



St. Benedict

THE ABBOT CHURCH



120 Abington Drive • McMurray, Pennsylvania 15317 • 724-941-9406

SAINT BENEDICT THE ABBOT CHURCH

is a vibrant family of believers, part of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh, whose goal is to foster liturgy, prayer, service and hospitality in the spirit of our patron. We are committed to receiving all as Christ – as we strive to grow in faith, hope and charity.

SUNDAY MASSES

Sat.: 5:00 p.m. (Vigil)

Sunday morning:

7:45, 9:30 & 11:30 a.m.

DAILY MASS

Mon. through Sat.: 8:30 a.m.

PARISH CLERGY



Rev. Fr. Robert M. Miller,
Pastor
724-941-9406, Ext. 290

fr.bob@stbenedicttheabbot.org



Rev. Mr. John L. Layton,
Deacon

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Mon.-Fri. 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Sun. 8:45 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Phone: 724.941.9406

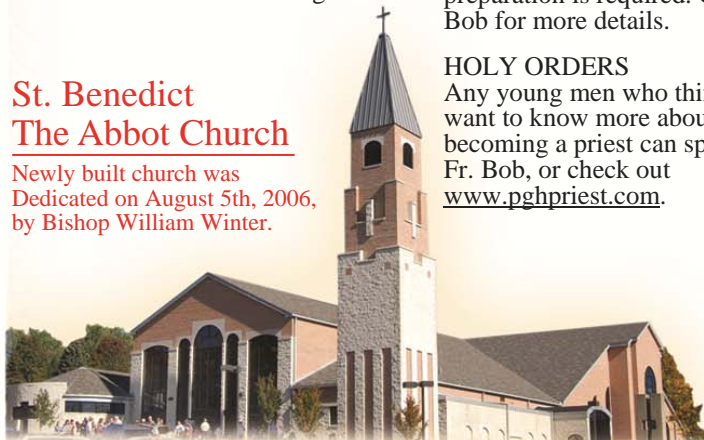
Fax: 724.941.9517

E-mail:

staff@stbenedicttheabbot.org

St. Benedict The Abbot Church

Newly built church was
Dedicated on August 5th, 2006,
by Bishop William Winter.



ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Experience the power of God's healing through this sacrament. All who are seriously ill or elderly should receive the sacrament. Call the office to make arrangements.

BAPTISM

We celebrate baptisms after the 11:30 a.m. Sunday Mass. Parents are required to attend our pre-baptism prayer and discussion sessions held monthly.

FIRST EUCHARIST

Children in second grade are invited to the Lord's Table if they have been prepared at least two years. Contact Colette Specca for more information, ext. 113.

CONFIRMATION

We celebrate the fullness of Christian Initiation in the sacrament of confirmation in 9th grade. Candidates are formed over a two year period of immediate preparation and parent sessions are part of the program. Contact Colette Specca for more information, ext. 113.

MARRIAGE

To be married sacramentally couples should contact one of the priests at least six months prior to the requested date. Pre-marriage preparation is required. Call Fr. Bob for more details.

HOLY ORDERS

Any young men who think they want to know more about becoming a priest can speak with Fr. Bob, or check out www.pghpriest.com.

RECONCILIATION

Confession are heard on Wednesdays from 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., and Saturdays from 11:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. For private confession call the office. Communal Penance Services are held in Advent and Lent.

RCIA

The process of becoming a Catholic is known as the Rite of Christian Initiation. Any who are interested in learning more about the Catholic faith should contact Jay Speca, ext. 114.

COMMUNION OF THE SICK

We are happy to take the Eucharist to those unable to participate at Mass because of sickness or age. Call Dennis Gehrlein, ext. 109 for more information.

IF YOU ARE ASKED TO BE A SPONSOR FOR BAPTISM OR CONFIRMATION

You should be striving to live the Catholic faith through participation at Mass on a regular basis, reception of the sacraments, and valid marriage - which means you were married by a priest or deacon.

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to all who want to join the parish. Your membership should include participation in the life of the parish. To register, please complete the form on line or in person, and arrange to meet with our pastor. Call the office for more information.

...ONE, HOLY,
CATHOLIC, AND
APOSTOLIC CHURCH...



HOLY SEE



DIocese of PITTSBURGH



ST. BENEDICT THE ABBOT

CHURCH ALIVE!

FIFTH
SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY
TIME

FEBRUARY

5TH
2012

— *Prefer Nothing to Christ* —
WWW.STBENEDICTTHEABBOT.ORG



"The Spirit of Things"
By Fr. Bob

The Church As the Way To Salvation

When we say the word, "Church," what do we mean? I'm not referring to a church building.

In religious education class we learned that the Church is the People of God. All of us make up the Church. And Christ is at the head of the Church.

Our understanding of the origin of the Church comes from the gospel of Matthew 16: 16-18. When Jesus asks his disciples who He is, Peter responds, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." Jesus praises Peter and says, "You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church." Jesus went further and promised to give Peter the "keys to the Kingdom of Heaven," that is, authority to shepherd the Church. Jesus also proclaimed that the gates of hell will not prevail against the Church.

It's good to remind ourselves of this. From time to time I come across someone who looks at the structure of the Church simply as a human institution with a structure that is not always in touch with where people are at in their lives. But the Scriptures remind us that even though the Church is made up of sinners, it is a divine institution. This means that the Holy Spirit is always present somewhere within the Church leading us and guiding us toward the truth. Unfortunately, this doesn't mean that we don't occasionally run across a priest who doesn't get along real well with people or who might be having a bad day. But at the same time the Church is the always the means to our salvation.

We say that there are four marks of the Church: one, holy, Catholic, and apostolic. That the Church is one means that we, as members, are united together as members of the Body of Christ. There is a unity, a oneness, both between Christ and us and also between all of us believers as members of His Body. That the Church is holy means that there is always holiness present somewhere within the Church. Even though every single person within the Church might not be living a holy life at this particular moment, somewhere holiness is present. It might be in that little old lady in the front row on Sunday but we can always find holiness and a good example present somewhere at any given time, even though we are sinners. That the Church is Catholic means that the Church is universal. It's made up of diverse cultures around the world but it's the same Church. We can go to Mass, for example, in Europe or Africa. While it might be in a different language or it might contain some specific local custom or tradition, it's always the

Mass Intentions: Feb. 5—Feb. 12

Sunday, February 5—5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:45a **M/M Louis & Pauline Koenig**
(The Knehr Family)
9:30a **For the People of the Parish**
11:30a **Joan DiCio** (Nancy Huffner)

Monday, February 6—St. Paul Miki & Companions

8:30a **Communion Service**

Tuesday, February 7—Weekday

6:30a **Communion Service**
8:30a **Nicholas Volanski** (Kathy & Steve Pfeifer)

Wednesday, February 8—Weekday

6:30a **Communion Service**
8:30a **Irene Bench** (Jerry Serrino)

Thursday, February 9—Weekday

6:30a **Communion Service**
8:30a **George A. Flecker** (Bernie Suchoza)

Friday, February 10—St. Scholastica

8:30a **Stanley Zary** (Wife & Family)

Saturday, February 11—Weekday

8:30a **Charles Basile** (Josephine Basile)
5:00p **Deceased of Bonura & Kauffman Families**
(Bill & Lilly Kauffman)

Sunday, February 12—6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:45a **Ralph Antone** (wife & children)
9:30a **Special Intention of Judge Richard Mills**
(Judge Thomas & Linda Burke)
11:30a **For the People of the Parish**

The Sanctuary Candle burns this week in memory of Helen Powers, requested by the Knehr Family; the Bread & Wine are in memory of Genevieve & Mike Shoats, requested by Gene & Margot Pitowski; and the Altar Flowers are in memory of M/M Stanley Mikos & M/M Bayert Rodal, requested by Dennis & Maryann Rodal.

same Mass and we feel at home within the Church anywhere around the world. That the Church is apostolic means that we can trace the Church back to the teaching of the apostles themselves and, ultimately, to Christ Himself in an unbroken line. The Church, through its Magisterium, the teaching office of the Church made up of the pope and the bishops, is entrusted with the task of authoritatively interpreting what is contained in revelation. We believe that the Holy Spirit is always present in the Church so that, as Scripture says, the gates of Hell shall not prevail against it.

Sometimes, when the Church seems so large or not in touch with reality, or when the short comings of priests or the faithful seem to overshadow things, we need to remember that the Church is always more than these things. The divine is also always present leading us and guiding us in the way of salvation.



Pastoral Staff

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

Pastoral Life & Worship

Dennis Gehrlein, Pastoral Associate— 109
 David Leo, Director of Music Ministries—108
 Cathy Malencia, Middle School Minister— 110
 Janet Roberto, Young Adult Minister— 112
 Lisa Ruggieri, Formation Office Coordinator—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
 Shirley Jacobs, Safe Environment Coordinator—305
 Bill Marshman, Maintenance—100
 Jan Martin, Rectory Housekeeper— 131
 Kathy Pfeifer, Parish Life Manager— 106
 Kevin Wolford, Maintenance Supervisor— 100

- Formation Offices: Religious Education/Youth Ministry— 724-941-9587

St. Benedict Preschool

Rene Sherwin, Director— 724-731-0222

Serving the Parish Next Weekend

February 11—February 12

5:00pm—Lectors: LaRosa, Satler **Greeters:** Mitchell, Patnesky
EMHC: Glod, Femiani, Vandewater, Greenwald, Specca, Sarra,
 McPoyle, Klinar, Satler **Servers:** LaRosa, G, M, & N Tallon, Shaw

7:45am—Lectors: Mamros, Jung **Greeters:** R & J Jackson
EMHC: Berger, Dolinar, Basile, Faina, Puskarich, Kail, McGinnis
Servers: Peterson, Wiegmann, E & J Jozwiak, Piscatelli

9:30am—Lectors: Glover, Fitzgerald **Greeters:** Verlato
EMHC: Smith, Torres, Stefan, Layton, Orient, R & J Junker,
 Weaver, Glover **Servers:** Weaver, Pampena, Maher, C & A
 Mavrich

11:30pm—Lectors: Ray, Gehrlein **Greeters:** Becker **EMHC:**
 Hayward, Quinn, McPeek, Herald, P Newmaster, Oldaker, Boyd,
 Baits, Kita **Servers:** Webb, C & L Schratz, Shope, Watson

Blood Pressure Screening

February is National Heart Month, and our parish Health Ministry Program will offer free blood pressure checks after the 7:45am and 9:30am Masses on February 12 in O'Brien Hall. No appointment is necessary; simply stop by and do your heart a favor.

Readings for the Week of Feb. 5

Sunday: Jb 7:1-4, 6-7/1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23/Mk 1:29-39
 Monday: 1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13/Mk 6:53-56
 Tuesday: 1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30/Mk 7:1-13
 Wednesday: 1 Kgs 10:1-10/Mk 7:14-23
 Thursday: 1 Kgs 11:4-13/Mk 7:24-30
 Friday: 1 Kgs 11:29-32; 12:19/Mk 7:31-37
 Saturday: 1 Kgs 12:26-32; 13:33-34/Mk 8:1-10
 Next Sunday: Lv 13:1-2, 44-46/1 Cor 10:31--11:1/Mk 1:40-45

Rest In Peace

Please remember in your prayers this week **Margaret Pfeifer**, mother of Steve Pfeifer, who died recently. Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord.

Ushers and Greeters

There will be Prayer & Formation Sessions for all Ushers & Greeters on Tuesday, February 7 at 7:30pm; and Sunday, February 12 at 1:00pm in Room 202. Please plan to attend one of these sessions so we can pray together and continue to explore this ministry. It is necessary for all ministers to attend. Contact Jay Specca at 724-941-9406, ext. 114 or at jspecca@stbenedicttheabbot.org with any questions and to register for one of the sessions. Anyone who is interested in serving the parish in this ministry is welcome to attend.

Fish Fry Volunteers Needed



Preparations are underway for the 2012 Family Lenten Fish Fries starting Friday, February 24 and running every Friday through March 30. Lunch will be served from 11:am until 1:00pm and dinner from 4:00pm until 7:30pm. The Family Lenten Fish Fries are a parish

function—all proceeds benefit the church community. We need volunteers to set up in the morning, work the serving line, wait tables, serve lunch, work the cash register, greet customers, work the 50/50 raffle, or be part of the “clean team” after the dinner shift. We invite any parishioner: men, women, and students (7th grade and older) who would like to volunteer their time to help at the Fish Fry in any capacity to please contact Michael Benya at michaelb@stbenedicttheabbot.org, or 724-941-9406, Ext. 105, or after 4:30pm 724-413-4310.

Collections—Jan. 28/Jan. 29

Offertory Collection	\$ 15,593
Parish Share	\$ 290
Debt Reduction	\$ 405
Paid on Loan in December	\$ 20,305
New Debt Balance	\$1,509,714



Gathering of Catholic Men

The 7th annual Gathering of Catholic Men will be on April 14 from 9:00am until 5:00pm at the AJ Palumbo Center at Duquesne University. Whether you are a grandfather, father, single man, or son, whatever your level of faith, whatever your level of spiritual fitness, come and see how your life can be changed! Bring a friend and enjoy six dynamic speakers as they help direct your thoughts and energy toward fostering a stronger relationship with God, family, friends, and co-workers. They will point the way toward what it means to *Live the Eucharist in Today's America*. Suggested donation is \$40 for adults, and \$10 for students. Bus transportation will be provided. Contact Ed Corbett at eccorbett@verizon.net or 412-302-1659 for tickets or information. Tickets can also be purchased at www.cmf pitt.org.

Women of St. Benedict

All women of the parish are invited to the next WOSB meeting on February 23, at 9:30am in O'Brien Hall. There is magic in the air, as magician Billy Hen will entertain us. Join us and get out of the cold and warm up with fun, food, and fellowship. Call Mary Beth Bokelberg at 724-941-9085 with any questions.

March for Life

On January 23 over 50 St. Benedict parishioners, many of them our teens, boarded a bus headed for Washington D.C. to participate in the 39th March for Life. The March is a peaceful protest to show that Roe v Wade should be overturned. Some of us pray at the National Shrine, others lobby our political leaders, but the majority join in the March up Constitution Avenue. The day was a rainy one, but it did not dampen the spirit or resolve of the thousands of protesters, including our very own Bishop Zubik, to be the voice of the innocent unborn. Special thanks goes out to our Teen Liaisons, Youth Ministry— for promoting the March to the teens, and to our two bus captains for making it a smooth trip. We would also like to thank all of our parishioners who made personal donations and free will offerings to help defray the cost of the bus. The babies thank you! If you have never experienced the March, mark Thursday, January 24, 2013 on your calendars now! Make the necessary arrangements to come with us and be God's instrument in telling our leaders that abortion cannot be tolerated. Respecting the sanctity of human life is an integral part of our Catholic faith.

Ministry of Mothers Sharing

Ministry of Mothers Sharing (MOM'S) invites you to join them for an 8-week Lenten Program for mothers beginning February 22 through April 11. We will start with an evening program, and a morning program may also be added with enough registrants. The MOM'S group is a national ministry that invites you to examine your inner self and your relationships with God, your children, your family, and friends. It is also a great way to problem solve and share advice. All mothers, grandmothers, stepmothers, guardians, and soon-to-be mothers are invited to participate. It's a great way to meet new friends and make St. Benedict's feel like YOUR parish. The cost is \$35 per person which covers materials, and the registration form is available in the parish office. Contact Jodi Ripepi at 724-260-0691, or email christian5906@gmail.com with any questions.

Grief Support Group

Whenever we lose someone we love, our journey through grief can sometimes seem overwhelming. But we don't have to go through it alone. Beginning February 25, our parish will again offer a grief/bereavement support group program. It will take place for six Saturdays from 9:30am to 11:00am in the Bride's Room at Church. The program is for anyone who has suffered the loss of a loved one, whether recent or a long time ago. For more information or to register, please call our pastoral associate, Dennis Gehrlein, at 724-941-9406, Ext. 109.

Pittsburgh Catholic Newspaper

Any parishioner who does not currently receive the *Pittsburgh Catholic Newspaper* at home but who would like to is asked to put their name, address, and phone number on a piece of paper along with the note "I would like to receive the Pittsburgh Catholic," and drop it in the collection basket or drop it off in the parish office. Your name will be added to the distribution list.

Old Palms

It's time to bring in all of your Palm from last year! We will burn it at Mardi Gras on February 21 to make ashes for Ash Wednesday. Please place your old palms in the basket outside the parish office by February 17.

Children's Envelopes for 2012 are available for pickup in the narthex of the Church and in the Formation Office.



Youth Ministry News

Youth Group

Youth Group returns next Sunday, February 12 at it's regular time, 7:00pm.

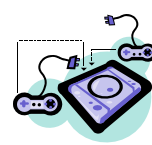
Make Sure You're Connected

Hey, parents, please make sure you send in your email address to get on the mailing list for Youth Ministry Updates. This includes activities and schedules, parent volunteer opportunities, and feedback needed on upcoming events. Please send your email to janetr@stbenedicttheabbot.org. Teens, join the facebook group St. Benedict the Abbot Youth Group to get the latest events sent to you. Anyone wanting to help with the youth group is encouraged to call me, Janet Roberto, at (724)941-9587 ext. 112.

Souper Bowl Sunday

The youth group will be collecting money after all Masses today to benefit Watchful Shepherd. This is a national effort to raise money for the forsaken of our society. On a day when it is easy to spend \$50 for Super Bowl food, we are asking for a donation equal to the price of a bag of chips.

Teen Hang Out Time



Every Tuesday from after school to 5:30pm, all high school teens are welcome to come by the Youth Ministry Office to hang out. We will be playing Wii, Apples to Apples, and other stuff. There will always be food and drinks, so bring your friends and hang out!

St. Vincent de Paul

If you are suffering from financial difficulties, the St. Vincent de Paul Society at St. Benedict can help by providing short term emergency assistance on a case by case basis. Assistance is discreet and confidential, and you will be treated with the utmost dignity. Anyone who lives within the boundaries of St. Benedict Parish may apply for assistance. You do not have to be Catholic. Please call 724-941-9406, Ext. 142 and leave a message. We will contact you and arrange for a visit to review your finances and see where we can help.

Baby Bottle Campaign

Each life has immeasurable value, and at the Pregnancy Resource Center (PRC), life is precious. It is the desire of the PRC to reach out to the confused and scared young men and women considering abortion. Please help PRC keep their doors open for the young people facing these difficult decisions by taking a baby bottle from the narthex and filling it with your loose change. When a young woman considering abortion sees an ultrasound, her heart changes, and a life can be saved. This is a priceless gift! Please call Tara Curry at 724-747-1746 if you have any questions.

Gift Cards are Back

Gift cards are perfect to use whether you are purchasing supplies for the big game or necessities to endure a long winter. Gift cards are being sold in the narthex before and after the 5:00pm Mass on Saturdays and in O'Brien Hall from 8:45am to 11:30am on Sundays. Gift cards may be ordered for dozens of retailers and restaurants, and we have many popular cards in stock for immediate purchase.

Widows and Widowers

The Widows and Widowers of St. Benedict the Abbot Church will meet for dinner on February 16 at 6:00pm at the Oasis. For more information, please contact Ellie Puskarich at 724-941-4686. New faces are always welcome.

On-Line Giving



We have recently added a new feature to our on-line giving program. **"Quick Give"** is an easy-to-use, quick means of contributing a one-time gift toward the fund of your choice without setting up an on-line account! Your gift will be processed immediately, and payment information will not be stored by On-Line Giving. You can access our On-Line Giving by going to the parish website and clicking on the on-line giving link on the home page.

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



This Week In Our Parish

Sunday, February 5

Abbey Coffee House Open After 7:45 & 9:30 Mass

9:00a	Faith Formation Session	
10:45a	Parents' Baptism Class	(206)
11:00a	Faith Formation Session	

Monday, February 6

9:45a	WOSB Praise Moves	(PBAC)
5:30p	Aerobics	(PBAC)
7:00p	Catholic Scripture Study	(208)
7:00p	Centering Prayer	(Chapel)

Tuesday, February 7

9:00a	Catholic Scripture Study	(206)
5:00p	Youth Choir	(Choir)
6:00p	Faith Formation Session	
7:00p	Contemporary Choir Practice	(Choir)
7:30p	Prayer & Formation Meeting— Ushers & Greeters	(202)

Wednesday, February 8

12:00p	AA	(204/206)
5:00p	Youth Handbell Choir	(Choir)
6:00p	Faith Formation Session	
6:30p	Confessions	(Church)
6:30p	Adult Handbell Choir	(Choir)
7:45p	St. Vincent de Paul	(206)

Thursday, February 9

9:45a	WOSB Praise Moves	(PBAC)
12:00p	NA	(208)
5:00p	Youth Choir	(Choir)
5:30p	Aerobics	(PBAC)
7:00p	Choir Practice	(Choir)
7:00p	R.C.I.A.	(202)
7:00p	Dress Rehearsal—Talent Show	(PBAC)
7:30p	Boy Scout Troop 1313	(OBH)

Friday, February 10

9:30a	Prayer & Share	(Ch.Nur.)
7:00p	Talent Show	(PBAC & OBH)

Saturday, February 11

7:30a	CMF	(208)
9:00a	Aerobics	(PBAC)
11:00a	Confessions	(Church)
1:00p	Marriage Preparation Class	(208)
6:15p	"Another 3 Dates"	(206)

Sunday, February 12

Abbey Coffee House Open After 7:45 & 9:30 Mass

9:00a	Faith Formation Session	
11:00a	Faith Formation Session	
1:00p	Marriage Preparation Class	(208)
7:00p	WORD	(PBAC)

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

Peter Balash
724-941-3746

Bowling League

Ken Hartenbach
724-941-0932

Boy Scouts

Kevin Dolinar
724-942-0388

Cantors, Choirs,

Bell Ringers

David Leo, ext. 108
724-941-9406

Catholic Men's Fellowship

Ed Corbett
724-942-6429

Catholic Scripture Study

Tara Curry
724-942-7539

Centering Prayer

Dennis Gehrlein
724-941-9406, ext. 109

Children's Liturgy

Teresa 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

Jane Sarra
724-746-6798

IHN

Mary Spinabelli
724-942-2478

Lectors

Jack Ellsworth
724-969-0899

Library

Ellen Mavrich
724-941-2446

Military Support

Jami Christopher
724-747-9396

Ministry to the Sick

Barb Scheuering
724-941-9104

MOMS

Jodi Ripepi
724-260-0691

Pastoral Council

Jane Sarra
724-746-6798

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

724-941-9406, Ext. 142

Ushers

Mike Silvestri
724-941-5238

Wedding Coordinators

Lois McCloskey—
724-941-6879

Nancy Huffner—724-941-6805

Women of St. Benedict

Cel Satler—724-969-0753
Lois Griffith—724-941-8979

Youth Council

Sheila Arcuri
724-942-6431

Check out these great Catholic sites:
www.wordonfire.org & www.Other6.com a place to
blog about your lived-out experience of faith.

Don't forget to sign up to receive
"Blasts from the Abbey" our email
updates for parishioners.