Hilzendege; and **Martin Cunningham**, who died recently. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.

Please welcome Rev. Ron Mrozinski who will speak at all Masses this weekend on behalf of Cross International Catholic Outreach providing support to priests and nuns in the Church overseas in the Caribbean, Central America, Philippines and Africa. Please be as generous in your response to Father's appeal. Brochures will also be provided for your contribution.

Readings for the Week of August 1

Sunday: Eccl 1:2;2:21-23/Col 3:1-5,9-11/Lk 12:13-21
 Monday: Jer 28:1-17/Mt 14:13-21
 Tuesday: Jer 30:1-2,12-15,18-22/Mt 14:22-36
 Wednesday: Jer 31:1-7/Mt 15:21-28
 Thursday: Jer 31:31-34/Mt 16:13-23
 Friday: Dn 7:9-10,13-14/2 Pt 1:16-19/Lk 9:28b-36
 Saturday: Hb 1:12-2:4/Mt 17:14-20
 Next Sunday: Wis 18:6-9/Heb 11:1-2,8-19 or 11:1-2,8-12/
 Lk 12:32-48

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

More about Whole Community Catechesis

Several features taken together compose this approach that we call Whole Community Catechesis. Continuing from last week's bulletin here are the other three.

4. Adult education becomes the norm—catechesis is for adults as much as for children; the work of the whole community (parish).

5. Catechists are called to a genuine vocation—when we ask for help it isn't just to fill vacancies in our program but to invite every baptized person into ministry and service, allowing the Spirit to work in all of us.

6. We must take care to teach as Church—that Body of Christ that has through the ages handed down the authentic doctrines and practices of the Catholic faith. It's not about what we think or what our opinions might be, but the faithful Tradition of the ages from the time of the apostles to our own time.



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.

Health Ministry Meeting August 17

The next gathering of those interested in helping our health ministry program take shape is scheduled for August 17 at 7:00pm. A volunteer from IC Parish will explain how their program MESH (Ministry to the Elderly, Sick, Homebound) has been able to help a number of parishioners. If you are interested in health ministry or want more information, please contact Dennis Gehrlein at 724-941-9406, Ext. 109.

September Health Fair

Our Health Fair takes place September 30 and already a number of vendors and organizations have signed up to be part of the event. The day will begin with a talk by Fr. Scott Seethaler on The Spiritual Aspects of the Aging Process at 10:00am, followed by a 2-hour health fair in O'Brien Hall. All are invited. Fr. Scott's talk is being sponsored by Gateway Hospice and Comfort Keepers. If you're a health care resource or provider and want to be part of the day, please contact Dennis Gehrlein at 724-941-9406, Ext. 109.

Life Line Screening

Once again, Life Line Screening, a provider of community-based preventive health screenings, will be at St. Benedict's on August 30 from 8:30am until 5:30pm. They offer screenings for the carotid artery (stroke), heart rhythm, abdominal aortic aneurysm, peripheral arterial disease, and osteoporosis. Appointments are limited, and pre-registration is required. To schedule an appointment, call 1-800-679-5192. This event is sponsored by Ohio Valley General Hospital.

Children's Liturgy Of the Word

One of the best things we can do is share our love for the Word of God with our children. Introducing them to the stories of our faith is so important. Currently, we do this during the 9:30 Mass on Sundays but want to offer the opportunity for pre-school aged children who come to the 11:30 Mass as well. Taking the children to the chapel to let them hear the Scriptures in language they can understand and then breaking open the word for faith sharing with them is such a formative experience. If we are to grow this ministry, we need your help! Who can assist in spending time with these precious little ones? If you have questions or want more information, contact Teresa Buzard at 724-941-6051.

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 724-941-8529. Anyone interested in helping out with the parish picnic is welcome to attend.

Altar Server Training

We are offering another camp for altar servers on August 10, 11 and 12. Anyone entering 4th grade and up is eligible to serve in this ministry. If you are already an altar server, this would be a great time to brush up on your skills and keep up with the changes. There will be multiple one hour sessions each day with no more than 10 servers at each session. New servers need to sign up for an A session on one day AND a B session on a second day. Those who are already altar servers should sign up for either an A OR a B session. A sessions begin in the sacristy and then proceed into the church; B sessions are only in the church.

A Session—Aug. 10 at 10:00am, 2:00pm, & 7:00pm
 B Session—Aug. 11 at 10:00am, 2:00pm, & 7:00pm
 A Session—Aug. 11 at 11:00am, 3:00pm, & 8:00pm
 B Session—Aug. 12 at 11:00am, 3:00pm, & 8:00pm

There will also be sessions on Aug. 10 at 3:00pm and Aug. 12 at 7:00pm for altar servers with 3 or more years of experience to learn how to be a senior altar server and use incense at Mass. A maximum of 10 servers will be scheduled at each session. Other sessions can be added if needed. Scheduling will be on a first come, first served basis.

Please contact Jay Specca at 724-941-9406, Ext. 114 to sign up for all sessions.



Ask Father Sam

What can you tell me about the Health Ministry the parish is trying to begin?

Lesson of the Week

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



Saint Mary Major, or *Santa Maria Maggiore*, is one of four papal basilicas in Rome. The other three are *Saint John Lateran*, the cathedral church of Rome, *Saint Peter*, and *Saint Paul Outside the Walls*. The building carries the name "major" because it is one of the "major" papal basilicas, but also because it is the largest Roman church dedicated to the Virgin Mary.

According to legend, Pope Liberius built the church in 360 following a dream he had. It was constructed over the ruins of a pagan temple to the Phrygian goddess Cybele, the deification of the Earth Mother. The church is also known as Our Lady of the Snows because the legend tells that snow fell in Rome the night of August 4-5 over an outline of the church that had been drawn on the ground.

Archaeological evidence however, dates the edifice to the early 400's under the pontificate of Pope Sixtus III. Churches dedicated to the Blessed Virgin were springing up all over Rome because in 431 the Council of Ephesus had proclaimed her *Theotokos* or God-bearer. This doctrine allowed Christians to call Mary the Mother of God.

When the papacy left Rome for Avignon, the Lateran basilica and its adjoining palace fell into disrepair. Returning from France in the 14th century, the popes took up residence at Saint Mary Major until the construction of the new church at the Vatican. The church was restored in the 18th century and, served today by Redemptorists and Dominicans, it remains a popular tourist attraction.

Saint Jerome, a number of popes, and the Baroque sculptor Bernini are buried below the sanctuary of the church in the Crypt of the nativity. The Pope celebrates Mass here every year for the Assumption.

Youth Ministry News

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.

YM Mulch Sale

Our teens are once again 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 the Parish Office.

St. Vincent de Paul News

To those of you who, Sunday after Sunday, place a contribution in the St. Vincent de Paul Poor Box... thank you. We appreciate your allowing us to be a channel of your charity. On behalf of the poor you assist, we thank you. Likewise, we all seek some sort of relief to make living more bearable during these hot summer months. However, there are those less fortunate not being able to meet their food, medical, and other bills. The St. Vincent de Paul Society can help bring relief to those in need. Do you know of an individual or family experiencing a temporary setback that needs assistance? Please encourage them to call our Parish Office at 724-941-9406 and leave a message for the St. Vincent de Paul Society.

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.



WOSB Annual Garage Sale

The Women of St. Benedict will have their annual garage sale on September 10 from 9:00am to 7:00pm and September 11 from 9:00am to 3:00pm. Set up days will be September 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9. Volunteers are needed to sort, price and display items, receive donations in the evening, provide lunch for workers during the week, customer service during the sale and clean-up on Saturday afternoon after the sale.

Please help by donating items you no longer want or need. Items may be dropped off in O'Brien Hall starting September 3rd. **PLEASE DO NOT BRING ITEMS BEFORE THAT DATE.**

ITEMS WANTED: clean baby & children's clothing & toys; jewelry; kitchen items such as dishes, glassware, silverware, pots & pans; small working electrical appliances; knickknacks; paperback books; VHS tapes; audio tapes; DVD's; Halloween costumes; holiday decorations; pictures & picture frames; artificial flowers; baskets, craft & sewing items; small tables & chairs; working lawn mowers; garden tools; working hand & electrical tools; clothing, linens & bedding items that are in good condition and are not soiled or torn; healthy house plants.

Please keep in mind when donating items—**WE DO NOT WANT JUNK**—we have a reputation for having "quality" items at our garage sale and would like to continue this tradition.

ITEMS NOT WANTED: automobile tires; stoves & refrigerators; large furniture; computers; old & used sporting equipment; bowling balls; treadmills; encyclopedias & old books, old purses, and clothing that is torn or out-of-date.

For more information or to volunteer, please call Jackie Buck at 724-941-6955 or Nancy Huffner at 724-941-6805.

Diocesan Choir Auditions

Auditions for the 2010/2011 Diocesan Choir season will be held soon. The Choir sings for the major Diocesan events at St. Paul's Cathedral throughout the year. Currently there are openings in the soprano, alto, tenor, and bass sections. In addition to being a good singer, potential members must be capable sight-readers due to a limited rehearsal schedule, and at least 18 years of age. Rehearsals are held at St. John Capistran Church in Upper St. Clair. Audition times may be scheduled by calling Doris Anne in the Diocesan Music Office at 412-456-3042 before August 11.

This Week In Our Parish

Sunday, August 1

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

10:45a Parents' Baptism Meeting (206)

Monday, August 2

8:30a Special Needs Children (210)
6:30p Aerobics (PBAC)
7:00p Centering Prayer (Chapel)

Tuesday, August 3

8:30a Special Needs Children (210)
7:30p Picnic Chairpersons' Meeting (206)

Wednesday, August 4

12:00p AA (208)
6:30p Confessions (Church)
7:30p Journey Through the Bible Mtg. (208)
7:45p Tae Kwon Do (OBH)

Thursday, August 5

12:00p NA (206)
4:00p Eucharistic Adoration begins (Chapel)
6:00p Aerobics (PBAC)
7:30p Boy Scout Troop 1313 (OBH)

Friday, August 6

9:00a Spirit Day (204/206)
4:00p Closing of Adoration (Chapel)

Saturday, August 7

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

Sunday, August 8

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

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.

**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

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