

Mass Intentions

Monday, March 3: Weekday [Saint Katharine Drexel]

8:00 am (GS) Zagar Family - Alan

Tuesday, March 4: Weekday [Saint Casimir]

8:00 am (GS) In Honor of the Holy Face of Jesus

Wednesday, March 5: ASH WEDNESDAY

8:00 am (SJ) For the Living and Deceased of our Parishes

6:30 pm (GS) Stephen Hramika - wife, Annette

Thursday, March 6: Thursday After Ash Wednesday

8:00 am (GS) Lillian Hlista - Mary Uhernik

Friday, March 7: Friday After Ash Wednesday

[Saints Perpetua and Felicity]

8:00 am (SJ) Don Chismire - John & Muffy Cappabianco

Saturday, March 8: Saturday After Ash Wednesday

[Saint John of God]

4:00 pm (SJ) Private Intentions

5:30 pm (GS) Martha Rusnak Williamson - Daughters,
Shirley Rusnak and Madeline Tranter

Sunday, March 9: FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

8:30 am (GS) For the Living and Deceased of our Parishes

9:45 am (SJ) Denise Hertneky - Dan & Diane Barto

11:00 am (GS) Louis "GiGi" Antonini - Ben Lewis

Readings for the Week of March 2, 2014 Week 8 in Ordinary Time

Monday 1 Pt 1:3-9/Mk 10:17-27

Tuesday 1 Pt 1:10-16/Mk 10:28-31

LENT

Wednesday Jl 2:12-18/2 Cor 5:20—6:2/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday Dt 30:15-20/Lk 9:22-25

Friday Is 58:1-9a/ Mt 9:14-15

Saturday Is 58:9b-14/ Lk 5:27-32

Sunday Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7/Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19/Mt 4:1-11

THIS WEEK WE REMEMBER Bread and Wine

(SJ) by Private Intentions

Holy Family Shrine Candle

Anita Lewis (GS) by Ben Lewis



LINKS

**Liturgy of the Word with Children
ages 5-12 to be celebrated on**

March 9 during:

9:45 am Mass at St. John the Baptist and

11:00 am Mass at Good Samaritan

All Children participating in this First Sunday of Lent LINKS will receive a "Jewels in the King's Crown" Lenten Devotion Book, Crown, and Stickers to learn about the loving sacrifice of King Jesus.

We thank the Women of WELL-come for donating this LINKS Lenten gift *In memory of Wilma Paliani-Quigley.*

**Good Samaritan
Saint John the Baptist**

**724-266-6565
724-869-2280**



From Father Joe

IS LIFE BORROWED OR LENT?

It's difficult to believe that Ash Wednesday is upon us once again. Christmas came and went in a flash, and Lent is just a breath away. Our lives are filled with so many things that there hardly seems time for anything.

Over the past 2 weeks, the Bishop has placed a series of articles in the Pittsburgh Catholic talking about the challenges and changes facing the Church as many of our priests are retiring. Talking to the people in the pews, I realize it isn't just the priests who are pulled in many directions; virtually *everyone* is stretched thin. It's like we should put a sign on the door that says "Tomorrow is cancelled. We've gone fishing."

I see it when I talk with people asking for a form saying they're qualified to be a Godparent or to be a sponsor for Confirmation. When I ask how often they come to Mass, it's not unusual to get a litany of all the hours they work and how difficult it is to find time in their schedules to get to Mass. Whenever we want to schedule something special for the CCD students, there is always a juggling of schedules for parents (and grandparents) who have to synchronize picking the kids up, getting them to soccer practice or dance lessons, trying to get a meal into them, and figure a way to get them to CCD confessions in the midst of it all. At times it seems our world is accelerating faster and faster, like a merry-go-round out of control.

These next few days leading up to Lent are a golden opportunity to step back and ask ourselves what is *really* important in our lives. The Gospel this weekend tells us not to worry about the future, but instead to "Seek first the Kingdom of God" and all that we really need will be given unto us.

I often find myself running from task to task throughout the day, but at the end of the day I wonder if I really accomplished anything important. Lent is supposed to be a season when we step back and reflect on our lives; it's a time to pray a little more and waste a little less; it's a sacred call from God to step off of the merry-go-round for a few minutes and reflect on what is really and truly important in our lives.

Of all the gifts we have received from God, time is one of the most precious of all. A great Lenten practice would be to commit to taking 10 minutes every day — or maybe getting up 30 minutes early once a week to spend quiet time with God. I can't help but think it would be a good investment of that time for us to ask God how He wants us to spend our days. Everything we have on Earth is a gift from God. All we have belongs to Him. It is *lent* to us with the expectation that we will use what He has given us to make the world, and those around us, a little holier. It all starts with getting our own spiritual houses in order. Maybe Lent is a time for all of us to do a little spiritual spring cleaning.

May God bless you and guide you this coming Lent.

*Enrich Your Lenten Journey
with a Catholic Spiritual Study on*

**“Seven Deadly Sins and
Seven Lively Virtues”**

This Lent, begin the journey from sin to sanctity with
Fr. Robert Barron’s 4-Week Spiritual Study Program
that explains the nature of the seven deadly sins,
offers a corresponding virtue for each, and
gives practical advice on how to instill this virtue in your own life.

Wednesdays at Good Samaritan (Ambridge)

(March 12, 19, 26 and April 2)

7:15 PM – 8:15 PM in Church

and

Thursdays at St. John the Baptist (Baden)

(March 13, 20, 27 and April 3)

7:00 PM – 8:00 PM in Church Hall

and

Fridays at Good Samaritan (Ambridge)

(March 14, 21, 28 and April 4)

11:00 AM – 12:00 Noon in St. Joseph House Convent

This is a **“no prep, no homework, no cost” 60-Minute Catholic Spiritual Study for Adults and Teens with DVD Presentation by Fr. Robert Barron** as well as time for prayer and reflection. An accompanying Study Guide will be available for \$15 at each session, but it is not necessary in order to fully participate.
For more information, call Susan at 724-266-6565 Extension #17.

Women of All Ages
are invited to begin their Lenten season with our first

"Mary and Martha Monday"
Women's Bible Study

on **Monday, March 10, 2014**
7:00 PM – 8:30 PM
in **Good Samaritan Church** (Ambridge)

This is a ***"come as you are, no prep, no homework, no cost"***
Bible Study for Women of All Ages
with ***DVD Presentation/Performance by Anita Gutschick***
(Catholic Women's Conference Speaker and Actress)
as well as time to pray, share,
and forge Church family friendships.

- o Give yourself the gift of ***90-minutes once a month to take a break from your daily "Martha" responsibilities*** in order to ***become more Christ-centered like "Mary"***.
- o ***Come to be enriched and challenged*** as you ***experience His Word revealed in Women of the Bible***, like Martha, the Woman at the Well, Sarah, Elizabeth, and many more.
- o ***Laugh and cry with them*** as Anita Gutschick's endearing portrayals help you to ***see yourself in their stories*** and ***claim their revealed biblical truths for yourself***.

For more information, call Susan at 724-266-6565 Extension #17

ASH WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

March 5, 2014

| | | |
|------------|--------------|----------------------|
| 8:00 am | Mass | St. John the Baptist |
| 12:00 Noon | Word Service | Good Samaritan |
| 4:00 pm | Word Service | Good Samaritan |
| 6:30 pm | Word Service | St. John the Baptist |
| 6:30 pm | Mass | Good Samaritan |

STATIONS OF THE CROSS (Fridays during Lent)

| | |
|---------|-----------------------------|
| 2:30 pm | Good Samaritan, Ambridge |
| 6:30 pm | St. John the Baptist, Baden |
| 7:00 pm | Good Samaritan, Ambridge |

2014 Holy Week & Easter Mass Schedule

**GOOD SAMARITAN and
SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST**

Holy Thursday, April 17

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|---------|
| Mass of the Lord's Supper | 7:00 pm | GS / SJ |
| Eucharistic Adoration *until 11:00 pm | | GS / SJ |
| *Night Prayer | 10:45 pm | |

Good Friday, April 18

| | | |
|-----------------------|---------|---------|
| Morning Prayer | 9:00 am | GS |
| Passion of the Lord | 2:00 pm | GS / SJ |
| Stations of the Cross | 6:30 pm | SJ |
| Stations of the Cross | 7:00 pm | GS |

Holy Saturday, April 19

| | | |
|---------------------|------------|----|
| Morning Prayer | 9:00 am | GS |
| Blessing of Baskets | 12:00 Noon | GS |
| Easter Vigil Mass | 8:30 pm | GS |

Easter Sunday, April 20

| | | |
|--------------------|----------|----|
| Easter Sunday Mass | 8:30 am | GS |
| Easter Sunday Mass | 9:45 am | SJ |
| Easter Sunday Mass | 11:00 am | GS |

**GOOD SAMARITAN and
SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST**

**Volunteer Form for Liturgical Ministers
Easter Schedule 2014**

Name: _____

Phone: _____

- Altar Server
- Extraordinary Minister
- Lector

April 12, Palm Sunday Vigil Mass (4:00 pm) ____ (SJ)
5:30 pm ____ GS

April 13, Palm Sunday Mass 8:30 am ____ GS
(9:45 am) ____ (SJ)
11:00 am ____ GS

April 17, Holy Thursday Mass 7:00 pm ____ GS
(7:00 pm) ____ (SJ)

April 18, Good Friday Passion Service 2:00 pm ____ GS
(2:00 pm) ____ (SJ)

April 19, Easter Vigil Mass 8:30 pm ____ GS

April 20, Easter Sunday Mass 8:30 am ____ GS
(9:45 am) ____ (SJ)
11:00 am ____ GS

Please place in the Good Samaritan or Saint John the Baptist collection basket or return to your parish office by March 31.

Sacrament of Reconciliation (extended times)

| | | |
|------------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Wednesdays | 5:45 - 6:20 pm | Good Samaritan |
| | <i>(Not on Ash Wednesday)</i> | |
| Saturdays | 12:00 - 1:00 pm | Good Samaritan |
| | <i>(Not on Holy Saturday)</i> | |

LENTEN REGULATIONS

- Ash Wednesday** and **Good Friday** are days of fast and abstinence. The **Fridays of Lent** are days of abstinence in the United States
- The obligation of abstinence (refraining from eating meat) begins at the age of 14. The law of fasting (limiting oneself to one full meal and two lighter meals) obliges all between the ages of 18 - 59. No one should consider this obligation lightly.
- Those individuals who have a medical condition in which fasting may be considered harmful are not obliged to fast, but should perform some other act of penance or charity.
- Pastors and parents are to see to it that minors, though not bound by the law of fast and abstinence, are educated in the authentic sense of penance and encouraged to do acts of penance suitable to their age.
- All members of the Christian Faithful are encouraged to do acts of penance and charity during the Lenten season beyond what is prescribed by the law.
- As a general rule, a request for a dispensation from the obligation of abstinence on Fridays of Lent will not be considered unless some serious reason is present. The attendance at social events, banquets, wedding rehearsals or receptions, or funeral wakes are not considered sufficient reason to request a dispensation.

WILL YOU REACH OUT WITH THE FAITH OF A CHILD TO SAVE LIVES?

40 DAYS FOR LIFE Pittsburgh



Recognizing that "with God, all things are possible," our community is joining with hundreds of other cities for this spring's global 40 Days for Life – the largest internationally coordinated pro-life mobilization in history.

40 Days for Life is a peaceful, prayerful – *and proven effective* – pro-life campaign that has already been embraced by more than half a million people worldwide, saved 8,245 lives from abortion, led to the conversion of 88 abortion workers, and seen 44 abortion facilities close.

40 Days for Life features three components: **PRAYER & FASTING, COMMUNITY OUTREACH** and a **40-DAY PEACEFUL VIGIL** outside of Planned Parenthood, 933 Liberty Ave. from 7am-7pm



Standing in the Gap...Begging God's Mercy...Praying to End Abortion



Contact us TODAY to sign up to pray at the vigil as an individual, or get a group together from your church to help fill a block of time. Be a witness to the sanctity of human life!

www.40daysforlifepittsburgh.com
mbruni@40daysforlifepgh.com 412-926-9413

Good Samaritan and St. John's Parishes have a vigil commitment for Saturday, April 12, 11 AM - 3 PM. Call to participate/share a ride in two 2-hr time slots. 724-561-2075

SAINT JOHN'S CORNER ✠

BACKGROUND CHECK FORMS Many *Background Check Forms* are still outstanding. Please return your form to the parish office as soon as possible!

Second Sunday Monthly Devotion, March 9th
DIVINE CHILD JESUS Saint Padre Pio Prayer Group meeting at St. John the Baptist, Holy Mass begins at 2:00 pm, followed by 3:00 pm Holy Hour, and 4:00 pm social in the hall. All are welcome. Fr. Ladis Cizik is the celebrant.

FAMILY DAY will be held on *Sunday, March 9, at St. John's after 9:45 Mass and at Good Samaritan following 11:00 Mass.* A craft will be provided for children and light refreshments are available for all. Please join us!

"Daily Reflections for LENT Not by Bread Alone 2014"
 Lenten booklets with reflections on the daily Mass readings are available at the church doors to deepen your experience of this solemn, penitential season of prayer.

The first **National Catholic Sisters Week** is being celebrated from **March 8– 14**, as part of *Women's History Month*. The purpose is to bring greater awareness to Catholic sisters and to make their presence more widely known and visible. Women religious have made, and continue to make, vital contributions in education, health care, criminal justice, social justice, theology, the arts, and politics. For more information, visit www.sosf.org.

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart High School Honor Roll
 Congratulations to the following students from Good Samaritan who have been named to 2nd quarter Honor Roll:
Highest Honors: *Elizabeth Kazmierczyk, Jessica Kerecman & Heidi Langhorst.* Honors: *Sarah Lotowski & Victoria Schmidt.*

Quigley Catholic High School
Open House: March 9, from 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm
Placement Exam: March 14, 2014
Shadow Days: March 14 & April 14, By Appointment

Catholic Men's Fellowship invites ALL, including our families (Moms and Kids) to *Holy Hour with Bishop David Zubik* at St. Paul's Seminary in Crafton on **March 8, 2014**. Come experience dynamic praise, worship, and time with our Shepherd. Join our Men in Eucharistic Adoration.
 8:00 - 9:00 AM - Fellowship (Donuts and Coffee)
 9:00 - 10:00 AM - Holy Hour with Bishop Zubik
 10:00 - 11:00 AM - Formation & Info www.cmfpitt.org

"Tribute to Ukraine" Benefit Concert
 Sunday, March 2 at 5 pm, Frick Fine Arts Auditorium, University of Pittsburgh, 650 Schenley Dr., Pittsburgh. Musical performers, PSO's pianist, cellist and violinist. Benefit concert features music by Ukrainian composers. Free and open to the public educational & cultural purposes.



February Baptism: Congratulations and blessings to *Brandon William Fedash* who was baptized at St. John the Baptist.




January Weddings: Congratulations and Blessings to *Zeke Kristek & Katie Sisley and Nolan Chismire & Tina Martin* who were married at Good Samaritan.

Catholic Charities Beaver County Spring Dinner Dance On Saturday, **March 22, at 6:00 pm, 2014 Spring Dinner Dance** at Monaca Turners, *Touche'* will perform. Tickets are available for \$20 at SS Peter & Paul, Beaver 724-775-4111 or St. John the Baptist, Monaca 724-775-3940.

Peter Pan Musical Production at Ambridge High School
 Ambridge Area High School presents *"Peter Pan: The Musical."* Thursday-Saturday, **March 6-8 at 7:30 pm** and on Sunday, **March 9 at 3:00 pm.** Tickets: 724-494-1563.

RETROUVAILLE Saved Our Marriage!
 This program has helped countless couples experiencing marital difficulty at all levels including disillusionment and deep misery. The next weekend is scheduled for **April 4-6, 2014.** Please call for confidential information at 412-277-3434 or see www.helpourmarriage.com.

+UPCOMING EVENTS

- Monday, March 3**
5:15- 6:45 pm CCD Grades 1-5 (SJ)
- Tuesday, March 4**
5:00 am-2:00 pm (GS) Paczki Sale - Call 724-266-6010
6:30 pm (GS) CIC/Teen RCIA "Mardi Gras" (Susan's Home)
- Wednesday, March 5**
6:30 pm (SJ) Choir Practice after Service
- Friday, March 7**
9:00 am (SJ) Pierogi Sales until sold out. Call 724-869-9758
11:00 am - 7:00 pm (GS) Fish Fry - Call 724-266-6010
3:00 pm (GS) Eucharistic Adoration
7-9 pm (GS) Confession-Rosary-Mass/Marian Prayer Group
- Sunday, March 9**
Daylight Savings Time begins 12:00 am 
 9:00 am (GS) CIC/Teen RCIA (SJH)
 9:30-11:00 am CCD Grades 6-8 (GS)
 9:45 am (SJ) LINKS during Mass; Family Day after (Hall)
 11:00 am (GS) LINKS during Mass; Family Day after (JH)
 2:00 pm (SJ) Padre Pio Prayer Group

✠ **IN SYMPATHY:** Please pray for the repose of the souls of *Mary DeFrancesco, Josephine Gaydos, Anthony Lissi, and Vince Ombres.* May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

| Good Samaritan | |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| Weekly Offering, February 16, 2014 | \$6,757.01 |
| St. John the Baptist | |
| Weekly Offering, February 16, 2014 | \$2,489.00 |