

*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
5:00 PM - 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

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
Web page – 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 Zakarauskas
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

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT February 28, 2010

*"This is my chosen Son;
listen to him."
-- Luke 9: 34 --*

THE TRANSFIGURATION

In today's Gospel, we hear the account of the Transfiguration of Jesus from Luke's Gospel. The Transfiguration of Jesus in which the glory he has as God showed through his humanity reminds us that God became human in Jesus that we might become divine. If this is to happen, we must be transformed or transfigured. That transformation began in our Baptism and continues all through our lives. The season of Lent gives us the opportunity to be renewed so that we care ready at Easter to recommit ourselves to that process of transformation, to living out our Baptism, to living as people already raised from the dead with Jesus.

OUR LADY OF THE SNOWS 100TH YEAR

In 1899, the original Our Lady of the Snows Church was built and dedicated on the corner of Zimmerman and Davis Streets in Clarks Summit. (The building still stands and houses the engineering offices of Joseph Guzek, a member of Our Lady of the Snows Parish.) At that time, Our Lady of the Snows was a mission church of Saint Patrick's in Nicholson. On March 1, 1911, a resident pastor was appointed for Our Lady of the Snows and it became a separate parish. Tomorrow, March 1, 2010, marks the 99th Anniversary of the founding of Our Lady of the Snows Parish and the beginning of the one hundredth year of parish life. This weekend, February 27 and 28, we are marking as Kick-Off Weekend. We are kicking-off a whole year of celebration and remembrance and preparation for our One Hundredth Birthday on March 1, 2011.

Coffee and Doughnuts will be available after all of the Masses in both churches this weekend. At Our Lady of the Snows Church, the coffee and doughnuts will be available in the Gathering Room and at the Church of Saint Benedict they will be available in the back of the church. Please stay after Mass and join us as we begin our year of celebration and preparation.

We are also beginning a Memory Wall in the Gathering Room. Please bring in any photos you may have of events occurring at Our Lady of the Snows and place it on our Memory Wall (Print your name and number on it so that we can return it to you next year).

BISHOP-ELECT BAMBERA

With great joy, we welcome the appointment of **Bishop-Elect Joseph Bambera** as the **tenth Bishop of the Diocese of Scranton**. Please be sure to remember him in your prayers as he prepares for his ordination and installation on **Monday, April, 26, 2010**, in **Saint Peter's Cathedral**. Since he spent some time (2005-2007) in residence in our parish when he served as Episcopal Vicar, we can say that "we knew him when." That is all

the more reason we should remember to pray for him during these two months as he prepares for ordination and installation. Please pray for him each day. He will appreciate it. **God bless you, Bishop-elect Bambera!**

"LIVING CHRIST" RETREAT: PLEASE CONSIDER!

Our next **"Living Christ" Retreat** is scheduled for **Thursday, Friday and Saturday, March 18, 19 and 20, 2010**. This Retreat will be held in the **Gathering Room** on the lower level of **Our Lady of the Snows Church**. The Retreat will run from **6:00 P.M. until about 10:00 P.M.** on **Thursday and Friday evenings** and from **8:00 A.M. until about 12 Noon** on **Saturday morning**. All members of our parish are invited to participate in this Retreat. It promises to be a very wonderful and spiritual experience for all who participate. Our goal is to eventually have every member of our parish in one of these Retreats. It will take quite a while but will have a tremendous impact on the life of our parish. **Please consider participating in the Retreat in March**. This will be during **Lent, a perfect time** to make one of these retreats. Please join us in March. Please call the parish office for more details or **to register** as soon as possible. Please pray for God's blessing on these Retreats.

MASSSES FOR THE WEEK

Monday

7:00 A.M. Annarose Van Wie Jim/Mari Van Wie
12:10 P.M. Mrs. Norma Reddington M/M Gene
Gallagher

Tuesday

7:00 A.M. John DiPilato Patrick/Patty Fellows
12:10 P.M. Bernardine B. Digare Rick Fitzgerald

Wednesday

7:00 A.M. Kate Frye Bernadette/Frank Dougherty
12:10 P.M. John Zujkowski Wanda Brown Family

Thursday

7:00 A.M. Robert Egan Lee Electric Supply
12:10 P.M. Flossie Boreshesky Lee Electric

Friday

7:00 A.M. Laura Sloan Margaret/John Roche
12:10 A.M. Mary Rinaldi Answini Alma Shaffer

Saturday

4:00 P.M. Catherine Devine Pfister Family
5:00 P.M. Virginia Lee Armbruster Family
6:30 P.M. William Diskin Rengilian Family

Sunday

7:00 A.M. For all members of the parish
8:00 A.M. Danny Falcucci Mother
9:30 A.M. Mary Lehne Ellen/Pat Fricchione
11:00 A.M. Nicholas DeLeo Family
11:15 A.M. Frank Yulice Ed/Lorraine Bush
12:20 P.M. Timothy Driesbaugh Family

A PRAYER PLEASE- Your prayers are requested for all the sick and deceased members of our parish, especially Gabriel Thomas, Mrs. Judith Muldowney.

FATHER MULDOWNEY

Father Thomas Muldowney's mother, Judith Muldowney, died on Saturday evening, February 20, 2010 after an illness. Please remember her in your prayers. Father Muldowney's address is:

Father Thomas Muldowney
200 Delaware Avenue
Olyphant, PA 18447

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Thank you for your ongoing and very generous **Sacrificial Giving**. Your Sacrificial Offering for last weekend amounted to **\$14,187.76**. **Thank you again for your generosity to your parish!**

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.

\$10,000 RAFFLE

Our **D.E.B.T. Reduction Raffle** is now underway. Members of the parish should have received a letter and a form to Request and Reserve one of the **\$100 Raffle Tickets**. A maximum of **500 tickets** will be sold at \$100 each. There will be **four prizes: \$5,000, \$3,000, and two (2) \$1,000 prizes**. To date **104 Raffle Tickets** have been sold. Thank you to those who have already purchased a ticket. The proceeds of this Raffle are used to reduce the parish debt incurred by the renovations to Our Lady of the Snows Church in 2001 and 2002. The remaining debt amounts to \$66,700.00 on a project that cost \$770,000.00. **Please** consider purchasing a Raffle Ticket. If you cannot afford a ticket by yourself, please consider joining with one or two or more other people to share the cost of the Ticket and then dividing the prize among all who purchased the ticket. Thank you for whatever you can do.

FORTY HOURS DEVOTIONS

We thank Brother Andre Mathieu, C.P. for sharing his faith with us during our Annual Forty Hours Devotions. Thank you also to all who attended and participated.

LENTEN FAST AND ABSTINENCE

Good Friday, April 2, 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

During Lent, **Stations of the Cross** will be prayed at **7:00 P.M.** each **Friday evening** in **Our Lady of the**

Snows Church. Please join us for this very special Lenten Devotion. The **Living Way of the Cross** will be presented by high school students of our parish and community on **Friday, March 26, at 7:00 P.M.** in **Our Lady of the Snows Church**. All are invited!

EASTER TRIDUUM

Please mark your calendars and make plans to participate in the special liturgies of the **Easter Triduum**. The Easter Triduum begins with **Holy Thursday, April 1, 2010**. The **Mass of the Lord's Supper** will be celebrated at **7:00 P.M.** in the Church of Saint Benedict on that day. **Good Friday** will be observed on **April 2, 2010** with the **Solemn Liturgy at 7:00 P.M.** at the Church of Saint Benedict. **Holy Saturday** will be observed on **April 3, 2010** with the **Easter Vigil Mass at 8:00 P.M.** at the Church of Saint Benedict. Easter Sunday Masses will be celebrated at both churches on **Easter Sunday, April 4, 2010**. The schedule will be published in weeks to come. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us for the liturgies of the **Easter Triduum**.

LENTEN ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

The annual **Lenten Program of Adult Religious Education** sponsored by the Catholic parishes of our region will be held on three **Sunday** evenings, **March 7, March 14 and March 21, at 7:00 P.M.**, in the **Gathering Room** on the lower level of **Our Lady of the Snows Church**. The overall topic for this year is: **LIFE IN THE CHURCH: YESTERDAY AND TODAY**. The topic for **Session I** on March 7 is "**Whatever happened to Sin?**". The presenter will be Jack Zaums, Ph.D., a member of Our Lady of the Snows/Church of Saint Benedict Parish and a retired professor of Theology at Marywood University. The topic for **Session II** on March 14 is "**The Misunderstood Sacrament of Reconciliation**". The presenter will be Father James McGarry, pastor of Our Lady of the Snows/Church of Saint Benedict Parish. The topic for **Session III** on March 21 is "**The Misunderstood Sacrament of the Sick**". The presenter will be Father Michael Bryant, pastor of Saint John Neumann Parish in Scranton (formerly Nativity of Our Lord, Saint Mary Assumption and Holy Name of Jesus).

Please mark your calendars now and plan to be with us.

LITTLE LENTEN SACRIFICES

Once again this year the **Woman'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 paper from the posters at the church entrances. Purchase the item listed on the paper, bring it with you the next week and place in the box at the back of the church.

The **Women's Resource Center** operates a 24 hour hot line 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 with nothing. These women need the basic necessities to help them get a fresh start.

The most needed items are: week one- Toothbrush & Toothpaste, Week Two – Deodorant, Week Three – Body wash, Week four – Shampoo & Conditioner, Week Five – Ladies Sox and Week Six – Brush & Comb
A little sacrifice in your life can make a big difference in their lives.

CALENDAR

Sunday, February 28, 2010

11:15 A.M. OLS Choir **
12:00 P.M. 100th Year Celebration *****
4:00 P.M. Youth Mass **
7:00 P.M. First Eucharist Parent Meeting *****

Monday, March 1, 2010

6:30 P.M. Safe Touching Training *****

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

9:00 A.M. Bible Class ***
6:30 P.M. Safe Touching Training *****
7:00 P.M. Bible Class *

Wednesday, March 3, 2010

1:00 P.M. Bible Class *
4:00 P.M. Wednesday Afternoon Choir **
6:30 P.M. Safe Touching Training *****
7:00 P.M. Just a Social *

Thursday, March 4, 2010

7:00 P.M. Pastoral Council ***
7:00 P.M. Youth Group Meeting *

Friday, March 5, 2010

10:30 A.M. Friday Morning Company at
Cl. Summit Presbyterian Church
World Day of Prayer
5:00 P.M. Lenten Soup Supper *****
7:00 P.M. Stations of the Cross**

Saturday, March 6, 2010

10:00 A.M. Confirmation Retreat *****
6:30 P.M. Nite at the Races @ OLP

**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 CANTORS?

A cantor is a liturgical singer who intones psalms and antiphons and leads the rest of the assembly in the singing of hymns, acclamations, and other music used at worship. A cantor should have a pleasing voice, a personable manner, knowledge of the mechanics of music, and a willingness to develop a style of singing that is appropriate to worship and different from secular performance. As leader of song, the cantor works from a podium other than the ambo. He or she may, however, use the ambo for the singing of psalms, particularly the responsorial psalm at Sunday Mass. Cantor is the Latin work for "singer", but another word, precentor is also used to refer to this minister. Sometimes a separate person sings the psalm and is referred to as the psalmist.

(Steve LaRue; *Marion Eagen 2002 Resource Publications, Inc., The Conciliar and Post Conciliar Documents, Vatican Council II.*

Weekly Inspiration: 2/28/10 2nd Sunday in Lent

We are citizens of heaven and not of the world. God has promised us Heaven if we listen to His Son. God's promises are trustworthy and one day we shall be as He is.

Readings for Next Week: 3/07/10 Exodus 17:3-7; Romans 5:1-2, 5-8; John 4:5-15, 19b-26; 39a, 40-42.

Music for Next Week: 3/07/10 No Opening Song; Communion Song: "Here I am Lord #526; Closing Song "Led By the Spirit" #246

A CALL FOR NEIGHBORHOOD PARISH REPS

We are in need of some new Neighborhood Parish Representatives since we eventually would like to have all our parishioners in a Neighborhood Parish. This is an **IMPORTANT BUT VERY EASY POSITION THAT CAN BE CARRIED OUT WITH A MINIMAL AMOUNT OF TIME AND EFFORT.** To fulfill our parish goals of welcoming, community and invitation, the Neighborhood Parish Representative (NPR) has only two responsibilities: to contact members twice a year and to invite them to a social gathering once a year. This means that you may send a card to your members at any of the holidays such as Valentine's Day and invite them to any of our many programs that have a social time connected with them such as the Lenten Series that will take place during Advent, the Bazaar, the Advent Reflection, the Jamaica Annual Collection, etc. In addition, we provide a prayer card each year that can be inserted in a Christmas card for your second contact. That is all you have to do unless you wish to do more. If you would like we can have another NPR contact you and explain how easy it is, and what they are doing in their Neighborhood.

When we give another the gifts of welcome, contact, and invitation, we open the door for the Holy Spirit to work in their lives. Becoming a NPR allows the Holy Spirit to work through you for the good of our parish. If you are interested, please feel call Carol at the Parish Center at 586-1741.

JAMAICA MINISTRY

THANK YOU LETTER FROM MOUNT CALVARY RETREAT HOUSE: Warm greetings from Jamaica, West Indies. Deep gratitude fills my heart as I write this letter of appreciation to you and the parishioners of Our Lady of the Snows. Your gifts of blankets, sheets, towels, spiritual books and monetary donations are invaluable and do much to enhance the comfort for our retreatants at Mt. Calvary Retreat House. They, indeed, help to remind our retreatants of God's great love, graciousness and generosity to His people. Your tremendous generosity enables us at Mt. Calvary Retreat House to continue to make spiritual retreats and programs available to over two thousand people annually. Our retreatants are very lovely people but many of them come from areas of poverty, violence and drugs. Coming on retreat gives them hope and energy to return to their homes, better people and share God's love in their area as best they can. Msgr., I would love if you and your parishioners would come and visit us and make a retreat at MT. Calvary. You are indeed God's gift to us and we are privileged to be twinned with your church. On our part we have you very much in our prayer and our retreatants pray for you and the parish constantly. May God continue to bless you and the parishioners of Our Lady of the Snows with health, peace and love.

Gratefully, Sr. Bernadette Hughes, CP

The committee is planning on sending interested parishioners to Jamaica to meet our contacts and their parishes. If you are interested in being a part of this

team, please contact Carol Salva at the Parish center at 586-1741.

MEDICAL AND DENTAL PROFESSIONALS: You are needed to assist Dr. Carol Narcevic at her clinics. 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 Stony Hill four missions and three schools. **For the next three months, we will be sending half of the Penny Power to Haiti and half to the Passionists in Jamaica.** As you consider almsgiving this Lent, please place your change in the Penny Power jugs at each church for these people.

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.

P.F.C. Jenkins	Kieth Kempinski ASGA
F.O.B. WARRIOR	ACO 1/111 th 56 SBCT
C.C.O. 15 TH BSB 2BCT ICD	Unit #6260
A.P.O. AE 09338	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, then click on Departments and Resources, and then click on Virtus: Protecting God's Children.

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 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.

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 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 retreat will be Thursday, March 18 and Friday, March 19 from 6P.M. to 10P.M. and Saturday, March 20 from 8A.M. to 12N.** For further information, please call Carol at 586-1741.

100th YEAR CELEBRATION HELP NEEDED

We would like to issue an open invitation to any parishioner interested in serving on a committee to help with the 100th year celebration festivities. Any parishioner interested in volunteering is invited to attend. If you are unable to attend and are interested please contact Phyllis Ruzbarsky at 586-2119. Thank you for your support.

LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

James, Peter, and Jude: The Catholic Letters

We will have a seven week study of the Letters from James, Peter, and Jude beginning **Tuesday, March 2, 2010 in the Parish Center of Our Lady of the Snows Church.** The study comes complete with lecture, group discussion and individual lesson assignments. The same class is held both morning and evening. The morning session is held from 9:00A.M. - 11:00A.M. and has child care available if needed for 1-5 year olds. The evening session is held from 7:00P.M. – 9:00P.M. The cost is **\$25.** For more information, please contact Carol at the parish center at 586-1741.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

The World Day of Prayer (WDP) is a worldwide ecumenical movement of women of many faith traditions who come together to observe a common day of prayer each year on the first Friday in March. Each year a different country serves as the writer of the WDP worship service. The WDP will be held on **Friday, March 5, 2010 at the Clarks Summit Presbyterian Church.** The cost is \$4.00 and includes a Bible Study at 10:30 AM, lunch at 12:00, and a program at 1:00 PM. All women are welcome. To register, please call Rebecca Tanner at 586-8162.

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

LIFELINES – BULLETIN BRIEFS

Often embryos not used in a first attempt at pregnancy are frozen and stored for future attempts. This also poses a serious risk to their lives. When their parents have as many live-born children as they want, or abandon their efforts to have a child through IVF, the remaining embryos are considered “excess” or “spare.” Some are thrown away as laboratory waste, while others are abandoned indefinitely in a frozen state or slated for experimental purposes. The current debate about killing embryonic human beings on a large scale to “harvest” their embryonic stem cells arose partly because IVF clinics produced so many “spare” embryos, creating a terrible temptation for researchers to find a “use” for these human beings no longer wanted by their parents.

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Life – Giving Love in an age of Technology (Nov. 2009)

COMMUNITY NEWS

A NEW ADULT EDUCATION SERIES will begin on Sunday, March 7, 2010 and Sunday, March 14, 2010 from 7:00P.M. – 9:00 P.M. at St Joseph Church Hall, North Main Ave., Scranton. The series will be “ The Catechism of the Catholic Church”. It will run for two weeks and plans to be enlightening. Please bring your own Catechism if possible. All are invited and welcome to come! For more information, please call the Parish office at (570) 342-4881.

PIZZA SALE AT THE Chinchilla Fire Co. will be held every Friday in Lent including Good Friday from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. They have trays of Red, White and White Broccoli. For more information please call the Fire House and 586-5726.

CHICKEN AND BISCUIT DINNER AT THE WAVERLY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 103 Church St., Waverly, PA on Saturday, March 6th from 5:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. Take outs at 4:00 P.M. Adults are \$9.00 and children under 10 \$4.00.

HOMEMADE ROAST BEEF DINNER will be held at St. Mary's Visitation Parish, Dickson City on Saturday, March 6, 2010 from 12:00 noon until 6:30 P.M. in the school cafeteria at Dundaff St. & Scott Road. Eat in or take out. Dinner includes our delicious homemade roast beef, potatoes, vegetable, salad, dessert and beverages. The price is \$9.00 for adults and \$6.00 for children 10 & under. Tickets must be purchased in advance at the parish office (489-2091) or before all weekend masses.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS IN SLOVAK...The Slovak Heritage Society of NE PA is sponsoring a Lenten Slovak Hymn-Sing and the traditional Stations of the Cross in Slovak on Sunday, March 7, 2010 at 2:00 p.m. at Holy Trinity Church, 116 Hughes St., Swoyersville, PA. Station booklets will be provided. The words and a translation of the rich Slovak hymnology will also be provided. Cassettes and CD's will be available with Lenten songs, the Passion and Easter hymns. For more information contact: Magdalen Benish, (570)823-1222.

FAMILY MINISTRY BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

The next bereavement session will be on Wednesday, March 3rd at 10:00am and on **Sunday March 21st at 2:00pm** 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.**

Lenten Soup Suppers

Our parish will be hosting Lenten soup suppers Fridays during lent 5:30-6:45pm in The Gathering Room (lower level of the Church). All ages are welcome to attend . Anyone wishing to donate a pot of meatless soup for the evening may call Amy McKeon at 586-8436.

There is no cost for the supper. Stations of the Cross will follow at 7:00 pm in the Church for those wishing to attend.

CONVERSATION CORNER

When times are difficult and we have to keep a careful eye on what we spend and how we use things, it can leave us feeling depressed and deprived. While it may be the “worst of times,” it can also be the best. We are forced to consider what is important and to make conscious choices. Consider how you can make your “worst of times” into a blest time where you discover what is really important in life.

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.wvme.org or a **Retrouvaille Weekend** www.helpourmarriage.org

RETROUVAILLE WEEKEND

Know a marriage in trouble? Throw them a lifeline and tell them about Retrouvaille, a Catholic program that helps couples communicate once again (or for the first time.) Even if separated or divorced, Retrouvaille can help .

There will be an upcoming Retrouvaille (re tro vi –to rediscover) program **March 12 - 14th, 2010 at the Fatima Renewal Center in Dalton .**

The program concentrates on areas of :

- Healthy communication
- Conflict Management
- Trust/ forgiveness Issues
- Intimacy/Rediscovering the romance

For more information or to register please call 587-0415 or 1-800-470-2230 or the website www.Retrouvaille.org . Registration deadline March 8, 2010.

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.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Sunday Religious Education Program OLP School 9-10:30am

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

FIRST EUCHARIST PARENT MEETING

There will be a parent meeting on Wednesday February 24th OR Sunday February 28th at 7:00 pm in The Gathering Room. All parents are asked to attend one of these meeting dates.

FIRST COMMUNION ATTIRE

BOYS: DARK SUIT, WHITE DRESS SHIRT, DARK, OR WHITE TIE, DRESS SHOES

GIRLS: WHITE/IVORY DRESS, VEIL OR FLOWER HEADPIECE, DRESS SHOES.

WE HAVE DONATED NEW AND GENTLY WORN DRESSES AND BOYS SUITS IN THE PARISH OFFICE. ANYONE WISHING TO VIEW WHAT IS AVAILABLE PLEASE CALL NETTIE AT THE PARISH CENTER OR STOP BY THE PARISH OFFICE.

CONFIRMATION INFORMATION

March 1st is the deadline for all confirmation requirements: Confirmation name, sponsor's name, parish of sponsor, and sponsor card (if not a member of Our Lady of the Snows/Church of St. Benedict, Baptismal certificate for candidate if not baptized at Our Lady of the Snows/Church of St. Benedict, report on name taking for Confirmation, and 30 hours of service completed and recorded on service sheet.

CONFIRMATION RETREATS

The retreats are **mandatory** for all confirmation candidates. If the candidate cannot attend their scheduled retreat, they are allowed to attend the other date scheduled.

MARCH 6TH RETREAT IS FOR THE CANDIDATES RECEIVING CONFIRMATION ON APRIL 14TH. THIS INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING CLUSTERS: MINORA, MITCHELL, ROVINSKY (SUNDAY OLP STUDENTS), TIERNEY, PATRICIAN, AND OUR LADY OF PEACE SCHOOL 8TH GRADE STUDENTS.

The retreats will be held in the Gathering Room on the lower level of Our Lady of Snows Church. Students will be measured for their Confirmation robes and stoles will be given at retreat. Information has been sent in the mail about retreats, interviews and the Penance Service before Confirmation.

CONFIRMATION SERVICE HOURS:

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

CONFIRMATION SERVICE OPPORTUNITY

Soup Suppers held Fridays during Lent 5:00-7:00 P.M. in The Gathering Room. To help out with set up and clean up, and to offer to make a meatless soup, please call Amy McKeon at 586-8436.

For other service opportunities call Steve Wallo at the parish center 586-1741.

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

February 28thTeen Mass
March 6thConfirmation Retreat #2
March 11-14thVermont Ski Trip

Teen Mass

Our next youth Mass will be held on February 28th! Join us as our students perform lively music, and celebrate the Eucharist together. After the Mass we'll be having dinner in the Gathering Room and a time a fun and activities.



Who: Students in 8th – 12th grade and

their families

When: February 28th 2010

Time: 4:00PM to 6:00PM

Where: Our Lady of the Snows Church

Franciscan Youth Conference 2010

WHEN: July 16th -18th 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 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.

Summer Mission Trips:

This year, Our Lady of the Snows will be offering two summer mission trips to West Virginia to work with Habitat for Humanity.

The **first** is for College Students and Young Adults. This trip will be from **May 23 - 29, 2010**. There is room for 20 students, total. Cost will be approx \$300.

The **second trip** is for students who have just graduated 8th grade to students who have just graduated high school. This trip will be **August 15 – 21, 2010**. There is room for 30 students, total. Cost will be approx \$330.

To register... a \$100 deposit will hold your spot. This is first come, first serve and space is limited.

A Jamaica Mission trip to work with the Passionists may be offered in the month of July for college students and young adults. If interested in this opportunity, contact Steve Wallo





Young Adults: **THEOLOGY ON TAP**

What: A monthly discussion series for young adults, single, married, 18-40 yrs old.

Where: Armetta's Pizza

When: March 30, 2010

Time: 7PM – 8:30PM

Cover: \$5 includes Pizza and wings

