

# *The Parish Community of Our Lady of the Snows - Church of St. Benedict*



## **SATURDAY VIGIL MASSES**

4:00 PM - CHURCH OF ST BENEDICT  
5:00 PM - CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF THE SNOWS  
6:30 PM - CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF THE SNOWS

## **SUNDAY MASSES**

7:00 AM - CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF THE SNOWS  
8:00 AM - CHURCH OF ST BENEDICT  
9:30 AM - CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF THE SNOWS  
11:00 AM - CHURCH OF ST BENEDICT  
11:15 AM - CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF THE SNOWS  
12:20 PM - CHURCH OF ST BENEDICT

## **DAILY MASSES**

7:00 AM - CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF THE SNOWS  
12:10 PM - CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF THE SNOWS

## **SACRAMENT OF PENANCE/ RECONCILIATION**

### **Saturday**

3:00 PM - CHURCH OF ST BENEDICT  
6:00 PM - CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF THE SNOWS

**301 South State Street  
Clarks Summit, PA 18411 -1544**

**Parish Phone – (570-) 586-1741  
Fax Number (570) 586-2504**

**E-Mail Address – [ols2@epix.net](mailto:ols2@epix.net)  
Web page – [www.OLSSB.com](http://www.OLSSB.com)**



**A STEWARDSHIP PARISH**

As a Stewardship Parish, our life together is based on the need to share our time and talent and treasure as an expression of gratitude for all of God's gifts to us.

**PARISH DEVOTION**

**THE ROSARY** – will be prayed after the 12:10 PM Mass every day.

**PRAYER PETITION** – anyone who wishes to place a petition in the Prayer Petition Book is asked to write it in the book that is located on a stand in the back of the Church

**CATHOLIC SCHOOL EDUCATION  
HOLY CROSS SCHOOL SYSTEM**

Holy Cross High School, Dunmore, PA

Principal- Mr. James Marcks

Phone 346-7541

OUR LADY OF PEACE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, CLARKS GREEN

Principal – Mrs. Jane Quinn

Phone 587-4152

*A welcoming community*

**OUR PASTORAL STAFF**

- Pastor ..... Rev. James J. McGarry
- Parochial Vicar ..... Rev. John O'Bell
- Deacon ..... Leo Lynn
- In Residence ..... Rev. Philip Altavilla, V.E.
- Dir. Of Rel. Ed/Family Ministry ..... Nettie Goldate
- Dir. Of Youth & Young Adult Min. .... Stephen Wallo
- Director of Music/Organist ..... Jennie Pitkus
- Associate Organist ..... Maria Fay
- Associate Organist ..... Ann Marie Zakaruskas
- Pastoral Associate..... A. Carol Salva
- Parish Secretary ..... Debbie Waters
- Maintenance ..... Peter Serine
- Sacristan OLS..... Matt Gerlach
- Sacristan CSB..... Sal Conaboy
- Cub Master ..... Steven Gember

**OFFICE HOURS**

Monday through Friday: ..... 8:30 AM - 12 Noon  
1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Evenings and weekends by appointment

**WELCOME**

A warm welcome is extended to all who have come to Our Lady of the Snows or the Church of Saint Benedict this weekend to join together in this community of worship and praise to Almighty God. We are grateful to our faithful parishioners who come here every weekend. Also, we welcome our neighbors and guests who visit us occasionally and want them to know they are always welcome.



**SACRAMENTAL LIFE**

**THE RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)** is the official five-stage process the Catholic Church uses to bring adult members into the faith. Anyone interested in becoming a part of this process or in obtaining more information can call the Parish Center.

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:** In order to understand and better appreciate this special sacrament, parents are required to attend the Pre-Baptismal Program. Our Parish offers this instruction once every two months, so please watch the bulletin for information, or call the Parish Center.



**SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:** Congratulations! You are asked to contact one of the parish priests at least six months before the date of your marriage so that the appropriate preparations can be made for this special celebration.

**SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK:** Urgent calls will be attended to at any time of the day or night.

**VISITATION F THE SICK:** Please call the Parish Center for visitation of the sick at home, in the hospital, or health care facility.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SCHEDULE:**

**Grades Pre-K and Kindergarten**

**Parish Center Basement**

**Sunday, 9:30-10:30 AM**

All other grades have Clusters or Classes on Sundays at Our Lady of Peace School; Clusters are encouraged.

High School – Released Time Program Monthly  
Call parish office for dates and times

**HOLY FAMILY OF  
JESUS, MARY AND JOSEPH  
December 27, 2009**

*"Beloved: See what love  
the Father has bestowed on us  
that we may be called  
the children of God.  
And so we are."  
-- 1 John 3: 1-2 --*

**THE HOLY FAMILY**

Because we are created in the image of God, the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, we are called to be family, to be community. It is in our relationships and friendships, that we imitate God and show Him to the world in which we live. The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph become a reminder and a model for us in meeting the challenge of growing into being a clear image of God in our world. In relationships, we are formed more and more into the image of God who is a community of persons and unselfish love.

**NEW YEAR'S DAY MASS SCHEDULE**

Our **Mass Schedule** for **New Year's Day**, the **Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God**, and a **holiday of obligation**, is as follows:

**New Year's Eve, Thursday, December 31, 2009:**

4:00 P.M. Mass at the Church of Saint Benedict

5:00 P.M. Mass at Our Lady of the Snows Church

**New Year's Day, Friday, January 1, 2010:**

7:00 A.M. Mass at Our Lady of the Snows Church

8:00 A.M. Mass at the Church of Saint Benedict

11:00 A.M. Mass at the Church of Saint Benedict

11:15 A.M. Mass at Our Lady of the Snows Church

**STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE**

Because of the holiday schedules, this bulletin had to be prepared early. For that reason the Sacrificial Offering for last Sunday and for Christmas was not available. Thank you for your generous offerings and support. We will list a report of these offerings as soon as possible.

In order to make ends meet, we need to average **\$16,200.00** a weekend. Anything you can do to help us reach that figure in these challenging times will be greatly appreciated.

Members of our parish may want to consider donating **appreciated assets, stocks, bonds, mutual funds, etc.** You can take the full amount as a tax credit and our parish gets the full amount donated – a sure win-win situation.

**2009 DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL**

**LET US DO GREAT THINGS TOGETHER**

**Thank you** to all who have already donated or pledged to the **2009 Diocesan Annual Appeal**. As of our latest report from the Diocesan Appeal Office, **391 individuals or families** in our parish had pledged **\$54,814.50** to the **2009 Appeal**. This amount is **46.04%** of our parish goal of **\$119,055.00**.

If you have not already pledged, please consider doing so. The pledges may be paid over a six month period, beginning in **January 2010**. You can use the envelope received in the mailing from the diocese or you can use any envelope which can be marked **2009 Diocesan Annual Appeal** and dropped in the collection basket on the weekend or sent to the parish office. Please list your name and address and the amount of your pledge. **Thank you for whatever you can do.** With all of us doing what we can, we can provide much help to the many projects scheduled to be funded by this year's Appeal.

**TINY TIM**

**Thank you** to all who have so generously participated in this year's **Tiny Tim project** to provide Christmas gifts for needy families. Thank you also to the members of our parish **Men's Club** for once again sponsoring this wonderful program which is filled with love and the spirit of Christmas. Thank you for all the work required to coordinate this massive undertaking.

**MASSES FOR THE WEEK**

**Monday**

7:00 A.M. John Delonti Jim/Jean Carroll  
12:10 P.M. Frank Kehoe Kay

**Tuesday**

7:00 A.M. Margaret McGurk Thomas McGurk  
12:10 P.M. Catherine Devine Trudy Stroney

**Wednesday**

7:00 A.M. Dolores Lee M/M Jack Lee  
12:10 P.M. Louis Sfarra Betty

**Thursday - New's Year Eve**

7:00 A.M. Elaine Wilk John Wilk/Family  
12:10 P.M. Paul Santoski Pat Walsh  
4:00 P.M. CSB Mary Beth Adams Al/Grace Mantione  
5:00 P.M. OLS Catherine Devine Steven Brown

**Friday - New's Year Day**

7:00 A.M. OLS All members of the parish  
8:00 A.M. CSB Ann Marie Konopatski Carol/Robert Mack  
11:00 A.M. CSB George Gawrys Kathleen/Jim Bryan  
11:15 A.M. OLS Edward Bergin Jim/Marge Gallagher

**Saturday**

4:00 P.M. Wendy Cotter Heim Family  
5:00 P.M. Frank Arcuri M/M Mark Deibert  
6:30 P.M. Tim Welsh Howard/Susan Hoffman

**Sunday**

7:00 A.M. For all members of the parish  
8:00 A.M. Kushinsky Family Sophie/John  
9:30 A.M. Walter Zezescki Family  
11:00 A.M. Eugene J. Benarick M/M Frank Goskowski  
11:15 A.M. Robert Flanagan Friends of Abington Comm. Library  
12:20 P.M. Travis Wahlert Patty/James Pivrotti

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

## WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

The Office for Parish Life/Family Life wishes to invite couples celebrating their 25<sup>th</sup> or 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary in 2010 to a diocesan Wedding Anniversary Celebration on Sunday, April 25. The event includes a 2:30 P.M. Mass at St. Peter's Cathedral followed by a reception. Requests for an invitation, with a mailing address that will be accurate in February, should be made through your pastor before January 10, 2010.

## "LIVING CHRIST" RETREATS

We hope that you will not be the last person in the parish to make one of the "Living Christ" Retreats. Please consider making the next Retreat which is scheduled for **Thursday, Friday and Saturday, January 21, 22 and 23, 2010**, in the **Gathering Room** on the lower level of Our Lady of the Snows Church. On **Thursday** and **Friday** evenings, the **Retreat** will run from **6:00 P.M. until about 10:00 P.M.** On **Saturday**, it will run from **8:00 A.M. until about 12 Noon.** We hope that the time of the last person in our parish making one of these retreats is a long way off. Please consider participating in the next retreat Retreat. **Please call the parish office as soon as possible to register.** It is our hope that eventually all members of our parish will participate in one of the special retreats. Please consider the invitation to participate this coming January. Please call the parish office.

**We ask all members of the parish to continue to pray regularly for God's blessing on the "Living Christ" Retreats in our parish.**

The following prayer has been prepared for those who would like to use it:

### Prayer for God's Blessing on our Parish "Living Christ" Retreats

Loving God, we ask you to send your blessing on the "Living Christ" Retreats in the Our Lady of the Snows/Church of Saint Benedict Parish Community. Guide and direct those who are leading the retreats and open the hearts and minds and souls of those participating in them. Lead all participants to a deeper experience of your Son Jesus Christ and to a greater commitment as disciples and followers of Jesus. Without you, such success is not possible. With your help, all things are possible. Bring about great spiritual growth in our parish that we might more effectively do your will. We ask all of this help through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord. Amen.

## MUSIC MINISTRY

**Resurrection Choir:** This choir sings at funerals to support the bereaved. If you are interested in joining, please call Jennie for information.

**Parish Youth Choir:** The Parish Youth Choir accompanies the congregational singing at the 9:30 A.M. Mass at Our Lady of the Snows usually every other week, beginning in September through May. Rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings from 5:30 -6:30 in the choir loft during that same week. This choir is open to young people ages 11-18. We sing for Liturgies which include

Palm Sunday, Easter Sunday (at the Church of St. Benedict) and Pentecost Sunday. Please call Ann Marie for more information at 586-4112 or e-mail at [Pianogirlz@comcast.net](mailto:Pianogirlz@comcast.net).

**CANTORS are needed for the 12:20p.m. and 6:30 p.m. (Saturday) Masses. If you love to sing, please call Jennie at 586-1741.**

## OUR LADY OF THE SNOWS 100<sup>TH</sup> YEAR

Our Lady of the Snows 100<sup>th</sup> year celebration will occur in 2011. We are beginning to prepare a historic time line of our church. If you have any pictures, articles or memorabilia you would like to share, please contact one of the following: Phyllis Ruzbarsky at 586-2119 or Jo Ann Carr at 586-3520 or Anna Scahill at [ascahill@epix.net](mailto:ascahill@epix.net) or Bonnie Sherman at 587-2235.

## CALENDAR

**Sunday, December 27, 2009**

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

**Monday, December 28, 2009**

2:00 P.M. Jamaica Mission Meeting \*\*\*

**Thursday, December 31, 2009 – New Year Eve**

**4:00 P.M. Mass at Church of Saint Benedict**

**5:00 P.M. Mass at Our Lady of the Snows Church**

**Friday, January 1, 2010 – New Year Day**

**7:00 A.M. Mass at Our Lady of the Snows Church**

**8:00 A.M. Mass at Church of Saint Benedict**

**11:00 A.M. Mass at Church of Saint Benedict**

**11:15 A.M. Mass at Our Lady of the Snows Church  
Parish Center \* Church \*\* Large Conference Room**

**\*\*\* Church of Saint Benedict \*\*\*\* Small Conference  
Room \*\*\*\*\* Gathering Room \*\*\*\*\***

## LITURGY COMMITTEE NOTES

**The Sacred Space, Furnishings, Vesture, Books  
Do you know about the LITURGICAL YEAR?**

The liturgical year begins on the First Sunday of Advent and ends on the Saturday following the Solemnity of Christ the King. It is divided into six seasons – Advent, Christmas Season, Lent, Triduum, Easter Season, and Ordinary Time. The major seasons of Advent and Christmas focus on the mystery of the Incarnation; that is, the entering into our world of the second person of the blessed Trinity as the man, Jesus of Nazareth. The major seasons of Lent, Triduum, and Easter focus on the paschal mystery; that is the dying and rising of that same Jesus. The entire rest of the year, the period of Ordinary Time, gives all of us an opportunity to focus on what those mysteries mean to us as individuals and as community.

(Steve LaRue; *Marion Eagen 2002 Resource Publications, Inc., General Instruction of the Roman Missal/USCCB Publishing*)

Weekly Inspiration: 12/27/09

### Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

On this "family" Sunday thank God for His love and the love in your family.

Readings for Next Week: 1/03/10 Isaiah 60:1-6; Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6; Matthew 2:1-12.

Music for Next Week: 1/03/10 Opening Song: "We Three Kings" #228; Communion Song: "The First Nowell" #227; Closing Song: "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice" #214. The Liturgy Committee would like to wish the entire parish a very Holy, Healthy and Happy New Year.

### **NEIGHBORHOOD PARISH (NP) PROGRAM**

The most important element of the Neighborhood Parish Program is invitation and contact. We cannot be sure of our response to our invitations or our contacts for we only plant the seeds. It is enough to INVITE AND MAKE CONTACTS because the recipient at least knows that he/she is important to our parish and is welcome. Neighborhood Parish Representatives can only be consistent, faithful, and available to the members of our groups. The contact, itself, allows the Holy Spirit to work in people's lives.

Many thanks to all the Neighborhood Parish Representatives who have done such a wonderful job of maintaining contact with their members. Although the fruits of your perseverance may not be seen by you, please know the fruits of these contacts have been many. You are letting the Spirit work through you for the good of our parish. If you need anything, please feel free to call Carol at the Parish Center at 586-1741.

### **JAMAICA MINISTRY**

Steve Wallo, Youth Director, Erin Phillips, Casey Phillips, and Jillian Abballe would like to thank everyone for their generous contributions toward their summer service trip to Jamaica. Through your amazing generosity, they were able to bring over much needed medical supplies, medications, clothing, and toiletries for residents at the nursing home in Balaclava, and patients at both St. Peter's and St. Vincent's medical clinic. During their visit, Steve, Casey and Jillian worked at the Mt. Calvary Retreat House in Mandeville, Jamaica painting and doing much needed repairs. Erin assisted Dr. Carol Narkevic at the Balaclava nursing home and St. Vincent's medical clinic in bull Savanna, Jamaica. It was a very eye opening experience to see the needs of people in another country. Your contributions have been so very much appreciated.

**MEETING WITH FR. PRICE, CP - There** will be a meeting of the Jamaica Ministry with Fr. Price on **Monday, December 28, 2009 at 2:00P.M. in the Rectory.**

**MEDICAL AND DENTAL PROFESSIONALS:** You are needed to assist Dr. Carol Narcevic at her clinics. Please note the list above for items needed at the clinic, Call Dr. Dennis Dawgert at 587-5437 for information about volunteer opportunities.

**PENNY POWER:** Thank you to all who have generously placed their change or cash in our Penny Power jugs. We have sent \$200.00 to the Calvary Retreat House in Mandeville. We are now collecting for the **Stony Hill four missions and three schools**. These mission churches are within a 20 mile radius of Immaculate Conception Church of Stony Hill. There are about 250 people at the four missions. There are also three All Age Schools and three Basic schools.

### **LETTERS AND CARDS TO OUR SERVICEMEN**

Our servicemen are in need of cards and letters. Please drop them one and let them know you are thinking about and praying for them. Please send in or call the parish office with the names of servicemen who could use cards.

Jones, Allen  
Unit 931003 TFTS  
APO AE 09391

P.F.C. Jenkins  
F.O.B. WARRIOR  
C.C.O. 15<sup>TH</sup> BSB 2BCT ICD  
A.P.O. AE 09338

Kieth Kempinski ASGA  
ACO 1/111<sup>th</sup> 56 SBCT  
Unit #6260  
APO/AE 09378

### **VIRTUS PROGRAM**

All volunteers who work 20 hours or more with children **MUST** have the one time Virtus Training. Please check the Diocesan website for future training sessions at [www.dioceseofscranton.org](http://www.dioceseofscranton.org), then click on Departments and Resources, and then click on Virtus: Protecting God's Children.

**If you need to take the training, a session is scheduled at Marion Catholic Elementary School, 638 Hemlock Street, Scranton, on Monday, January 11, 2010 from 6:30P.M. to 9:30P.M. To register please call 346-9922.**

### **RCIA**

RCIA (Rite for Christian Initiation for Adults) are for adults of all ages, and are for everyone (Catholics and non-Catholics alike): **\*Never been baptized and finding yourself attracted to the Catholic faith. \*Non-Catholics who are considering the Catholic faith. \*Baptized Catholics wanting to complete their full initiation into the faith. \*Catholics who have drifted away from the church, who want to learn more about our faith, or who want to know enough to answer their children's or friend's questions.** The RCIA schedule continues on Sundays after the holidays at 9:30 A.M. in the Large Conference Room. If you feel this invitation is for you or need further information please contact either of the priests or Carol at 586-1741. Anyone is welcome to attend.

### **ANGEL NEEDED**

We are looking for an anonymous donor(s) to help fund a parish program for the Benefit of children whose parents are suffering through a divorce. If Interested call Carol at the parish center @ 586-1741.

### **FRIDAY MORNING COMPANY**

Do you believe in the power of prayer? Do you feel that we need prayers, now more than ever? Then join us on **Friday mornings after the holidays in the Parish Center from 10:00 AM until 11:45 AM**. We begin with Morning Prayer, and then pray for individual and global intention. We have a 15 minute social, followed by prayer and discussion of the Sunday Scriptures. We welcome all our parishioners and friends from neighboring Churches, whether young, young at heart, or somewhere in between. For more information, please call Carol at the Parish Center.

### **ADULT BABYSITTERS FOR Living Christ Retreats**

We are looking for adult babysitters for the Living Christ Retreats so that our younger couples with children can attend the retreats. These can be adults or couples who can share babysitting in order to attend opposite retreats. We are hoping to find a team of people so it will only involve one night or morning. The Living Christ Retreats are scheduled on a Thursday and Friday night from 6P.M. until 10P.M. and Saturday morning from 8AM until 12 Noon. **The next Living Christ Retreat is on January 21, 22, and 23, 2010.** For further information, please call Carol at 586-1741.

information, please call Carol at 586-1741.

**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 the month at Our Lady of the Snows Church. **The next Eucharistic Adoration will be on January 10, 2010, from 6:00P.M. until 8:00P.M.**

**PASTORAL COUNCIL MEETING**

December 3, 2009

Opening Prayer: Group discussion and sharing was held on the Gospel reading from Luke 3:1-6.

Vatican II Documents: Msgr. McGarry concluded the presentation of the Reform of the Sacraments by the Vatican II Council with a discussion of the sacrament of Ordination and sacramentals. Youth, feeling a call to the religious life, are encouraged to seek the direction of the parish priest, the diocesan office of vocations, and a consultant of discernment. There also was a discussion on the qualifications for acceptance into the Diaconate program.

Msgr. again explained the sacraments are the action of all of us. Their celebration touches our senses and uses water, oil, words, etc. God demonstrates extraordinary moments in ordinary ways. The sacramentals such as almsgiving, caring for the materially poor, campaigning for social justice, etc. can also be extraordinary experiences which can move us closer to God.

Parish Debt Reduction: There will be 500 tickets at \$100 per ticket sold for this year's Parish Debt Reduction Raffle. The prize this year will be modified to one \$5,000, one \$3,000, and two \$1,000. There will be an early bird special. We would like to pay the debt off by our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Msgr. McGarry's Project: Within our parish, outreach is currently conducted through Neighborhood Parishes and Living Christ Retreats. Members are invited to think and pray about other ways to create a plan to invite people back to life of the parish. Further discussion will be held. .

Next Meeting: January 7, 2010

The members of the Pastoral Council would like to wish the parish a very Happy and Blessed Christmas

**Jamaican Ministry Donation Fund**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to OLS/CSB (please note Jamaican Ministry on the bottom of your check.)

I wish my funds to be used for:

\_\_\_ Medical Needs of the people in the Missions

\_\_\_ Help with Tuition for a school child. \$300/year

\_\_\_ Help with funds for a student at Catholic College of Mandeville. Tuition - \$2000/year Books - \$500/year

\_\_\_ Funds for Mandeville Retreat House - \$50/person

\_\_\_ General funds for the Passionist Mission in Jamaica

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

( ) SICK ( ) HOMEBOUND ( ) IN HOSPITAL

( ) NURSING HOME

( ) WOULD LIKE COMMUNION

( ) WOULD LIKE A VISIT

( ) NEEDS SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

( ) NEEDS OTHER ASSISTANCE

**WE THANK** those who brought Non-Perishable Food this weekend. If you can, please bring Non-Perishable Food for the Holidays next weekend. Your generosity will not go unnoticed by a grateful Lord.

### **COMMUNITY NEWS**

**THE COMBINED CHOIRS OF ST. ANN'S BASILICA**, Scranton, will present a concert on Sunday, December 27 at 2:00 pm in the sanctuary of the church. Entitled "A Celebration of Christmas", singers and instrumentalists will perform a variety of religious and popular songs, as well as contemporary and traditional Christmas selection. The concert is open to the public.

### **FAMILY MINISTRY BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP**

The next bereavement session will be on **Wednesday January 6<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am** and on **Sunday January 17<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm** in the **parish center**. All are invited to attend. For more information call Nettie at 586-1741. **Bereavement Support for Parents: Please call Sue Brier at 586-2162.**

#### **Holy Family**

It is easy to think of the Holy Family as perfect; but, the truth is they had their problems too. Jesus goes off on his own without a word to his parents and gives them quite a scare. It gives us an indication that life was not always peaceful and perfect for them. So it is with us. Families can be difficult. Children can be unruly. Parents can be too hard or too soft on their children. Family relationships are important. Above all, we want and need to know that our family is there for us, ready to cheer us on in the good times and lend a helping hand when things go wrong. What is your family like? Do they know they are loved unconditionally? What can you do to make your home a place of love, acceptance, support and encouragement for each person in the family?

#### **MARRIAGE PROGRAMS**

Your marriage deserves your attention, just like your health, home, car, job. Attention to keep it healthy and strong. Are you giving your marriage the attention it needs?

Consider a Marriage Encounter Weekend [www.wwme.org](http://www.wwme.org) or a Retrouvaille Weekend [www.helpourmarriage.org](http://www.helpourmarriage.org)

#### **MOMS AND TOTS GROUP**

Looking for interested participants in a monthly moms/caregivers of toddlers fellowship group. Please call Nettie at the parish office 586-1741 if interested.

#### **Care-Giver Support**

If you are interested in an elder parent care support group please call Mona DelSole at 586-3344.

#### **LAZARUS MINISTRY**

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 always use volunteers to help with the cooking, setting up of the tables, serving the meal, and cleaning up afterwards. All ages welcome. 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 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

#### Sunday Religion Education Program Holiday Schedule

There will be no class at Our Lady of Peace School on Sunday, Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup>, Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup> or Jan. 10<sup>th</sup>. Classes will resume on Sunday January 17<sup>th</sup>.

In case of inclement weather, please call the rectory at 587-1741 and follow the prompts to #5 holy day schedule or check our website at [www.OLSSB.com](http://www.OLSSB.com)

#### OLDER CHILDREN WHO NEED TO RECEIVE FIRST RECONCILIATION/FIRST EUCHARIST OR CONFIRMATION:

If the student is older than 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and needs to receive the sacraments of First Reconciliation and Eucharist, or is older than eighth grade and needs to receive the sacrament of Confirmation please call Nettie at the parish center to arrange to have the student instructed for the sacraments needed.

#### CONFIRMATION SERVICE HOURS:

There will be several opportunities for parish service hours during the next several weeks. Please call Barbara at the parish office 586-1741 to have your name placed on the list of students willing to help on these service projects.

## YOUTH MINISTRY CORNER

The youth ministry at Our Lady of the Snows is all encompassing. **Youth Ministry planning meetings are every Thursday night starting at 6:30PM with a general gathering and team meetings starting at 7:00PM. All High school students are welcome to attend anytime.**

#### Scheduled Events for 2009

December 28<sup>th</sup> .....Christmas Adventure  
January 12-22<sup>nd</sup> .....March for Life

#### Pro Life March in Washington DC

##### January 21-22<sup>nd</sup> 2010

There are at least 1.4 million unborn babies killed each year in the US (3700 each day). Every January, Pro Life Supporters come from all over the US to show support for the right to life of the unborn. This year we will be joining other youth ministries from Scranton in an overnight Vigil followed by the March for Life.



We will travel down the night before the March and stay at Nativity Church in Washington DC, hosted by the Salesians. During the night, there will be food and games along with live music, speakers, and a place for Adonation.

**Cost will be around \$65 for transportation, and events.**

#### Christmas Adventure

This event is in planning by the High school Outreach team. It's a night starting with dinner at OLS, followed by a Christmas Themed scavenger hunt around Clarks Summit and ending with a gift exchange. Details are still in the works but the date is **December 28<sup>th</sup> starting around 6:00PM** at Our Lady of the Snows!

#### Franciscan Youth Conference 2010

**WHEN:** July 16<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup> 2010

**WHAT:** The conference combine awesome talks, incredible music, praise and worship, time for prayer and fellowship, entertainment, and anointed liturgies.

**WHERE:** Steubenville, OH

**WHO:** Students entering grades 9-12 in the Fall of 2009 – OR – be a 2010 High School Graduate.

**COST: \$250 A \$50 per person deposit is due by January 9<sup>th</sup> 2010 to confirm your spot.** Cost includes: Conference fee, all meals while at the conference, lodging on campus, round trip bus transportation, 3 tee shirts, and orientation and follow up retreat costs. Fund raising will be done in order to bring down the cost as much as possible. Scholarships are also available for students who want to attend but cannot afford it.

#### 2010 Vermont Ski Weekend Trip

March 4<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> is skiing time and it's time to book your spot! Flyers, reservation forms, and brochures are 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: \$400.00**



\$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.**