



## Father Sam's Forum

As was announced last weekend at all the Masses, I was returning home from vacation when I received a call informing me that Father Michael Ruffalo is getting a new assignment from Bishop Zubik, effective August 23. After three years with us, Fr. Michael is going to Immaculate Conception Parish, Washington, PA, to serve as parochial vicar. All of us will miss what our vicar has brought to this parish, his unique sense of humor, his dedication to the Church, his vast knowledge of things theological, even his penchant for showing up tardy.

I've done this before, said goodbye to a priest, and it's tough. We grow attached like everyone else, and for me this loss is probably what parents feel when their children go off to college. It's time for my "brother" who has been like a "son" in so many ways, to take the next step toward becoming a pastor himself, and that next step is to get a new experience with another pastor and another parish. Fr. Feeney will teach him things I couldn't, and he will have the opportunity to learn more about campus ministry and hospital ministry since the parish takes care of both of those institutions.

Watching him mature since he was a deacon here has been a great thing. Hopefully, without blubbering too much, I can say that I love this man who is so different from me in so many ways. He is a good priest and, with additional training at the new assignment, he can be a good pastor some day. It has been a remarkable few years, and there are memorable moments that will remain with me forever. I've often said that you couldn't pay for the entertainment that he provided!

***Come wish Fr. Michael well on Sunday, August 22, after the last Sunday Mass. We will keep Abbey Coffee House open with some added refreshments at a farewell reception for him.***

Today we honor the Blessed Virgin Mary on her Assumption. We ask this question this week: *Why is Mary the model disciple?* What is it about her that teaches us how to follow Jesus? We have seen this feast as Mary's participation in her Son's Resurrection, which anticipates the resurrection of all Christians. It is a sign of great hope. At the time when the harvest of fruits is ripe, we see our own harvesting, praying that the fruits of God's Spirit will ripen in us, making us fully, eternally alive.

## Mass Intentions: Aug. 15—Aug. 22

### Sunday, August 15—Assumption of the Virgin Mary

- 7:45a **For the People of the Parish**  
 9:30a **Jack Gallagher** (Dante & Mary Pat DeRienzo)  
 11:30a **Deceased Members of the Rullo Family**  
 (Mario & Rose Rullo)

### Monday, August 16—Weekday

- 8:30a **Rose D'Alessandro** (D'Alessandro Family)

### Tuesday, August 17—Weekday

- 6:30a **Donald Sabol** (The Sadler Family)  
 8:30a **Ralph Antone** (Ben's Men)  
 2:00p **McMurray Hills: Joseph Yatchum**  
 (Sister, Cecilia Rutkowski & Family)

### Wednesday, August 18—Weekday

- 6:30a **Albert J. Wallo** (Grace, Gary & Robert Wallo)  
 8:30a **Edward McCloskey** (John T. McCloskey)

### Thursday, August 19—Weekday

- 6:30a **Jean Conwell** (Jim & Nancy Vines)  
 8:30a **Charles McRory** (Wife, Ann)

### Friday, August 20—St. Bernard

- 8:30a **Elmo A. Checchi** (Daughter & Family)

### Saturday, August 21—St. Pius X, Pope

- 8:30a **Mary Elizabeth Salva** (Fedor Salva)  
 5:00p **Fred & Tess Velan** (Art & Lois)

### Sunday, August 22—21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 7:45a **Jerry Baxter** (The Woltz Family)  
 9:30a **For the People of the Parish**  
 11:30a **Peter Scalise, USAF** (Family)

***The Sanctuary Candle burns this week in memory of Gene Becker, requested by Joan Becker; and the Bread & Wine is in memory of Elmo A. Checchi, requested by his daughter & family.***

## 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. *Also—if you know a neighbor who might not be coming to Mass regularly for any reason but belongs to the parish, please inform them about our census so they can update their information as well.*

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



## 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 21—August 22

**Sat. 5:00pm**— Fr. Ruffalo, Deacon Peck

**Lectors:** Benya, Tallon **Greeters:** Mitchell, Patnesky **EMHC:** LaCamera, G & P Adams, Milavec, Specca, Mertens, Klinar, Norton, Glod **Servers:** Tallon, J, J & N Bianco, Wiegmann

**7:45am**— Fr. Ruffalo, Deacon Layton

**Lectors:** DiCello, Gohring **Greeters:** R & J Jackson **EMHC:** Prado, Joseph, Petricca, Fagioletti, E & R McMillan, Walnoha **Servers:** J, M, A & B Lyle

**9:30am**— Fr. Esposito, Deacon Peck

**Lectors:** Trapanotto, Glover **Greeters:** Stewart, Verlato **EMHC:** Glover, Gaudy, Capozza, Torres, Stein, Serrino, Schults, Orient, Bayer **Servers:** Waigand, A & E Ross, Kimes, Curry

**11:30am**— Fr. Esposito

**Lectors:** Gehrlein, Hrubby **Greeters:** Becker, Ragan **EMHC:** Boyd, K, L & P Newmaster, Herald, Oldaker, Baits, Hwyward, Huffner **Servers:** F & M Meola, Hillen

## Ushers & Greeters

The last Prayer & Formation Session for Ushers and Greeters will be on August 17 at 7:00pm in Room 204. Please plan to attend this sessions if you did not attend one of the early sessions so we can pray together and continue to explore these ministries. It is necessary for all ministers to attend. Also, if you are interested in serving the parish in one of these capacities, you are welcome to join us. Contact Jay Specca at Ext. 114 with any questions and to register for one of the sessions.

## 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!

## Rest In Peace

Please remember in your prayers this week **Michael McLaughlin**, son of Gary & Phyllis McLaughlin; and **Wayne Ugen**, who died recently. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.

**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.*

## Readings for the Week of August 15

Sunday: Rv 11:19a;12:1-6a,10ab/1 Cor 15:20-27/Lk 1:39-56  
 Monday: Ez 24:15-23/Mt 19:16-22  
 Tuesday: Ez 28:1-10/Mt 19:23-30  
 Wednesday: Ez 34:1-11/Mt 20:1-16  
 Thursday: Ez 36:23-28/Mt 22:1-14  
 Friday: Ez 37:1-14/Mt 22:34-40  
 Saturday: Ez 43:1-7b/Mt 23:1-12  
 Next Sunday: Is 66:18-21/Heb 12:5-7,11-13/Lk 13:22-30

## Fall Ministers' Schedule

It is time to schedule ministers for Masses in October, November, and December. All Greeters, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Lectors, and Altar Servers should submit "away" dates and schedule changes to Jay Specca at [jspeca@stbenedicttheabbot.org](mailto:jspeca@stbenedicttheabbot.org)—please put "Minister Schedule" in the subject line—or call 724-941-9406, ext. 114. He will be running the schedule the second week of September, so please have your information in before September 6.



## Whole Community Catechesis

As part of our parish pastoral plan, we are looking at adult formation which is a key component to Whole Community Catechesis. As we have heard in the *Forum*, at various meetings, and in the bulletin in weeks past, the formation of adults is essential to becoming the kind of disciples we are meant to be. As stated previously, the liturgy is the starting point. We have to make a real connection to the Sunday Mass, and WCC will help us do that through: *faith sharing based on the Sunday readings; some form of liturgical catechesis to help us understand the rites; and the scope and sequence of our instruction for our children which pays attention to liturgical seasons and feasts.* Have you noticed the “question of the Week” that is asked in the Sunday homily? That’s a good place to begin.

## 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.

## 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 in room 208. 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.

## Lenten Quick Journey Through the Bible

Please visit our booth at the Parish Picnic for information, a free “Save the Date” magnet, and an opportunity to win a sweet prize.

## Sharing Our Treasure

<u>Date</u>	<u>Offertory</u>	<u>Debt</u>	<u>PSP</u>
<b>July 4</b>	<b>\$21,049</b>	<b>\$5,453</b>	<b>\$3,010</b>
<b>July 11</b>	<b>\$19,543</b>	<b>\$1,592</b>	<b>\$4,349</b>
<b>July 18</b>	<b>\$17,085</b>	<b>\$1,052</b>	<b>\$2,103</b>
<b>July 25</b>	<b>\$15,296</b>	<b>\$2,574</b>	<b>\$1,755</b>
<b>On-Line Giving</b>	<b>\$12,809</b>	<b>\$1,830</b>	<b>\$1,780</b>
<b>Monthly Totals</b>	<b>\$85,782</b>	<b>\$12,501</b>	<b>\$12,997</b>
<b>Weekly Average</b>	<b>\$21,446</b>		
<b>Weekly Budgeted</b>	<b>\$22,800</b>		

The first month of our new fiscal year shows that we are just below the figure of our budgeted weekly offering. On-line giving continues to grow, and we are grateful to everyone who uses that method for their financial donations. You know that all special collections are on-line as well, so that cuts down on the cost of sending envelopes through the mail. To use on-line giving, simply click the link on our web site and register. Our Finance Council meets this week, and we welcome Patricia Ridge as a new member. The council will look at our figures from the recently ended fiscal year and talk about some fundraising projects to help us garner the extra funds we need for work around the campus. We have challenges facing us as our aging buildings are in need of replacements and repairs. Please don’t forget to give to Parish Share so that we can meet our goal for the diocesan assessment. Thanks!

## Parish Picnic News!!!



Help is needed to set up tents/chairs/booths, for our parish picnic. Set up time will be at 9:00am on Thursday, August 19 and 7:30am on Friday, August 20. Please call Mike Schultz at 724-941-4445 to volunteer. Desserts (cakes, cookies, pies, etc.) are requested for the Parish Picnic. Please bring items to O’Brien Hall after 9:00am on Saturday, August 21, the day of the picnic. Please call Nancy Huffner at 724-941-6805 if you have any questions.



## Ask Father Sam

What exactly is a "Mass of Translation"?

### Lesson of the Week

*Can you speak some more about Envisioning Ministry and what it means for us as a parish?*

When he was the Bishop of the Pittsburgh Diocese, the now Archbishop of Washington, D.C., Donald Wuerl began something we call *Envisioning Ministry for the Future*, a program that asked every parish in our six county diocese to look at how they were situated for the future. Our current bishop, David Zubik, continues to support this vision giving us in his three pastoral letters a goal of *The Church Alive!*

Through the resources we have and will be able to count on in years to come, a limited number of ordained clergy but a growing number of lay ministers and lay volunteers, we can continue to support and offer ministry to the people of our diocese. What this looks like on the outside may appear differently from what people have grown used to when we could count on a large number of priests—and even Sisters—to be involved in parish life. What we have to do is foster cooperation instead of competition between parishes. What can we share as far as personnel and programming? How can we give the administrative details of parish life to lay people so as to free priests for the sacramental duties they have been ordained to carry out? Can we sustain 200+ parishes that are sometimes located within a few miles of each other when we will soon have fewer than 200 priests?

We have 46 men preparing for service in the diocese as permanent deacons. Many of these men will work full time in parishes and institutions once they are ordained. Might the role of deacons as parish administrators be one of the ways we take the burden off pastors? Can our vicariate districts learn to schedule Masses, confessions and other services so as to help each other and even fill in when a priest is ill?

You see, this is not about ending ministry but expanding it as intended from our baptism so that each person fulfills what the sacrament asks. Some areas of our country go without Sunday Mass on a regular basis. While that is unlikely here, it may be that we will have to travel more than the three or four miles we have been used to going for worship. Masses will be celebrated according to how many priests we have. The challenge can also be an opportunity.

## Youth Ministry News

### Mission Trip 2010

by Lizzie Fitzgerald

Recently, I was one of 30 members of our youth group to travel to Louisa, KY to volunteer at Fr. Beiting's Appalachian Mission Center. Most, if not all, of us were greatly affected by the chance we had to make a difference in one of the poorest regions of our country. Early in the week, a 16 year old boy named Kyle told us about his life and his job. He worked in Fr. Beiting's warehouse to earn money to buy school clothes for his younger brother and himself. We quickly realized that many of the people in Louisa were in similar situations and, as a group, we were working to make a difference in their lives.

During the trip, we ended every night by sitting in a circle for closing prayer. Everyone took turns saying the highest and lowest parts of their day. We were also given the assignment to share how we saw Christ in our surroundings and in each other. As we went around the circle, I realized that we saw God in everything we did and in everyone we worked with. Many people saw Christ in Fr. Beiting's determination and commitment to help these people despite his old age and physical limitations.

We left for the trip as a group of teenagers from many different social groups who barely knew each other, and during the short period of time we were together, formed bonds stronger than anyone thought possible. When we returned to St. Ben's six days later, we were a family that had become extremely close. The experience has allowed us to trust one another and share personal things about our lives. Most importantly, I learned that God is in all of us and in everything we do. Whether it is as simple as offering up a seat, sharing your high point of the day, or bonding with 29 other students, God is always there.

### Weekend Help Needed

We are looking for 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.



## WOSB Annual Garage Sale

There are just a few weeks until WOSB's big fund raising 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.

To volunteer, please call Jackie Buck at 724-941-6955 or Nancy Huffner at 724-941-6805.

## Marriage Preparation Class at St. Louise

Engaged couples are invited to attend a one-day marriage preparation class at St. Louise de Marillac Parish in Upper Saint Clair on September 25 at the LeGras Parish Center (lower level) beginning at 8:30am and concluding with Mass at 6:00pm. This program is for couples planning to be married in the upcoming year. For more information or to receive a registration form, please call the St. Louise de Marillac Parish Office at 412-833-1010. The fee is \$100 and includes breakfast and lunch.

## This Week In Our Parish

### Sunday, August 15

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

### Monday, August 16

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

### Tuesday, August 17

7:00p	Ushers & Greeters Formation	(204)
7:00p	Finance Council	(Rectory)
7:00p	Health Ministry Meeting	(208)

### Wednesday, August 18

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

### Thursday, August 19

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

### Saturday, August 21

7:30a	CMF	(206)
9:00a	Aerobics	(PBAC)
11:00a	Confessions	(Church)
2:00p	<i>Parish Picnic</i>	

### Sunday, August 22

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

*Farewell Reception  
for Fr. Michael Ruffalo  
after the 11:30 Mass (OBH-PBAC)*

## 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 apart 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. You can do it! We'll help you.

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



## TO GET INVOLVED, CALL . . .

### **Abbey Coffee House**

Ellie Puskarich  
724-941-4686

### **Abbey Community Ministry**

Jane Sarra  
724-746-6798

### **Abbey Players**

Nicole Gasse  
724-747-0617

### **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

### **Children's Liturgy**

Theresa Buzard  
724-941-6051

### **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

### **H.O.P.E. Ministry**

George Armes  
724-348-8770

### **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