

**THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**January 27, 2008**

*"I urge you, brothers and sisters,  
in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
that all of you agree in what you say,  
and that there be no divisions among you,  
but that you be united  
in the same mind  
and in the same purpose."  
-- 1 Corinthians 1: 10 --*

**CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK  
AND REGISTRATION**

**Catholic Schools Week** will be observed this week by the Catholic Schools of the Diocese of Scranton including **Our Lady of Peace School in Clarks Green.**

**Open House** will be held at the school this **Sunday, January 27, 2008, from 1:00 P.M. until 3:00 P.M.** All are invited to visit the school during this time.

**Registration of new students** for the **2008-2009 school year** will take place on **Monday, January 28, 2008,** and **Tuesday, January 29, 2008.** Registrations will be accepted on those days from **9:00 A.M. until 12 Noon** in the **school auditorium.** Children registering for Kindergarten must be five years of age by August 31, 2008. Children registering for First Grade must be six years of age by August 31, 2008. Birth and Baptism (for Catholic students) Certificates and Immunization Records must be presented at the time of registration. If you have any questions about the school, please call **Mrs. Jane Quinn, school principal, at 587-4152.**

**FEAST OF SAINT BLAISE**

February 3 is the Feast of Saint Blaise, the saint who is known for intercession on behalf of people with ailments of the throat. It is the traditional day for the Blessing of Throats. Because this feast falls on a Sunday, the Mass of the Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time will be celebrated. At the end of each Mass next weekend (Saturday and Sunday), the presiding priest will bless the throats of all present as part of the final blessing of the Mass. Those who wish may remain after Mass and have the individual prayers with a blessed candle prayed over each one individually by the priest or one of the Ministers of Holy Communion.

**ECUMENICAL CHOIRFEST**

The annual **Ecumenical Choirfest** sponsored by the **Abington Ecumenical Ministerium** in observance of the **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** will be held on **Sunday, January 27, 2008, at 3:00 P.M.,** at the **First Presbyterian Church** on School Street in Clarks Summit (immediately behind Our Lady of the Snows Church). Our Lady of the Snows Adult Choir and our Children's Choir will participate. Please consider joining with our brothers and sisters from neighboring churches

for this very enjoyable time of singing and praising God.

**STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE**

Your **Sacrificial Offering** for last weekend amounted to **\$14,248.93.**

The **Christmas Offering,** as of Monday, January 21, amounted to **\$65,845.41.** Additional Christmas offerings received after that date will be included in our next report. As usual, we will continue to report the Christmas Offering as long as gifts are being received.

**Thank you** very much for your generous sharing with your parish community each weekend and at Christmas. 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.

**WILL OUR FAITH HAVE CHILDREN?**

On **Thursday** of this week, January 31, a **Forum** entitled "**Will Our Faith Have Children?**" will be held in the **Gathering Room of Our Lady of the Snows Church** at **7:00 P.M.** All parents of teenagers or parents of children who will be teenagers in the next couple of years are invited to this Forum. Please see full page ad for this Forum in another part of this bulletin. The results of the study being discussed are extremely interesting for all of us who are concerned about passing on faith to the next generation. Please be sure to check the full page in this bulletin **and** please join us this **Thursday** evening, **January 31,** at **7:00 P.M.,** in the **Gathering Room.**

**CALLED TO HOLINESS AND MISSION**

**Pastoral Planning in the Diocese of Scranton**

As we continue to pray for God's blessing on the pastoral planning process in the Diocese of Scranton, we ask you to take the time to read through the insert in today's bulletin entitled "**Called to Holiness and Mission.**"

**ASH WEDNESDAY MASS SCHEDULE**

**Ash Wednesday**, the first day of the holy season of **Lent**, will be observed on **February 5, 2008**. Our schedule for **Mass and Distribution of Ashes** on that day is as follows:

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

**12:10 P.M. Mass** with Distribution of Ashes at Our Lady of the Snows Church

**4:00 P.M. Prayer Service** with Distribution of Ashes at Our Lady of the Snows Church

**5:00 P.M. Mass** with Distribution of Ashes at the Church of Saint Benedict

**7:00 P.M. Mass** with Distribution of Ashes at Our Lady of the Snows Church

During the coming week, please begin to look at the coming season of Lent and make plans for your observance of this special season. Lent is the special time of preparation for our Church's Solemn Celebration of the Easter Triduum from Holy Thursday evening until Easter Sunday evening. During the **Triduum**, we remember and celebrate the **Paschal Mystery of the Lord's Death and Resurrection for us** in a most solemn way. During the Triduum we baptize and confirm new members and all of the already baptized **renew** our original **Baptismal Commitment**. Give some serious thought to your keeping of this season.

### **IN THE NEAR FUTURE**

The **Easter Triduum** will begin on **Holy Thursday, March 20, 2008**, with the **Mass of the Lord's Supper** in the evening and will conclude on the evening of **Easter Sunday, March 23, 2008**, one of the earliest dates that is possible for Easter. **Good Friday** will be observed on **Friday, March 21, 2008**, and **Holy Saturday** will be observed on **Saturday, March 22, 2008**. Please mark your calendars now and plan to gather with your parish community to keep these days holy.

Our annual **Forty Hours Devotions** with **Eucharistic Adoration** will be held on **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.

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. More details regarding these presentations will be available in this bulletin in the next several weeks.

### **CALENDAR**

#### **Sunday, January 27, 2008**

10:00 A.M. CSB Choir Practice

6:30 P.M. Baptismal Classes

#### **Monday, January 28, 2008**

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

#### **Tuesday, January 29, 2008**

6:30 P.M. Core Group Meeting @ St. Joseph's

#### **Wednesday, January 30, 2008**

10:30 A.M. MOMS & TOTS \*

1:00 P.M. Bible Study \*

#### **Thursday, January 31, 2008**

7:00 P.M. National Study Youth & Religion Forum for Parents \*\*\*\*\*

#### **Friday, February 1, 2008**

10:00 A.M. Friday Morning Company\*

#### **Saturday, February 2, 2008**

10:00 A.M. 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Retreat at Fatima Center

6:30 P.M. Night at the Races at OLP

**Parish Center\* Church\*\* Large Conference Room\*\*\* Church of Saint Benedict\*\*\*\* Small Conference Room\*\*\*\*\* Gathering Room\*\*\*\*\***

### **MASSES FOR THE WEEK**

#### Monday

7:00 A.M. Mary Walski M/M Benjamin Leo

12:10 P.M. Anna Riccio McGuinness Family

#### Tuesday,

7:00 A.M. Special Intention Friend

12:10 P.M. Stephen Pishock Rose Ann Aveline

#### Wednesday

7:00 A.M. Mary Ciccotti Jim/Denise Battle

12:10 P.M. Andrew Santo Carson Family

#### Thursday

7:00 A.M. Brian Sheridan, Jr. Camilla Holmes/Family

12:10 P.M. Sister Phyllis McCarty, IHM Family

#### Friday

7:00 A.M. Evelyn Ryan Winifred Padden

12:10 P.M. Mike/Ann Culkin Betty Allen/Kay Kehoe

#### Saturday

4:00 P.M. Anne Kraynak Mrs. Frank Savo, Jr.

5:00 P.M. Dominick Iacobino Pat Tarantini Family/  
Pat Pasqualichio

#### Family

6:30 P.M. Virginia Lee Armbruster Family

#### Sunday

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

8:00 A.M. Cyril Franko Florence/Roy Dainty

9:30 A.M. Joseph Zavrotny Glorie Lee/ Harry Evans

11:00 A.M. William Caputo Chad Stevens Family

11:15 A.M. Millard Yankosky Family  
12:20 P.M. Edward Clauss Dave Perry/  
Mary Beth Woody

**A PRAYER PLEASE-** Your prayers are requested for all the sick and deceased members of our parish and community and especially Sister Phyllis McCarty, IHM, and Sister DeSales Williams, IHM.

### **CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT**

The second collection at all Masses this weekend will be for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, a national Campaign of the Catholic Bishops of the United States since 1970. This very successful Campaign provides help for people to help themselves. This help enables people to rise above poverty with a little help from their friends. Your generosity and friendship to people in need will be appreciated once again. If you are not prepared today to make an offering, you can drop an offering in the collection next weekend using a regular envelope marked "**Campaign for Human Development.**" Thank you once again for your generous sharing.

### **BAPTISM CLASS FOR PARENTS**

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

### **BAPTISM**

SHANE PATRICK LIPLES, son of Robert and Kathleen Callaghan Liples will be born into Jesus' life and welcomed into the family of the Church through the Sacrament of Baptism this weekend. We congratulate him and his parents.

### **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. **If you have not already made a pledge or a gift, it is not too late.** If you pledged, your payments begin to come due this month. 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, 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

### **Join us for "SOUPER SATURDAY"!**

WHEN? Saturday, 2 February, between 11:00 A.M. and 2:00 P.M.

WHERE? Father Nallin Hall (behind Nativity BVM Church in Tunkhannock)

WHAT IS IT? Enjoy a sampling of delicious soups and breads from area restaurants.. Vote for your favorite soup and bread in this year's "Tastes of Tunkhannock" competition... Win a prize.. Help Interfaith's Winter Fuel Assistance Program.

Tickets \$ 10.00 each and can be purchased at Interfaith Friends 57E. Tioga St., Tunkhannock and Wyoming County Chamber of Commerce.

### **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](http://www.OLSSB.com) for our weekly parish bulletin. You can locate the bulletin by pressing Bulletin on the main page. The bulletin will be placed there each week a few days before the weekend. The bulletins of previous weeks will remain on the website for several months or longer.

### BULLETIN BRIEFS

A Catholic cannot vote for a candidate who takes a position in favor of an intrinsic evil, such as abortion or racism, **if the voter's intent is to support that position.** In such cases a Catholic would be guilty of formal cooperation in grave evil. At the same time, a voter should not use a candidate's opposition to an intrinsic evil to justify indifference or inattentiveness to other important moral issues involving human life and dignity.

"Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship," (no.34), USCCB, Nov. 14, 2007

### \*\*\*\*\* 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 priest 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.

### COMMUNITY NEWS

WE THANK those who brought Pasta/Sauce this weekend. If you can, please bring Cereal next

weekend. Your generosity will not go unnoticed by a grateful Lord.

**CHURCH OF THE EPIPHANY ....** Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper on Tuesday, February 5, 2008 All you can eat pancakes, Sausages, Fruit cups, coffee, tea, milk and Orange juice. Parish Hall 1003 Church Hill Rd., Glenburn 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. No Charge- Donations are accepted. For questions, please call 570-563-1564.

**HOLY ROSARY BINGO ...** Doors open at 4:30p.m. Early birds at 6:30p.m. Holy Rosary Center, Wayne Ave & West Market St. Double Jackpot night will be held February 5, 2008. We will have two (2) guaranteed \$1,000.00 Jackpots. \$2,000.00 may be waiting for you !!! For more information call the rectory 342-4881.

### LITURGY COMMITTEE NOTES

#### Did you know?

Today we return to hearing from the Gospel according to Matthew, the primary evangelist of Year A. In these last two weeks before the beginning of Lent, Matthew will establish the heart of Jesus' mission and will describe, in no uncertain terms, the demands for discipleship. In Chapter four of today's Gospel, we are at the beginning of Jesus' ministry. Note that John the Baptist, having been arrested, is no longer on the scene. This, in fact, signals to Jesus that the time for his public ministry is at hand. (Written by Steve LaRue; Sourcebook 2008)

Weekly Inspiration: 1/27/2008 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Jesus is the light that pierces the darkness.

Readings for Next Week 2/03/08 – Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13;  
1 Corinthians 1:26-31; Matthew 5:1-12a

Songs for Next Week 2/03/08 – Gathering Hymn: "Gather Us In" #466; Communion Song: "Blest Are They" #409; Closing Song: "Be Not Afraid" #427

### 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](http://www.dioceseofscranton.org) then click on Departments and Resources, then click on *Virtus: Protecting God's Children*. We will be scheduling a Virtus Training in January or February. Please watch the bulletin.

### NEIGHBORHOOD 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.

### 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.

### LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

**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](http://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 \$17.00 and includes study book, questions, and lecture. **The deadline for reservations is February 5, 2008.** 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.

### ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

We continue to be need altar servers at both churches. Training will be held on **Tuesday, February 5, 2008 at 4:00P.M. at Our Lady of the Snows Church.** Any boy or girl completing the third grade or above is eligible. For further information, please call either of the priests or Carol at the Parish Center at 586-1741. .

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.

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. 6<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am in the large conference room and also on Sunday February 17<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm in the parish center.** For more information call Nettie at 586-1741. .

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

### CONVERSATION CORNER

There are many paths to God, just like there are a variety of people. The path you are traveling may not be right for someone else. It is not our place to tell others what to do. When we are focused on them, we cannot pay attention to what we are doing. While we may gain insights from others, we must travel our own path. We need to be clear about our goal and weed out those things that obstruct our path. Rather than waste time criticizing others, we need to look carefully at how our actions reflect our beliefs. There is always room to improve and, if we listen to the Spirit, we will see where we need to improve.

### FOR BETTER FOR WORSE BEING NICE

Being nice means just that—making an effort, looking for the emotional state of grace that will allow you to be thoughtful and kind instead of crabby, surly, short-tempered, cocky, sarcastic, critical, condescending or pontifical. Being nice is neither a truly elevated nor a particularly denigrating state. Rather it is the expression of a good-spirited emotional equilibrium, a finding and keeping of the middle ground that will allow you to be gracious, good-natured and considerate. In general, it's not very hard to be nice, but some days it's more difficult than others. So when you're tempted by the crabby bug, try to remember that being nice is the lowest common denominator of any sweet relationship. *Excerpted from A Garland of Love, by Daphne Rose Kingma*

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

### **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](http://www.meallentown.org).

Renewal is the principle—and the process—that empowers us to move on an upward spiral of growth and change, of continuous improvements. *Stephen R. Covey*

### **RETROUVAILLE PROGRAM FOR MARRIAGES**

Take care of your marriage. Everything over time needs to be spruced up. So why not your relationship? The **Retrouvaille Program** is a spin-off of Marriage Encounter. It is a French word that means "re-discover". The program concentrates on a communication technique that will improve the marriage relationship, as well as conflict management, issues of trust, forgiveness and intimacy. The next local program will be given on **Feb. 8-10 at the Fatima Renewal Center in Dalton**. For more information or to register please call 1-800---470-2230. Check out the website at [www.helourmarriage.org](http://www.helourmarriage.org).

### **MOTHERS GROUP**

The Mother's group will meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> **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.

### **CLUSTER GROUPS : PLEASE SUPPORT OUR PARISH'S... A NIGHT AT THE RACES!!!**

**Gift Baskets, gift certificates, lottery tickets, and the selling of tickets will be greatly appreciated. All baskets and certificates will be given out as a raffle and door prizes, please have your group's donation in by January 25th. All horse sales ticket stubs and money must be in on January 28<sup>th</sup>.**

Gift Baskets, gift certificates, lottery tickets, and the selling of tickets will be greatly appreciated. All baskets and certificates will be given out as a raffle

### **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](http://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 31<sup>st</sup>.

### **CONFIRMATION RETREATS:**

#### **(NOTE DATE AND LOCATION CHANGE)**

Confirmation candidates **MUST** attend **one** of the following retreats.

**Measurements for confirmation robes will be taken at this time.**

**February 2<sup>nd</sup> (For students last names beginning A-K) FATIMA RENEWAL CENTER, DALTON or February 16<sup>th</sup> (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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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**

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

**YOUTH MINISTRY CORNER**

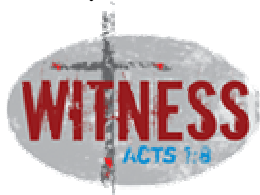
The youth ministry at Our Lady of the Snows is all encompassing. We have several different Teams based on different youth interests. Any high school youth can join any of these teams at any time. We hold a general planning meeting on every **Wednesday night from 7:00PM until 8:00PM.**

A Jr. High Youth program the meets weekly is available for any youth in grades 7 and 8. **Team meetings are Sunday from 1:00PM until 2:00PM.** Please call ahead if you're a new student who wishes to join.

**Scheduled Events for 2007-2008**

- Spring TBA .....Bus to Nowhere
- February 2<sup>nd</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> .....8<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Retreats
- February 28<sup>th</sup> – March 2<sup>nd</sup> ... Vermont Ski Weekend
- March 14<sup>th</sup> .....Living Way of the Cross
- May 31<sup>st</sup> – 1<sup>st</sup> .....Relay for Life
- June 18<sup>th</sup> .....Light the Fire Youth Rally
- June 23<sup>rd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> .....Vacation Bible School
- June 29<sup>th</sup> – July 5<sup>th</sup> .....West Virginia Mission Trip
- July 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> .....Franciscan 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 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> 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 28<sup>th</sup> through March 4<sup>th</sup> 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 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> 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 14<sup>th</sup> 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 19<sup>th</sup> 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.**

**Will Our Faith Have Children?**

What's happening in the religious and spiritual lives of teens in the US? What do they believe? These are the questions we should be asking as a Church. An in depth study performed by Dr. Christian Smith of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill between 2001-2005 surveyed 3,370 US teenagers between the ages of 13 and 17 and their parents.

The findings tell a definitive story of the religious and spiritual lives of contemporary teens. Analysis of the 816 Catholic

cases has much to say to the Catholic Church about ongoing and future efforts to touch the lives of young people.

**How do you as a parent influence the life of your child?**

**The answers are surprising.**

**January 31<sup>st</sup> 2008 At 7:00PM in Our Lady of the Snows Gathering Room**

### 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](mailto:WalloInc@aol.com)