

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT February 10, 2008

*"The Lord, your God, shall you worship
and him alone shall you serve."*

-- Matthew 4: 10 --

AN IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

JAMAICA MISSION PROJECT

Our Parish Council has been investigating the possibility of sharing our faith, promoting social justice, integrating global concerns, and developing personal friendships with another parish or mission. After much consideration over a long period of time, it was decided to "Twin" with the **Passionist Mission in Jamaica**. Jamaica is easily accessible, and Jamaicans speak English. The Passionists and our parish have had a long standing relationship. We attend the St. Ann's Novena, participate in retreats at St. Gabriel's, and the Passionist priests assist us by celebrating Sunday Masses in our parish.

The twinning program will give our parish the opportunity to become involved in the Jamaica parishes, schools, Mandeville College, Mt. Calvary Retreat Center, and the Manchester Infirmary. There are also some seminarians studying in the USA. There will be a wide variety of possibilities for all our parishioners to participate in this venture, from praying for the people in Jamaica to hands on assistance. In twinning with the Jamaica Mission, we will not be trying to change others, or impose our way of life. Twinning is an invitation to live our lives and faith in the spirit of global solidarity. We will build lasting relationships and share faith. Look for weekly updates about the program. For more information, contact Anna Scahill at 587-5708.

FORTY HOURS DEVOTIONS

Our annual **Forty Hours Devotions with Eucharistic Adoration** will be held this **Sunday, February 10, Monday, February 11, and Tuesday, February 12**. On Sunday, Adoration will begin at the conclusion of the 11:15 A.M. Mass in Our Lady of the Snows Church. On Monday and Tuesday, Adoration will begin immediately following the 7:00 A.M. Mass in Our Lady of the Snows Church. On all three days, Adoration will conclude with a Service at 7:00 P.M. **Father Thomas Major**, who grew up in Our Lady of the Snows Parish and was in residence here for several years when he served as Chaplain at Clarks Summit State Hospital and is currently pastor of Saint Ann's Church in Shohola, PA, will preach the homily at the three evening services.

We are in need of parishioners and friends to volunteer to spend time in adoration of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament on Sunday afternoon and all day Monday and Tuesday. **Please consider volunteering for an hour on one or more of these three days.** It is important that someone be there at all times. **Please**

consider volunteering to spend some time in prayer. Sign-up sheets are available in the back of the Church.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Your **Sacrificial Offering** for last weekend amounted to **\$14,656.28**.

Thank you very much for your generous sharing with your parish community each weekend. Your generosity makes possible the day-to-day life of our parish community with its many ministries. **Thank You!** (We need an average of **\$15,900.00** weekly in order to make ends meet and take care of our beautiful buildings and properties and maintain our many ministries. Thank you for all that you do!)

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.

LENT 2008

The **Easter Triduum** is the name of the **three great holy days** during which we Christians remember and celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ for us (this year from the **evening of Holy Thursday, March 20, to the evening of Easter Sunday, March 23**). During the Easter Triduum, catechumens who have completed their preparation are baptized and confirmed and receive the Eucharist for the first time. During Lent, the catechumens complete their preparation aided by the prayers and support of the community, the already baptized. During the Easter Triduum, the already baptized renew their Baptism, their commitment to live fully the new life of Jesus they received in Baptism. During Lent, the already baptized prepare themselves for the renewal of their Baptism during the Easter Triduum.

THE EASTER TRIDUUM

The **Easter Triduum** will begin on **Holy Thursday, March 20, 2008**, with the **Mass of the Lord's Supper** celebrated at 7:00 P.M. in the Church of Saint Benedict. On **Good Friday, March 21, 2008**, the **Commemoration of the Lord's Death** will take place at **7:00 P.M.**, in the Church of Saint Benedict. On **Holy Saturday, March 22, 2008**, the **Easter Vigil** will be celebrated at **8:00 P.M.**, in the Church of Saint Benedict. On Easter Sunday, March 23, 2008, we will have our regular Easter Sunday Mass schedule (to be published in future bulletins). Please mark your

calendars now and plan to gather with your parish community to keep these days holy.

LENTEN FAST AND ABSTINENCE

Good Friday, March 21, is a day of **Fast and Abstinence**. All of the **Fridays of Lent** are days of **Abstinence**.

All of the faithful who have reached the age of 14 are obliged by the law of abstinence. On a day of abstinence, no meat may be eaten by anyone obliged by this law.

All of the faithful from the age of 18 to their 59th birthday are obliged by the law to fast. On a fast day, those obliged by this law eat only one full meal and two partial meals unless dispensed or excused.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Stations of the Cross will be prayed in **Our Lady of the Snows Church** each **Friday evening of Lent** at **7:00 P.M.** All are invited to participate. On **Friday, March 14, 2008**, the **Living Way of the Cross** will be presented at 7:00 P.M. by high school students of our parish and community.

LENTEN ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The annual **Lenten Adult Religious Education Program** sponsored by the parishes of our region will be presented in the **Gathering Room** on the lower level of **Our Lady of the Snows Church** on **Sunday, February 17, 2008, Sunday, February 24, 2008, and Sunday March 2, 2008**. The program will begin at **7:00 P.M. and conclude at 8:30 P.M.** each of those evenings. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us. Please check the insert in today's bulletin for more details regarding our speaker and the topics of each presentation. (SEE FLYER AND ADDITIONAL ANNOUNCEMENT IN THIS BULLETIN.)

LITTLE LENTEN SACRIFICES

Once again this year the Women's Guild is sponsoring the Little Lenten Sacrifice program. Each week during lent, we are asking you to make a little sacrifice. Please take a sheet from the church entrances with the weekly items needed listed on it. Each week during Lent purchase an item on the list. When all the items listed have been purchased, please return it to the church. We are collecting the basic necessities for the Women's Resource Center. The Women's Resource Center operates a 24 hour hotline in Lackawanna and Susquehanna Counties to provide assistance from domestic violence. All services are free and confidential. When women go to the Resource Center, they leave their houses with nothing. These women need the basic necessities to help them get a fresh start. Week 1 – Deodorant, Week 2, - toothbrush & toothpaste, Week 3 – Hair comb/brushes, Week 4, Ladies socks, Week 5 – Shampoo/conditioner and Week 6 -- Body wash/gel. Thank you in advance for participation. The OLS/CSB Women's Guild.

CALENDAR

Sunday, February 10, 2008

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

7:00 P.M. Forty Hours – Evening Prayer/Homily

Monday, February 11, 2008

4:30 P.M. Parish Core Team ***

7:00 P.M. Cub Scouts *

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

7:00 P.M. Forty Hours – Evening Prayer/Homily

Tuesday, February 12, 2008

7:00 P.M. Forty Hours – Closing Prayer/Homily

Wednesday, February 13, 2008

10:30 A.M. MOMS & TOTS *

1:00 P.M. Bible Study *

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

7:00 P.M. Liturgy Committee Meeting ***

Thursday, February 14, 2008

7:30 P.M. Men's Club Meeting *

Friday, February 15, 2008

10:00 A.M. Friday Morning Company*

7:00 P.M. Stations of the Cross **

Saturday, February 16, 2008

10:00 A.M. 8th Grade Retreat @ Fatima

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

Church of Saint Benedict** Small Conference**

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

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Monday

7:00 A.M. Ann Barbara Williams M/M Chris Calvey

12:10 P.M. Julia/Stanley Matylewicz M/M David Kozlosky

Tuesday,

7:00 A.M. Jim Gorton Amy/Frank Stabinski

12:10 P.M. Robert Gallagher Gina/Terry Cochran

Wednesday

7:00 A.M. William Caputo Lenny/Nancy

Wesolowski

12:10 P.M. Donald Eline Kay Gallagher

Thursday

7:00 A.M. Robert C. Steen Margaret Williams

12:10 P.M. Joseph Cawley Family

Friday

7:00 A.M. Agnes Mooney M/M Chris Calvey

12:10 P.M. Catherine Monahan Friday Morning Co.

Saturday

4:00 P.M. Paul Kutzar Family

5:00 P.M. Patricia Kretshmer family

6:30 P.M. M/M Harry Vispi M/M Richard Garofalo

Sunday

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

8:00 A.M. Marian Barbaro Wheeland Family

9:30 A.M. Jamie/Christopher Betts Family
Betts

11:00 A.M. Frank Savo, Jr Gary/Florence Mullen

11:15 A.M. Brian Sheridan Margarie Angerson

12:20 P.M. Kevin Boyle Jerry/Jennie Pitkus

A PRAYER PLEASE- Your prayers are requested for all the sick and deceased members of our parish and community and especially Willard Kresge, Margaret Stanik, William Terrinoni and Edward Horgan.

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 **\$73,638.00** to this year's Diocesan Annual Appeal. This represents **71%** of our parish goal of **\$103,300.00** and the participation of **636** families or individuals in our parish. The Diocese is now about \$800,000.00 short of its goal. These funds are needed for a wide variety of programs throughout our diocese. Many people are waiting for much needed help. **If you have not already made a pledge or a gift, it is not too late. Please send a pledge to the Diocesan Appeal Office or drop it in the collection basket and we will forward it to the diocesan office.** If you pledged, your February payment is now due. You will receive a reminder from the Diocesan Appeal Office. **Thank you again for all that you do for the Church in our parish and our diocese.**

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.

BAPTISM CLASS FOR PARENTS

The next **Baptism Class for parents** will be on **Sunday evening, March 30, 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.

DIOCESAN COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN

The regular quarterly meeting of the Upper Lackawanna – Wayne District, Diocesan Council of

Catholic Women, will be conducted on **Sunday, February 17, 2008, in Our Lady of the Snows Church, Clarks Summit.** Rev. Joseph Hornick will conduct the Benediction Service. **Registration is at 12:45 P.M. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** will take place at **1:00 P.M.** and the **Benediction Service** at **1:30 P.M.** The District Meeting will follow in the parish meeting room downstairs. Nancy Addley, District President, will conduct the meeting. Bonnie Sherman, Parish President, is coordinating the event. **All women are invited to attend.**

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.

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.**

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.

****** 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.

IN THE HOSPITAL?

Most often, the hospitals in Scranton are very good about letting us know when members of our parish are in the hospital. Once in a while, we do not get the name of a particular person for a wide variety of reasons – most often admission through an emergency room

when all concerned are busy about more important things than documenting the parish of the patient being treated. If you do not receive a visit from one of the parish priests or one of our parish visitors within a couple of days, please ask someone to call the parish office and leave a message about your admission. You will be visited as soon as possible.

PRAYER AND FASTING FOR PEACE

Pax Christi of Northeastern Pennsylvania, in conjunction with other Catholic dioceses throughout the United States, has begun a community commitment of prayer and fasting during Lent 2008.

Beginning on Ash Wednesday at 11:45 A.M., a group met on the steps of Saint Peter's Cathedral in Scranton and entered the Cathedral to mourn the loss of life brought about by the war in Iraq and to ask God to inspire us with ways to end this war.

Pax Christi members petition our bishops, religious, clergy and parishioners of the Diocese and other interested people to join them for times of fervent community prayer, fasting and repentance that moves us to live Christ's Gospel of non-violence and peace. **If you, or people you know, can spend some time in the Cathedral on one or more days during Lent, please respond.** If possible, let us know the day and time of your visit. Thanks!

This Lenten event of prayer and fasting bears witness to the life of Franz Jagerstatter, an Austrian farmer. Jagerstatter stood for peace while the Church remained silent – in effect supporting Germany's war of conquest. He refused to serve in the German army and was executed in 1942 in Berlin. Franz was recently declared a martyr by Pope Benedict XVI.

This event is being organized within Dioceses throughout the United States by the "Franz Jagerstatter People to Break the Silence" (www.franzprayforus.org). In Northeastern PA contact: Joe Rogan at joerogan@comcast.net or 570-876-1066 or Sister Ann Walsh at 570-558-5050 or 570-342-6952.

LENTEN ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Our topic for this year is "**WHERE THE EUCHARIST IS, THERE IS THE CHURCH**". Father William Flynn, S.S., Pastor of Corpus Christi Church in Montdale will be the presenter for the three sessions. The first session is scheduled for next **Sunday, February 17, 2008, from 7:00 P.M. to 8:30 P.M.**, in the **Gathering Room** on the lower level of **Our Lady of the Snows Church in Clarks Summit.**

The topic for this first week will be "**The Eucharist as the Core of the Church's Prayer.**" Please see the full page flyer in another part of this bulletin for more details. Please be sure to join us and please bring a friend.

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

CHICNCHILLA ANNUAL PIZZA SALE DURING LENT on Fridays Feb. 8 to Good Friday from 3 to 7 p.m. Price Red \$9.00 and White Broccoli and White \$10.00 available. Proceeds benefit the Chinchilla Hose Co. For more information please call 586-5726.

THE PRISM – Parish Newsletter is looking for a few "Roving Reporters" to provide the latest information on Parish activities for each quarterly issue. Please contact Susan Chuff (586-0212) or Kay Gallagher (586-7236) if you are interested. Thanks in advance.

LITURGY COMMITTEE NOTES

Did you know?

The Liturgy Committee met in October to discuss Lent.

Faith Statement: The season of Lent recalls the mercy of God. This mercy is always available to us. This Lent we need to remember it, call upon it, and rely upon it, literally, for our salvation.

Rituals: Holy water to remain in fonts, Stations of the Cross on Fridays, Family participation in Offertory Gifts, Little Lenten Sacrifices, Rice Bowls, and Forty Hours.

Art and Environment: Altar lights darkened, Lights off the cross, silence at the beginning of Mass, Poster Board, "*Be Still and Know that I am God*", on an easel.

During Lent the whole church goes on retreat together. At this time, we try to step away from whatever distracts us from our spiritual life. We are preparing for the most holy days of the year – The Triduum, which begins on Holy Thursday and ends on Easter Sunday. At the magnificent Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday, new Christians will be baptized. They are preparing intensely for their initiation, and we are praying for them.

The liturgy helps us enter into this retreat time. During Lent, the church is unadorned; vestments are purple; music is restrained – we do not sing alleluia. The scripture readings we hear offer rich catechesis. Many participate in devotions such as Stations of the Cross, recitation of the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary and Exposition of the Holy Eucharist. (Written by Steve LaRue; 2007 Liturgy Training Pub.)

Weekly Inspiration: 2/10/08 1st Sunday in Lent

Christ's fast for forty days makes this holy season of self-denial a time to embrace our continual, quiet conversation.

Readings for Next Week 2/17/08 – Genesis 2:7-9; 3:1-7; Romans 5:12, 17-19; Matthew 4:1-11

Music for Next Week 2/17/08 – No Gathering Hymn; Communion Song "On Eagle's Wings" #434; Closing Song "Lift High the Cross" #293.

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.*

COMMUNITY NEWS

We will be scheduling a Virtus Training in January or February. Please watch the bulletin.

NEIGHBORHOOD PARISH REPRESENTATIVES

Our Lady of the Snows/Church of St. Benedict has a goal of placing all parishioners in a small group with 10-15 families who live in the same natural, geographic neighborhood. It is now in its fourth year of operation through the Neighborhood Parish (NP) program.

Neighborhood parishes cannot function without NP Representatives, couples or individuals, who fulfill the program goal of welcoming and inviting every member of our very large parish to participate in the life of the parish. This is a very important position, but easy to carry out with a minimal amount of time and effort. With almost five years of experience, our parish staff is ready to assist with ideas, networking, and planning social events.

If you are not currently in a Neighborhood Parish, please consider calling Kate or Carol at the Parish Center to find out more about the role of Neighborhood Parish Representative. 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 of St. Benedict.

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY (LATE REGISTRATION)

The Passion and Resurrection Narratives of Jesus

This seven week guided study is being held at Our Lady of the Snows from February 19, 2008 until April 1, 2008. The sessions are complete with lecture, group discussion and individual lesson assignments. (See www.littlerockscripture.org) Two sessions are available: Tuesday morning from 9:00-11:00A.M. or Tuesday evening from 7:00-9:00P.M. **Childcare is available if needed.** **The cost is \$20.00 for anyone registering after Feb. 5, 2008.** This includes study book, questions, and lecture. For further information, please contact Carol at the Parish Center.

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.

OPERATION RICE BOWL

Each week we will feature one of the countries helped by the money you contribute to Operation Rice Bowl. This week we have a note written by Felipa Perez who lives in a rural village in **Guatemala**. In October 2005, her village was hit by Hurricane Stan, which damaged their water system so that they no longer had a source of clean water. They were without water for two months, and they did not have the resources to rebuild the water supply system. They wrote a letter along with other families to Catholic Relief Services and its partner Caritas requesting help to rebuild the community's damaged water system. The people contributed sand, gravel, and labor to help in the reconstruction project. Now they have a reliable community water system that supplies enough clean water to the entire village.

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 **Wednesday Feb. 6th at 10:00am in the large conference room.** For more information call Nettie at 586-1741. .

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

CURSILLO

Cursillo(pronounced cur-see-yo) means "little course" in the fundamental teachings of Jesus as lived with other Christians. The goal of the Cursillo Movement is to make Christ the prime influence in society. Cursillo is for Catholics who wish to strengthen their spiritual lives. The Cursillo weekend is held separately for men and women. Any person 18 years and over (including priest, deacons, and religious) of the Diocese may attend Cursillo. The next **men's cursillo weekend will be Feb. 28-March 2nd.** **and the women's weekend will be April 3-6th , both at St. Gabriel's Monastery, Clarks Summit. For more information or to register please call Deacon Leo Lynn @ 586-5876 or call Nettie Goldate at the parish center** for registration forms.

CONVERSATION CORNER

we all struggle with temptations—even Jesus was tempted in the desert! There is no sin in being tempted. It is the giving into temptation that is the problem. Every time we pray the Lord's Prayer, we say "Lead us not into temptation." Do you ever stop to think about your own responsibility to avoid temptation. Some temptations are just part of life and we have to learn to deal with them. However there are others that we open ourselves to and then bemoan our failure.

Just as a reformed alcoholic know they cannot hang out in a bar, we need to know our weaknesses and avoid temptations when we can.

FOR BETTER FOR WORSE

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND:

It is not too early to think about the BEST present you can give each other for Valentine's Day—a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend—where you can have a face-to-face, heart-to-heart encounter with the one you've decided to spend your life with. The next weekend will be held in Bethlehem, PA, **February 15-17, 2008**. For information call -1800-787-7679 or on the web at www.meallentown.org.

Love is a decision.

It is a decision to be kind, loyal, truthful, forgiving,, trustworthy, understanding, not just when it is easy and worthwhile for us, but everyday in an unconditional loving manner.

MOTHERS GROUP

The Mother's group will meet on the 1st and 3rd **Friday 10:00-11:30am beginning in January at the home of Annie James**. . All mothers are welcome to join us for a morning of socializing, faith sharing, For more information or for directions call Annie James at 586-6199.

Care-Giver Support

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

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.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

FIRST EUCHARIST PARENT MEETING

There will be a parent meeting of children receiving First Eucharist on **Sunday March 9th at 6:00pm** in the Gathering Room **OR** on **Tuesday March 11th at 7:00pm**. Please plan on attending this important meeting.

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.

WINTER WEATHER CANCELLATION PROCEDURE FOR SUNDAY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

During inclement weather on Sunday mornings, please check our website at www.OLSSB.com or call the rectory at 586-1741 and press #5 on the menu for the holiday schedule. Also watch WBRE TV Channel 3. Announcements will be made by 8:30am in case of class cancellation.

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 RETREATS:

(NOTE DATE AND LOCATION CHANGE)

Parents: If you did not receive a letter about this retreat call Nettie at the parish office immediately. Permission slip sent to students home, must be returned to the parish office as soon as possible.

- Confirmation candidates **MUST** attend one of the following retreats.
- **Measurements for confirmation robes will be taken at this time.**
- **Permission slip needs to be returned to parish office before attending scheduled retreat.**
- The Fatima Renewal Center is located on Seminary Road in Dalton across from Our Lady of the Abingtons Church
- When entering main entrance to the Fatima Center please drive around to the rear of the building.
- Closing for students and their families and sponsors will be mass at 4:00pm in the chapel at the Fatima Center. Dismissal will be immediately after mass.

February 16th (students last names beginning L-Z) FATIMA RENEWAL CENTER, DALTON.

10:00am arrival, with closing mass at 4:00pm (Parents, family, and sponsors invited)

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. Clean snow from sidewalks and driveway without being told
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
 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.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR OUR PARISH'S VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL HELPERS NEEDED FOR VACATION BILBE SCHOOL. We need adults to help our with arts and crafts this year. Please call Nettie if you are interested in helping in this area.

Please sign up today. VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL WILL BE THE WEEK OF JUNE 23RD AT THE NEWTON REC. CENTER. WE ARE ALWAYS IN NEED OF ADULT AND STUDENT HELPERS. STUDENT HELPERS MUST BE NO YOUNGER THAN 7TH GRADE. PLEASE CALL NETTIE AT THE PARISH CENTER TO SIGN UP TO HELP.

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.

Scheduled Events for 2007-2008

Spring TBABus to Nowhere
 February 16th8th Grade Confirmation Retreats
 February 28th – March 2nd ...Vermont Ski Weekend
 March 14thLiving Way of the Cross
 May 31st – 1stRelay for Life
 June 18thLight the Fire Youth Rally
 June 23rd – 27thVacation Bible School
 June 29th – July 5thWest Virginia Mission Trip
 July 11th – 13thFranciscan Youth Conference

Franciscan University Summer Conference 2008



Spots are now available for the 2008 summer conference in Steubenville, OH. Last year was the first year for thirteen OLS students to experience what this conference has to offer. Every one of those students can't wait to return this year! We have spots for 20 students this time around. They will definitely go fast!

Every year the Franciscan University of Steubenville, OH reaches out to 36,000 teens. This year, we'll be a part of it. It will be a three day weekend, July 11th – 13th 2008. Cost usually runs about \$225 for the weekend (transportation, meals, registration, tee shirts) Fund raising is done to bring down the cost (i.e. Luminary sales).

Open to those entering 9th grade to recent 12 grade graduates. **Spots are going fast!**

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: \$350.00

\$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**

Living Way of the Cross

This Year's Annual Living Way of the Cross Easter Production will be held on March 14th 2008. John Conaboy was our Director last year and did a wonderful job.

We are in need of a director or directors for this year's production.

If you are a High School student who is interested in directing or playing a role (on or off stage) please let us know ASAP. Thank you!

High School Religious Ed Program

Next date: February 19th 2008

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 The Abington Youth 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.**

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