

Mass Intentions**Saturday, December 27– John, Apostle**

5:00 P.M. - Donald & Bernadine Connor (Children)

Sunday, December 28–Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph

7:30 A.M. - Lou Lorincy (Gomber Family)

9:00 A.M. - Ed Harchelroad (Wife, Peg)

10:30 A.M. - Sandy Schwenning (Husband Bill,
Children & Grandchildren)
- People of the Parish12:00 Noon - Sophie Gerlock
(Stanley Jr. & Dora Gierlack)**Monday, December 29– Fifth Day in the Octave Of Christmas :St Thomas a Becket**

8:00 A.M. - Helen Modrak (Lorraine Modrak)

12 Noon - Blessing Service: Richard H. Meyers

Tuesday, December 30– Sixth Day in the Octave of Christmas

8:00 A.M. - Kenneth L. Smith (Wife & Daughter)

Wednesday, December 31– Seventh Day in the Octave of Christmas: St Sylvester8:00 A.M. - **NO MASS**

5:00 P.M. - Anna Gualazzi (M/M Gutrie Taboni)

Thursday, January 1, 2009—Blessed Virgin Mary Mother of God

10:00 A.M. - Kubina & Pauletich (Hruby Families)

12:00 Noon - George Morates (Riske Family)

Friday, January 2–Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen8:00 A.M. - Pamela Curry Binotto
(Gail & John McDowell)**Saturday, January 3– The Most Holy Name of Jesus**

5:00 P.M. - Marjorie Brynes (Rick & Pam Dobor)

Sunday, January 4– The Epiphany of the Lord7:30 A.M. - Carl Swindell Sr.
(Justina Swindell & Family)

9:00 A.M. - Elizabeth Gillen (Joyce Chasky)

10:30 A.M. - Catherine & William Reddy
(64th Wedding Anniversary)
- People of the Parish

12:00 Noon - Carl Wirtz (Shirley Miscenko)

Please remember in your prayers those who are sick: Rosemarie Jabo, Tony & Jeannie Obidzinski, Tom Kiley, Laurie Smyth, Marnie Rennie, Louise Hillman, Emily Herring, Bill Jurgeovich, Michael Pro, Father Jerome Vereb, Paul Pro, Tim Zalewsky, Rich & Marie Fix, Cathy Villella, Kathleen Gearhart, Paul Jones. Help, save, pity and defend your servants O God by your grace!

Financial Statement

Last Week's Income was:

Regular Collection.....\$9,193.00

Thank you for your generosity.**From the Pastor's Desk**

As we approach the Christmas crèche in wonder and awe, we bow before the Lord of heaven & earth and remember that He became a little Child for our sakes that we might become children of God by the Holy Spirit!.... I want to thank everyone for the customary generosity to the church at this time, especially the offerings for the Christmas flowers, as well as the offerings for St. Theresa Orphanage in Zagreb, Croatia....also, thanks from Father Ray and me for your cards and kindness, and all of us at the office wish all of you a very Blessed New Year!....January 1, is a Holy Day of Obligation this year....

Father Phillip Pribonic

Please Note: No 8:00 A.M. mass December 31. Feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, Thursday January 1, 2009, a Holy Day of Obligation:

Masses 5:00P.M. on Wednesday, December 31, and Thursday, January 1st at 10:00 A.M. and 12 Noon.

Eucharistic Ministers: Please pick up your new schedules in the Sacristy they will not be e-mailed. Sign up sheets are in the Sacristy for New Years Eve & New Years Day.

Offerings at the Crib for St. Theresa's Orphanage, Carmelite Sisters, Zagreb, Croatia. Visit:

www.sttheresasorphanage.com/

Appreciation Dinner Doors open next Sunday, January 4 at 5:00 PM for the appreciation dinner. A parish "Thank You" for all the time and devotion to our liturgy. Come & Enjoy!

Financial Statements for 2008: If you wish to have a statement, please indicate by writing the word "statement" on you Sunday envelope.



Sanctuary Lamp will burn one week for the Blessed Virgin Mary in Memory of: Alice Bruno, requested by Sister, Peg Harchelroad.



Santucary Lamp will burn for one week for John the Baptist in Memory of Paul Matthews, requested by Jeanne, Scott & Family.

Altar Bread & Wine for one week in Memory of Elizabeth Burke, requested by Nieces & Nephews.

2009 Calendars available courtesy of David Henney Funeral Home.

Scripture Reflection

The Texts we heard today from Genesis and Luke’s Gospel have, for me at least, always been colored by the muted shades of age. We meet Abraham and Sarah in their senior years, well past the season of childbearing, the age of someone living on Social Security, who hear God’s promise they will have a son. Imagine Sarah, in her tenth decade of life, sitting in the obstetrician’s waiting room. Gaze into the eyes of everyone in their clan and see there etched both amazement and laughter. Make no mistake about it: Abraham and Sarah are now past the actuarial limits of life, awaiting the birth of their son Isaac.

And then, from Luke’s Gospel, we meet Simeon and Anna. Luke carefully tells us that Anna “was of a great age,” meaning she was up in years. But Simeon, whose beautiful “Nunc Dimittis” we both chant and sing in worship, is also assumed to be old. But Luke never says that. In fact, there is not one suggestion in the text that Simeon is advanced in years, teetering on the brink of death. Simeon has my imagination as I wonder: What if Simeon was not an old man, but rather a younger man—maybe even as young as middle age?

Make no mistake about it: our texts bluntly tell us that Abraham, Sarah, and Anna are senior adults. In fact, we often glimpse God’s sense of humor in these and other stories from the Bible when someone up in years steals the show. These people we would say are “over the hill” or “past their prime” end up being the very ones God chooses to use, even in “senior” years. How may I offer myself?

Holy Family Sunday is not just about Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Your family too is called to be a “sign” to the world of a way of life modeled after the Holy Family. Like Mary and Joseph, you will be “a sign opposed” by others. For being different a “sword will pierce your heart.” If we are doing it right, pain and Christianity go together!

Altar Server Schedule	
Saturday, January 3, 2008	
5:00 P.M.	- M. Welsh, T. Wockley
Sunday, January 4, 2008	
7:30 A.M.	- B. Swiess, N. Wockley
9:00 A.M.	- N. & M. Leng
10:30 A.M.	- G. Kyle, C. Shakespeare
12:00 Noon	- A. Rigatti, W. & T. Ashton

Marriage Moment: "On the fifth day of Christmas my true love gave to me - five golden rings." Really only one ring for each of you is necessary. Pause and look at your wedding ring today. Remember, it's a sign of devotion not wealth.

Coming in January: Tai Chi Classes with Sister Kathy!
 Tai Chi is an ancient form of exercise that began in China. It has developed over the centuries and today it is practiced by millions of people around the world to improve and maintain good health. The delight of Tai Chi is that anyone can practice it. Some of the benefits for practicing Tai Chi include: reduce stress levels, increase energy, improve concentration, strengthen bones, muscles, and joints, improve heart lung function, prevent age-related ill health, improves overall well being. Tai Chi’s movements provide the opportunity to relax and strengthen one’s body, without risk of strain or injury. It is also particularly suitable for the elderly as it improves balance and strength. Classes will be held Wednesday mornings beginning January 7, 2009 at 8:30 A.M. in the Schuster Room.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY: MEETING Thursday, January 15 at 7:00 p.m. in the Gathering Place. If you don’t know how to crochet or knit, we will teach you. Bring a friend, all are welcome. If you don’t like to attend meetings but like to help others, this is a ministry you can do at home. Please call Carol Lacher at 724/348-4692 for details and or questions.

Dear Joan:

I heard Father talking about Ms. Deana on Christmas and he was saying that her house burnt down. That’s terrible, is there anyway that we can help, I feel so bad!



Signed: Wanda

Dear Wanda,

Please don’t be alarmed. Ms. Dean’s house didn’t burn down. Father was referring to an article in the paper in which Ms. Deana was responding to a personality quiz and when asked who influenced her the most in a positive way, she responded “My grandparents, hands down. They were always so supportive of me. I could’ve set their house on fire and they would’ve told me: What a wonderful fire! You have such talent!”

Signed: Joan d’Arc

Rest in Peace: Monica Thornhauer, mother of Kitty, William & Susan, and William Burkhart, father of Christopher Scott, Rita Lowden, a long time parishioner, and Albert Klimcheck.

It takes a whole week for our volunteers
to prepare for our monthly fish fry.
Because of the New Year holiday, there will be

NO JANUARY FISH FRY

See you on February 6!

ICE SKATING - If you signed up for the youth group trip to PPG Place on Monday, December 29, please meet at the Pleasant Street "T" station at 10:45 AM

SILVER RING THING - is a multi-media program that includes skits, videos, music, and witness talks. It is a fast-paced, energetic and dynamic presentation that captures the imagination and attention of the audience while reinforcing the message of *Catholic Vision of Love* and the importance of embracing a life of chastity. The Catholic Edition of Silver Ring Thing will take place on Friday, January 16, 2009 for students in grades 8 - 12 and their parents. It will be held at Seton LaSalle High School from 6:30 - 9:00 pm. Cost is \$5 student, \$8 adult (the ring is an additional \$20). Register online at www.silverringthing.com.

HOLLYWOOD VS FAITH - Frank Runyeon, Hollywood star of TV and film uses the Beatitudes and writing of St. Paul to critically look at the world of media through the eyes of Catholic teachings. He uses humor to reveal the shortcomings of the media's world view. 8th grade and high school students interested in attending this program should return a signed permission form no later than Jan. 4 to Mrs. Sherratt. We will meet at SJA at 6:30 PM on Wednesday, January 14 and travel to St. Benedict the Abbot for the 7 PM performance.

Christmas Remembrance: In Honor of Memory of:

Blahut & Ault Families (Pat & Jerry Ault)
Catherine & Jerry Vogt (Pat & Jerry Ault)
Norma J. Chasky (Dale R Chasky)
Daniel L. Chasky (Chasky Family)
Elizabeth C. Mooney (Joyce Chasky)
Elizabeth Gillen (Joyce Chasky)
Bertha & Daniel Koleszar (William, Debbie & Richard Koleszar)
Casino & Teresa D'Alessandro (M/M Dale D'Alessandro)
Robert E. Hobbs (Mrs. Robert Hobbs)
Joseph & Ruth Nypaver (Patrick Dunlap & Jill Nypaver)
John, John Jr., & Rita Macey (Patrick Dunlap & Jill Nypaver)
Armene Crawford, Gaye Lindsay (Patrick Dunlap & Jill Nypaver)
Gretchen Mille (M/M Neil Como)
Deceased members of Rice, Como, Lee & Fenten Families
 (M/M Neil Como)
Richard W. Young (Wife & Daughters)
Gastmeyer-Pailison Families (Don & Carole Paulison)



Island Party at SJA— Chase away those winter blues and join us for the Tom Watt Island Party to be held February 20 & 21, 2009. Tickets are \$30.00 each which includes the live music of Tom Watt, the "Buffett Man" and a fabulous island buffet dinner. For tickets and further information, please call Pat 412-854-1089.

Community Events

Charity Card Party: Sponsored by St. Anne Christian Mothers & Guild. All are welcome to attend! January 19th, 2009 7PM, in Harkins Hall (under the church) Cost: &5.00. A light lunch will be served, for reservations are due by Thursday, January 15th, 2009

A Rachel's Vineyard weekend retreat for post-abortion healing will be held on February 6-8, 2009 at the Spiritan Center in Bethel Park. To register or for more information, visit www.ccpgh.org, or call Catholic Charities at 412 456-6999 before 1/30/2009 and ask for Ann Depner or Karen LaFrance.

Does Holiday time add to an already stressful marriage? -- Do you feel helpless and unable to do anything about it? Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi with a long i) is designed to help troubled marriages regain their health. It helps spouses uncover or reawaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together. The program is highly successful in saving hurting marriages, even bringing reconciliation to couples who have already separated or divorced. For confidential information about or to register for the upcoming program beginning with a weekend on January 9, 2009, please contact Retrouvaille at 412-277-3434. More information is available at www.helpourmarriage.com.

HIGH SCHOOL juniors or seniors and their families are invited to a Get Acquainted Day Open House at Saint Vincent College, Latrobe, on Sunday, January 18. Registration is from 11:30 to 11:45 a.m., followed by an introduction to Saint Vincent College and a student panel as well. The day will conclude at 3 p.m. For information or reservations, phone 1-800-782-5549, e-mail admission@stvincent.edu <<mailto:admission@stvincent.edu>>, or register online at www.stvincent.edu <<http://www.stvincent.edu>>.

Help Support SJA School

AVON Fundraiser for SJA School- Please consider taking an AVON catalog (located in the cry room or at the Cloak Room in the hall). 10% of all sales will be donated to St. Joan of Arc School. Please call Kathie Gasior 412-833-7561 with any questions

2009 St. Joan of Arc Lottery. Tickets are \$25.00 giving the purchaser 365 chances to win throughout 2009. For information, please contact Tammy Manion at 724-348-9036