

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT December 9, 2007

*"There are indeed two types of human beings:
the Pharisees and the publicans,"
said the Master after reading the parable of Jesus.
"How does one recognize the Pharisees?"
"Simple. They are the ones doing the classifying,"
said the Master.
-- Anthony de Mello --*

ADVENT: THE COMING OF THE LORD

Advent means "coming of" and has been designed as a season of hope. We look for the One whose coming has been foretold by the prophets. In the Scriptures today we meet John the Baptist, the last and greatest of the prophets who prepared the way for the coming of the Messiah. John the Baptist preaches a message of repentance, giving a call to turn away from whatever blocks us in our ability to welcome Jesus, the Messiah, into our lives. **Jesus comes to us in countless ways every day of our lives.** Advent calls us to change whatever in our lives interferes with our recognition of Jesus and our welcome of Jesus into our lives.

ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE

Our parish **Reconciliation Service** for **Advent** is scheduled for **Tuesday** evening, **December 18, 2007**, at **7:00 P.M.**, in Our Lady of the Snows Church. There will be visiting priests available for individual confessions. Please mark your calendars now and plan to join us as we celebrate God's gracious forgiveness in the wonderful Sacrament of Reconciliation.

The **Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)** will also be available on **Monday, December 17**, at **7:00 P.M.**, at the **Church of Saint Gregory in Clarks Green** and on **Thursday, December 20**, at **7:00 P.M.**, at **Corpus Christi Church in Montdale.**

Confessions are also scheduled on **Friday, December 21**, from **12:40 P.M. to 1:40 P.M.** and from **7:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.** in **Our Lady of the Snows Church.**

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS

The second collection at all Masses this weekend will be for the annual Retirement Fund for Religious. Over many years now, Catholics throughout the United States, including Catholics in our parish, have been extremely generous in support of this fund. The need is very great because during many years when large numbers of religious men and women were ministering in schools and parishes and hospitals and other institutions, the financial compensation for religious was minimal with no possibility of saving any for the expenses associated with retirement. Please be as generous as you have always been. If you were not prepared to make an offering this weekend, you can still make an offering by sending it to the parish office or by dropping it in the collection next weekend. **Thank you for your generosity!**

TINY TIM

Once again this year, our parish Men's Club is sponsoring the Tiny Tim Program. This program, through the generosity of many people, provides Christmas gifts for families in need. If you are able to participate, please take one of the envelopes and purchase a gift and bring the wrapped gift to the church no later than **Sunday** morning, **December 16th**. Thank you for your help.

2007 DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL

Thank you to all who have made a pledge or gift to this year's Diocesan Annual Appeal. Your Generosity will help the Church at the diocesan level to accomplish much good in the name of all of us. To date, members of our parish have pledged **\$71,376.00** to this year's Diocesan Annual Appeal. This represents **69%** of our parish goal of **\$103,300.00** and the participation of **626** families or individuals in our parish. **If you have not already made a pledge or a gift, it is not too late.** You can make a pledge and pay it in five monthly payments beginning in January 2008. Thank you for whatever you are able to do. **Thank you** again for all that you do for the Church in our parish and our diocese.

HIGH SCHOOL RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Our religious education program for high school students involves a **released time program** in which students are released from high school for religion classes. We encourage all high school students in our parish who attend public high school to consider participating in our once-a-month classes. To register for this class, please contact **Steve Wallo, our parish Youth Minister.** Permission forms must be signed by parents; students are transported by bus to the class and back to the school. Please consider participating. Check with **Steve Wallo** for the schedule.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Your Sacrificial Offering for last weekend amounted to **\$12,335.80.** **Thank you** for your generous sharing of your treasure with your church family. Your generosity makes possible the day-to-day life of our parish community with its many ministries. **Thank You!** (We need to average **\$15,900.00** weekly in order to make ends meet and take care of our beautiful buildings and properties and maintain our many ministries.)

WINTER WEATHER

Because we have come to depend on your regular generosity in order to make ends meet, please, if at all possible, consider making up your weekly offering the following week whenever the bad winter weather prevents you from getting to Mass on a weekend. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

A REMEMBRANCE IN YOUR WILL

If you are able, a remembrance for your parish in your will is a wonderful way to provide for the future well-being of your parish community. Thank you for

considering this very special way of sharing with your parish family.

BAPTISM CLASS FOR PARENTS

The next **Baptism Class for parents** will be on **Sunday evening, January 27, 2008, at 6:30 P.M.** A Baptism class is required for all parents of children being baptized. If parents have already attended one of these classes, they are not required to attend one before the Baptism of another baby. Parents may attend these classes at any time before the Baptism. Parents may choose to attend the class before the birth of their baby if this is more convenient. Godparents are more than welcome to attend. Please call the parish office (586-1741) to register.

CALENDAR

Sunday, December 9, 2007

10:00 A.M. CSB Choir ****

2:00 P.M. Bereavement Support Group *****

Monday, December 10, 2007

7:00 P.M. Cub Scouts *

7:00 P.M. Knights of Columbus *****

Wednesday, December 12, 2007

10:00 A.M. MOMS & TOTS *

1:00 P.M. Bible Study *

4:00 P.M. Wednesday Afternoon Choir **

6:00 P.M. First Penance Practice **

Thursday, December 13, 2007

6:00 P.M. First Penance Practice **

7:00 P.M. OLS Choir Rehearsal **

7:00 P.M. Jamaica Missions Meeting ***

Friday, December 14, 2007

10:00 A.M. Friday Morning Co. *

7:00 P.M. N'AP Dance at Rec. Center

Saturday, December 15, 2007

9:30 A.M. First Penance **

11:00 A.M. First Penance **

Parish Center* Church ** Large Conference Room***

Church of Saint Benedict ** Small Conference**

Room *** Gathering Room *******

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

His Excellency, the Most Reverend Joseph F. Martino, D.D., Hist. E.D., Bishop of Scranton, and the Office for Parish Life/Family Life wish to invite couples celebrating their **25th or 50th wedding anniversary** in 2008 to a **Diocesan Wedding Anniversary Celebration on Sunday, May 4, 2008.** The event includes a 2:30 P.M. Mass at St. Peter's Cathedral followed by a reception. Request for an invitation, with a mailing address that will be accurate in February, should be made through your pastor before January 10, 2008.

SOUTH ABINGTON TOWNSHIP ADDRESSES

In response to our inquiries, the company that supplies our church envelopes advised us that a Postal Service update on their equipment automatically changed the addresses of our parishioners who live in South

Abington Township from Clarks Summit, PA, to South Abington Township, PA. If you would like your address to remain Clarks Summit, PA, please call the parish office or mark that on the next Church Offering envelope that you use. We will make the change and the company will insure that the change is made by the time the next set of envelopes is mailed to you. **We apologize for the inconvenience.** If you want the address to remain as South Abington Township, just leave your envelope as it is when you use it.

MUSIC MINISTRY

The Resurrection Choir

This Choir sings at funerals. For further information, please call Jennie at the parish office.

Cantors

If you would like more information about our cantor Program, please call Jennie at the Parish Office.

Choir

Please call Jennie at 586-1741.

NOTICE REGARDING SEXUAL ABUSE OF A PERSON UNDER EIGHTEEN YEARS OF AGE BY ORDAINED OR LAY PERSONNEL OF THE DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

Such an act should be reported to the Diocese by calling the Victim Assistance Coordinator (570) 344-5216 or the Chancellor (570) 207-2216 or the Vicar for Priests (570) 207-2269. Upon receiving a report of this kind, the Diocese of Scranton is committed to assisting victims or survivors of sexual abuse in their pursuit of emotional and spiritual well-being.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Monday

7:00 A.M. Suzanne Mastri Gerald Cimasky

12:10 P.M. Rose Lee Gilesky Tom/Mary Di Matteo

Tuesday

7:00 A.M. Viola Antinnes John Wilk

12:10 P.M. William V. McGarry Family

Wednesday

7:00 A.M. Peter S. Brokus Peter/Ann/Katie

12:10 P.M. John Toomey Bob/Joan Kranick

Thursday

7:00 A.M. John Quinn Family

12:10 P.M. Mary Walski Carol/Mike Revak

Friday

7:00 A.M. Kevin Welby Robert Lawless Family

12:10 P.M. Angelo Baglino John/Toni Ray

Saturday

4:00 P.M. Ann Dolan M/M Frank Savo

5:00 P.M. Sam Lomeo Fran

6:30 P.M. Regina Olshefski Mike Coleman

Sunday

7:00 A.M. For all the members of the parish

8:00 A.M. Rose Mary Walsh Bonnie/Emmett

Sherman

9:30 A.M. Leonard Parlanti Family

11:00 A.M. Anne Kavulich Barbara/Carl Sampson

11:15 A.M. Robert Proday Family

12:20 P.M. Michael Paolucci, Sr. Richard/Jill Marlotti

A PRAYER PLEASE- Your prayers are requested for all the sick and deceased members of our parish and community.

MENDEd HEARTS

"Anyone with heart related ailments and their families are cordially invited to attend a meeting of MENDEd HEARTS, in the large conference room, 2nd floor Mercy Hospital, Scranton, PA. Tom Walsh, Mercy Hospital Chef, will be the guest speaker. He will be demonstrating how to prepare a heart healthy dessert. Applications for membership will be available, at the meeting, for those wishing to become members of this organization. The public is welcome. For additional information please contact Jack Walsh at 340-4842

NEW IN THE PARISH?

If you are new in the parish and have not yet registered, you are invited to become a registered member of our parish community. You can stop at the parish office or you can call the office (586-1741) and ask to have a census form sent to you. When the census form is completed, you can drop it in the collection basket any weekend or send it or bring it to the parish office. **We are happy to have you as a member of our parish community.**

***** YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS *****

We are asking your help with your email address if you have one. If you have not yet done so, please consider sending it to the parish office (ols2@epix.net) or writing it on the front of one of your church envelopes. Certain mailings and financial reports and letters can be sent by e-mail. This can result in a substantial savings in terms of labor and postage (especially with the increase this year of the postage rates) if we can send a large portion of these by e-mail. Thank you for considering this request.

OUR LADY OF PEACE SCHOOL

December 10, 2007

8:20 A.M. Advent Wreath Service

December 12, 2007

11:45 A.M. Act 80 Day Early Dismissal

December 13, 2007

7:00 P.M. Christmas Concert

VIRTUS PROGAM

To remain in compliance with the *Charter for the Protection of God's Children and Young People* set by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, all volunteers who work 20 hours or more with children **MUST** have the one time Virtus Training. If you have not attended training please check the diocesan websites for future training sessions at www.dioceseofscranton.org then click on Departments and Resources, then click on *Virtus: Protecting God's Children*.

COMMUNITY NEWS

WE THANK those who brought Canned Soup this weekend. If you can, please bring Coffee/Tea next weekend. Your generosity will not go unnoticed by a grateful Lord.

2008 ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS HAVE ARRIVED!!!!

This book contains hundreds of 50% off and two-for-one discounts on fine and family dining, fast food and dry cleaning, hotels and more. \$5.00 supermarket coupons as well as discounted movie tickets are also included. The book is an excellent birthday, anniversary or Christmas gift. Cost is \$25.00. Call 586-1741 or stop by the parish center to pick up the book. This year the profits will benefit the Youth for a new Van.

THE CENTURY CLUB, 612 Jefferson Ave., Scranton, PA 18510 is sponsoring an exhibit entitled No Room at the Inn, A Nativity Display and Clubhouse Tour on Saturday, Dec. 15th from 10:30 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.. Donations of \$3.00 for adults and \$1.00 for children under 12 will benefit local charities. Join us as we celebrate the season and display hundreds on nativities from around the world.

SOFTBALL PITCHING – MAKING IT FUN... Fr. Joe has a secret file. It's so secret he has even forgotten where it is. In that file are the names of young ladies who wanted to visit with Fr. Joe's daughter, Theresa, who pitched for 4 years at Villanova Univ. Theresa loves to show interested young ladies (10 yrs and up) how to pitch, not throw, have fun doing it, and, if they choose, with hard work and desire take their softball game to an entirely different level. Please call 586-1741, patch into Fr. Joe's voice mail, and leave your name and phone number. The softball session will be on an evening, preferably Dec. 26th, 27th or 28th at a congenial time for all. Peace always! And Thank you again for your prayers in helping Fr. Joe finish his 1st Triathlon!

ECUMENICAL CHRISTMAS TEA: Church Women United Lackawanna County invites you to a Christmas Tea Friday, December 14, at 1:30 P.M. at Stewart Memorial Church, Main St., Old Forge. There will be a speaker and refreshments. Please bring items for Christmas stockings for Clarks Summit needy; items include socks, toothpaste, cards, tablets, pens, activity books, candy, deodorant, tissue, shampoo and combs. Questions? Call Dee Smith 562-3535.

THE PRISM ...Parish Newsletter Fall/Winter issue was mailed to some 2700 families prior to Thanksgiving. Editors Susan Chuff and Kay Gallagher give Thanks to all who contributed articles, photos, art work, etc., They are: Guest columnist Sr. Anne Paye, RSM, Sr. Alene Perry, C.P., Jane O'Hara Krupa, Rita Fenton, Mark Taffera, Brian Porter, Joseph Grieboski, Kathryn Brokus, Steve Wallo, Corrine Wolff, Katie Fricchione, Alyssa Buckbee, Judy Kennedy, Nettie Goldate, Anetta DeAngelo and Tiny Tim. Please keep sending in your suggestions and interests, etc. Next issue will be before Easter (early this year) and deadline will be March 1. Thanks in advance.

WEEKLY BULLETIN ON PARISH WEB PAGE

See our parish web page at www.OLSSB.com for our weekly parish bulletin. You can locate the bulletin by pressing Bulletin on the main page. The bulletin will be

placed there each week a few days before the weekend. The bulletins of previous weeks will remain on the website for several months or longer.

BULLETIN BRIEFS

I...decisively support you in your political efforts to favor conditions enabling young couples to raise children. Yet all this will be pointless, unless we can succeed in creating once again in our countries a climate of joy and confidence in life, a climate in which children are not seen as a burden, but rather as a gift for all.

Pope Benedict XVI, Homily, Midnight Mass, Christmas 2006

LITURGY COMMITTEE NOTES

Did you know?

Today the liturgy turns to John the Baptist, one of the primary figures of Advent. What an entrance John makes in today's Gospel. He appears, the Gospel attests, preaching fire and brimstone. He reminds us of the urgency of Advent and the radical transformation of our lives to which the season calls us. The Lord is coming! Let your repentance and your preparation show in your lives.

An observance of Advent is meant, like our observance of every other liturgical season, to change us. It is meant to have an effect on our lives and the way we live as followers of Christ, as members of the Church. When Christmas arrives, we should be changed – different from how we were when Advent began. This transformation is the essence of John the Baptist's teaching. (Written by Steve LaRue; Sourcebook 2008)

Weekly Inspiration: 12/9/07 Second Sunday of Advent

We are awaiting a Messiah who will bring peace. It is a time to change and prepare. .

Readings for Next Week – 12/16/07 - Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10: James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11

Songs for Next Week – Gathering Hymn: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel #189; Communion Song: "You are Mine" #454; Closing song: "O Come, Divine Messiah" #196

VIRTUS PROGRAM

To remain in compliance with the *Charter for the Protection of God's Children and Young People* set by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, all volunteers who work 20 hours or more with children **MUST** have the one time Virtus Training. If you have not attended training please check the diocesan websites for future training sessions at www.dioceseofscranton.org then click on Departments and Resources, then click on *Virtus: Protecting God's Children*. We will be scheduling a Virtus Training in January or February. Please watch the bulletin.

NEIGHBORHOOD PARISHES VOLUNTEER POSITION

Please accept the call to help with our Neighborhood Parish (NP) program. We are constantly increasing the number of neighborhoods as we move toward the goal of placing all parishioners in a small group with 10-15 other families who live in the same natural, geographic area.

The NP program cannot function without NP representatives, couples or individuals who fulfill the

program goals of welcoming, contacting, and inviting every member of our very large parish to a parish social function each year. This is a very important position, and our staff is ready to make it easy and enjoyable. With four years of experience, we share ideas; we provide networking; and we offer social events for members of NPs.

If you are not currently in a NP, please consider calling Kate or Carol at the Parish Center to find out more about the satisfying role of Neighborhood Parish Representative (NPR). If you are new to the parish and are looking for ways to become involved, this would be a perfect way to get to know your neighbors and provide a valuable service to Our Lady of the Snows.

CHURCH CLEANERS FOR ST. BENEDICT'S

We are in need of some additional people to help clean St. Benedict's Church. This involves approximately two hours, once a month. If you are interested or need more information, please call Carol at the Parish Office.

USHERS

We are looking for men or women who attend the 11:15A.M. Mass at Our Lady of the Snows Church to become ushers. If you are interested or need further information, please speak to one of the priests or call Carol at the Parish Center.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

We will have exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, when the Eucharist is visibly exposed in the monstrance for adoration, on the second Sunday of each month at Our Lady of the Snows Church. **The next Eucharistic adoration will be held on Sunday, December 9, 2007 from 6:00P.M. until 8:00P.M.**

PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING

November 8, 2007

Prayer – The members read, reflected, and shared on the Sunday Gospel of Luke 20: 27-38.

Mission Statement – This statement was accepted.

Retreat for Pastoral Council – Information on the year long Prayer Retreat, *Co-Laboring with the Lord*, was shared with members. Concerns regarding time constraints of members were addressed. We will begin in November and Sister Susan Hadzima, will facilitate the group prayer in December. She is familiar with Ignatian Spirituality. We will also coordinate our calendar so that she will meet with us several more times.

Update on Parish Twinning with the Jamaica Missions – The new planning committee includes: Denny Dawgert (liaison to Pastoral Council), Grace Dawgert (liaison to Passionist, Fr. Neil), Helen McCullough, Anna Scahill (Chairperson), Wade Whitney (liaison to churches), Steve Wallo (liaison to Youth), Maria Vietz, and Jack Zaums (liaison to parish groups. Many ideas developed at the first meeting and they will try to have something in place for the parish in January. John Regula volunteered to prepare a power point presentation for the parish.

Debt Reduction – Members of the Parish Council will speak at all the Masses on February 3rd, the Sunday before Ash Wednesday. There were several suggestions given for improvement which will be evaluated.

Closing Prayer – We recited the “Mission Statement” together.

Next Meeting – Dec. 6th (Prayer Meeting with Sr. Susan)

Members of the Pastoral Council – Mary Ellen Buckbee, John Boyle, Dennis Dawgert, Michael Fleming, Kay Gallagher, Kathleen Judge, Daniel Ragland, John Regula, Mary Sweeney, Thomas Vanaskie, Alyssa Buckbee, Msgr. McGarry, Fr. Hornick, Deacon Leo Lynn, Kate, Frye, A. Carol Salva.

If you know a parishioner who is ill or homebound and needs a visit, communion, or help, please fill out the card below and drop at the parish center or in the basket.

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____

PHONE NUMBER _____
() sick () homebound () in hospital
() nursing home
() would like communion
() would like a visit
() needs Sacrament of the sick
() needs other assistance

FAMILY MINISTRY BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

The next bereavement session will be **on Sunday December 9th at 2:00pm** in The Gathering Room. **Focus of this group will be Surviving the Holidays After The Loss of a Loved One.** For more information call Nettie at 586-1741. .

Bereavement Support for Parents: Please call Sue Brier at 586-2162.

CONVERSATION CORNER

The re are so many people in our lives from those who are close to us to the strangers we pass on the street. We have our beliefs and ideas of what is good and acceptable and it is easy to judge others by our standards—after all we are God fearing people and we know what is right. Do you ever consider that each person you meet is a gift? If we can stop judging others for a moment, perhaps we can discover the gift they can bring to our hearts.

FOR BETTER FOR WORSE

Trust is the foundation of a marriage which allows love to grow.

MOTHERS AND TODDLERS GROUP

Our parish MOTHERS AND TODDLERS GROUP will resume sessions on **Wednesday November 28th at 10:00 am** in the parish center.

We will continue meeting on the 2nd and the 4th Wednesday of each month. All mothers are welcome to join us for a morning of socializing, faith sharing, and fun. for more information call Annie James at 586-6199.

Can You Help Us? Can We Help You?

Prayers. If you or someone you know is in need of prayers, or if you wish to become a prayer partner in our prayer chain.

Transportation to mass, grocery store, doctor’s appt.

Home visit Communion visit/ Respite care.

Temporary help providing meals during recovery from surgery, family member being hospitalized, new baby, etc. **If you are in need of any of these services, or if you can help out please call Nettie @ 586-1741.**

LAZARUS MINISTRY NEEDS VOLUNTEERS!

The Lazarus Ministry is a group of volunteers to prepare a meal for the bereaved family in The Gathering Room (lower level of the Church) after the funeral of their loved one.

We can use volunteers to help with the cooking, setting up of the tables, serving the meal, and cleaning up afterwards. Please consider helping out in any way possible. For more information or to sign up call Nettie at 586-1741 or June Burns at 586-2048.

Only you can help...please read on.

Side By Side is a network of people in our parish who have experienced a difficult situation or “cross” in their life, (cancer, amputation, mastectomy, miscarriage, SIDS, Multiple Sclerosis, Alzheimer’s Disease, death of a child, caring for an elderly parent, unwed pregnancy, child on drugs, etc.) Are you willing to simply talk to someone who is going through a similar situation? Are you willing to help another by sending a card, or making a phone call telling someone you understand? Then your help is needed in the **Side By Side Ministry.** The Apostle Paul implores us to “Bear one another’s burdens”, and there is no one who can bear another’s burden as well as someone who has been there for himself/herself .All information is held in confidence. For more information about this ministry or to help out please call Nettie Goldate, Director of Family Ministry @ 586-1741.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

CLUSTER LEADERS AND PARENTS: PLEASE NOTE THAT THE MINIMUM REQUIREMENT IS THIRTY (30) HOURS OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PER YEAR.

Cluster Leaders please make sure you make up cancelled sessions, and parents please take

your child's attendance seriously in our religious education program.

CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES

Please submit your confirmation name and sponsor's name if you have not already done so. Also sponsors need a sponsor card from their parish (not if they are a member of Our Lady of the Snows/Church of St. Benedict). This information is due to later than January 31st.

CONFIRMATION SERVICE HOURS

30 HOURS TOTAL (15 Parish-15 community)

All service projects and hours must be submitted by March 27, 2008.

Please call Nettie at the the parish office and submit your name to be called for upcoming parish projects. If you are in need of hours.

1. Call Steve Wallo for future parish and community service projects at 586-1741 or check a Youth Ministry Corner in Bulletin

2. Waverly Elementary PTA can use help 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7:00pm at the school. Call Mary at 575-1691 for more information.

3. Call Patty Rowland @ 587-5572 or Mary Jo Loboda @ 563-0912 for collection of items needed for Haiti Project.

4. Rake leaves for your neighbors.

5. St. Francis Soup Kitchen call 342-5556

6. Cleaning of the Church call Carol at 586-1741

7. Do light housekeeping for an elderly relative or friend.

8. Volunteer to walk a neighbor's dog after school or on weekends.

9. Volunteer your time babysitting so a parent can Christmas shop, or do other Christmas preparations, baking, wrapping etc.

10. Tutor a younger student or peer in an subject/area in which you excel. (DO NOT DO THEIR HOMEWORK-HELP THEM UNDERSTAND HOW TO DO THEIR HOMEWORK

Give some basketball lessons; help a friend in your dance class with their routine; help a friend practice piano, violin, etc.

YOUTH MINISTRY CORNER

The youth ministry at Our Lady of the Snows is all encompassing. We have several different Teams based on different youth interests. Any high school youth can join any of these teams at any time. We hold a general planning meeting on every **Wednesday night from 7:00PM until 8:00PM.**

A Jr. High Youth program the meets weekly is available for any youth in grades 7 and 8. **Team meetings are**

Sunday from 1:00PM until 2:00PM. Please call ahead if you're a new student who wishes to join.

"My appeal to you today, young people . . . is this: do not waste your youth. Do not seek to escape from it. Live it intensely. You, young people, are not just the future of the Church and of humanity, as if we could somehow run away from the present. The Church needs you, as young people, to manifest to the world the face of Jesus Christ, visible in the Christian community. Without this young face, the Church would appear disfigured."

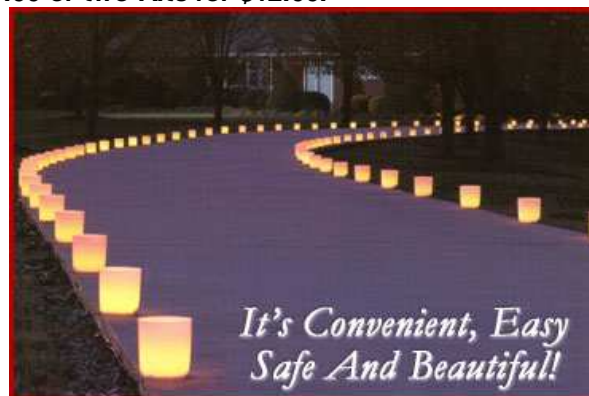
-Pope Benedict XVI to Youth in Brazil

Scheduled Events for 2007-2008

December 9th World Wide Candlelight Vigil
December 14th - 15th 7th Annual N'ap Danse Ansanm
January TBA Bus to Nowhere
February 2nd & 23rd 8th Grade Confirmation Retreats
February 28th - March 2nd ... Vermont Ski Weekend
March 14th Living Way of the Cross
June 7th - 8th Relay for Life
June 18th Light the Fire Youth Rally
June 23rd - 27th Vacation Bible School
June 29th - July 5th West Virginia Mission Trip
July 11th - 13th Franciscan Youth Conference

OLS Luminary Sale

The Our Lady of the Snows Youth Ministry will be selling Luminary Kits for this Christmas. They will be available for purchase after all masses on December 22nd and 23rd. Kits can also be purchased at any time through the Church office at 586-1741. We have limited quantities available and this sale is being advertised to the entire Abington Community. Get yours now! **Each Kit contains 12 white bags, 12 TEN hour votive candles, and 5 lbs of sand. The cost for one Kit is \$7.00 or two Kits for \$12.00.**



All money goes toward supporting the Youth Ministry Summer Mission Trip to West Virginia and also towards the Franciscan University Summer Youth Conference. Thank you for your support!

2008 Vermont Ski Weekend Trip

February 28th through March 4th is skiing time and it's time to book your spot! Flyers, reservation forms, and brochures

will be available soon in the Youth Office. This trip is open to all high school students and those in 7th and 8th grade if an older sibling or parent is going.

-3 day ski pass

-5 meals

-3 nights at the Round Hearth at Stowe Mt.

-Round Trip Transportation

-Loads of Fun

Approximate Price: \$330.00

\$100 reserves your spot. Get your deposit in as soon as possible for this awesome trip!

If you are interested in more information, call Steve at the Church: 586-1741. **Forms are available for download under the Youth section of OLSSB.com**

Worldwide Candlelight Vigil

Held annually the second Sunday in December, this year December 9, The Compassionate Friends Worldwide Candle

Lighting unites family and friends around the globe in lighting candles for one hour to honor and remember children who have died at any age from any cause. As candles are lit at 7 p.m. local time, hundreds of thousands of persons commemorate and honor children in a way that transcends all ethnic, cultural, religious, and political boundaries.

Date & Time: December 9, 2007 at 6:45

Location: South Abington Park, Clarks Summit

Bring: Please bring pictures or any other remembrances.

Special Events: There will be refreshments and a sharing time after the vigil.

Contact: Nina Trovato Telephone: (570) 504-6347

Email: ninat914@yahoo.com

High School Religious Ed Program

This program is open to all High School students in the Abington Heights School District. PA's Time Release Law allows students to be released from school for up to 33 hours a year for Religious Education experiences.

Students who sign up for the program have the choice of leaving school for 3 hours on a scheduled date once a month and are bused to Fatima Center for the program. Lunch is provided. **If you did not get one and would like to sign up for this program, forms are available online at OLSSB.com under the Youth section. If you'd like a paper copy, you can call the Parish Office.**

N'ap Danse Ansanm

Give a gift to the children of Haiti this Christmas. \$20 feeds 27 children for 1 week, \$40 feeds 1 "street kid" for 1 year, \$60 feeds and educates 1 child for 6 months, or \$100 educates 1 child for 1 year. We're looking for teams of 10 to 15 high school students who would like to help out the people of Haiti and also have some fun while doing it. It's a night of Music, Food, DDR, guitar hero, Halo 3, Moon Bounce, activities, and fun! Tee shirt included! This is an event to raise money to support Hands Together, an organization that provides emergency relief and health care to the people of Haiti. Contact Corrine Wolff, Sarah Frantz, or Alyssa Buckbee for

more information on how to join or start a team.

Odds and Ends

- **Young Adult Ministry** – new ministry for college age and those just starting out in their careers. Open to married and single, college years until 30's. A planning team for this ministry is in the formation stages: We have several on the team already. If you'd like to be a part of it, contact Steve.
- For all the latest information, call Steve at the Youth Office: 586-1741 or join our weekly e-mail list by sending an e-mail to WalloInc@aol.com

Anyone who has a family member or friend that is active military, please call the Parish Office and give us his/her name, rank and complete mailing address and if possible, when his/her tour will end. This information will be periodically published in your Parish Bulletin so parishioners can send them care packages (including food, letters, books, etc.) Thank you.

1st Lt. Donnie M. Fricks

Mitt Team 2

Limit 73746

FPO AE 09509-3746

Capt. Greg Corrales

BTT 4323

Unit 40676

TPO AP 96426-0676

Matthew McCarty

CMR 405

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APOAE 09034

Joseph Komensky

CSTC-A-Capt-F

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Lt. Michael D. Dovilla,

MNC-1 CJTF Troy

Unit #42007, J2

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USN Nathaniel Schrier

Alpha Co. 1/504 PIR

2nd BCT, 82 ABN DIV

Unit #41556, FOB Loyalty

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