

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



## **SATURDAY VIGIL MASSES**

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

## **SUNDAY MASSES**

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

## **DAILY MASSES**

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

## **SACRAMENT OF PENANCE/ RECONCILIATION**

### **Saturday**

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

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

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

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



## *A welcoming community*

### OUR PASTORAL STAFF

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

### OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday: ..... 8:30 AM - 12 Noon  
 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM  
 Evenings and weekends by appointment

### WELCOME

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



## 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

### 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 OF 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 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
GAUDETE SUNDAY  
December 13, 2009**

“Brothers and sisters:  
Rejoice in the Lord always.  
I shall say it again: rejoice!”  
-- Philipians 4: 4 –

**ADVENT: GAUDETE SUNDAY**

Today, the Third Sunday of Advent is also called **Gaudete Sunday**. The word *Gaudete* is a Latin word that means Rejoice. We rejoice on this Sunday because we are more than halfway through the season Advent and Christmas is coming very close. The pink candle in the Advent Wreath is a reminder of *Gaudete* Sunday and the joy we feel in anticipation of Christmas, the birthday of Jesus.

16,540.71

**STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE**

Your **Sacrificial Offering** for last weekend amounted to **\$16,200.45**. (We forgot, in last week's bulletin, to list the amount of the Sacrificial Offering for the weekend of November 21 and 22, which was omitted in the following week's bulletin because the Thanksgiving holiday meant that the bulletin had to be prepared a week early. The **Sacrificial Offering** for the weekend of **November 21 and 22** amounted to **\$16,540.71**. Thank you!) **In these challenging economic times, we thank you for your sacrificial offering. The faith that leads you to make this offering is recognized and acknowledged and appreciated very much. Thank you for all that you do for our parish! (The average weekly offering for the month of November amounted to \$16,130.74. Thank you! The average weekly offering from July 1 through November 30 – the first five months of the current fiscal year -- amounted to \$14,859.93. Thank you!)**

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.

With the generous help of so many, we have been able to reduce our unpaid bills from **\$89,225.00** at the **end of August** to **\$56,188.00** at the **end of November**. **Thank you for your great generosity.**

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.

**ADVENT RECONCILIATION SERVICE**

Our parish **Advent Reconciliation Service** is scheduled for **Tuesday** of this week, **December 15**, at **7:00 P.M.** in **Our Lady of the Snows Church**. Visiting priests will be with us and will be available for individual Confessions during the Service. Please gather with us as part of your Advent preparation for Christmas.

On **Wednesday, December 16**, at **7:00 P.M.**, there will be an **Advent Reconciliation Service** in **Corpus Christi Church** in **Montdale**. All are welcome!

On **Thursday, December 17**, at **7:00 P.M.**, there will be an **Advent Reconciliation Service** at **Our Lady of the Abingtons Church** in **Dalton**. All are welcome!

**2009 DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL  
LET US DO GREAT THINGS TOGETHER**

**Thank you** to all who have already donated or pledged to the **2009 Diocesan Annual Appeal**. As of our latest report from the Diocesan Appeal Office, **373 individuals or families** in our parish had pledged **\$52,544,50** to the **2009 Appeal**. This amount is 44 % of our **parish goal of \$119,055.00**.

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

**MASSES FOR THE WEEK**

**Monday**

7:00 A.M. Roger O'Donnell Kate/Bill Frye  
12:10 P.M. Alex Dunn Carol Tomczyk

**Tuesday**

7:00 A.M. Leon Dainowski John Wilk/Family  
12:10 P.M. Sam Lomeo Fran

**Wednesday**

7:00 A.M. John Kundmueller M/M Robert Simoncelli  
12:10 P.M. Leonard Parlanti Family

**Thursday**

7:00 A.M. Eleanor Surace Karen/Gary Rudolfi  
12:10 P.M. Mary Hryshko Joe Fox

**Friday**

7:00 A.M. Jack Joyce Lee Electric Supply  
12:10 P.M. Mike/Mary/Michael  
Brian McGuinness Family

**Saturday**

4:00 P.M. M/M Joseph Kraynak Mrs. Frank Savo, Jr.  
5:00 P.M. Nikolas Horter M/M Chris Calvey  
6:30 P.M. Samuel Lomeo Family

**Sunday**

7:00 A.M. For all members of the parish  
8:00 A.M. Louis Milo, Jr. Joseph/Anna Mae Pritchky  
9:30 A.M. Debbie Donath Hughes Dr/M Gerald  
Kazmerski

11:00 A.M. Elizabeth Heim Family  
11:15 A.M. Robert Loder Asay Family  
12:20 P.M. Elizabeth Zukowski John/Carolyn  
Wesnesky

**A PRAYER PLEASE-** Your prayers are requested for all the sick and deceased members of our parish and community, especially Carol Zole and Elizabeth Heim.

## WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

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

## CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Our **Mass Schedule** for **Christmas** is as follows:

### **Christmas Eve, Thursday, December 24:**

4:00 P.M. Mass at the Church of Saint Benedict  
4:00 P.M. Mass at Our Lady of the Snows Church  
6:00 P.M. Mass at Our Lady of the Snows Church  
8:00 P.M. Mass at Our Lady of the Snows Church  
12 Midnight Mass at the Church of Saint Benedict

### **Christmas Day, Friday, December 25:**

7:00 A.M. Mass at Our Lady of the Snows Church  
8:00 A.M. Mass at the Church of Saint Benedict  
9:30 A.M. Mass at Our Lady of the Snows Church  
11:00 A.M. Mass at the Church of Saint Benedict  
11:15 A.M. Mass at Our Lady of the Snows Church  
12:20 P.M. Mass at the Church of Saint Benedict

## CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

**Thank you** to all who have made donations to help with the flowers for the Churches for the Christmas Season. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. Donations are still being accepted. You may use the envelope in your set or any plain envelope **marked with your name and address** and **"Christmas Flowers"**.

## "LIVING CHRIST" RETREATS

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

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

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

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

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

## MUSIC MINISTRY

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

**Parish Youth Choir:** The Parish Youth Choir accompanies the congregational singing at the 9:30 A.M. Mass at Our Lady of the Snows usually every other week, beginning in September through May. Rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings from 5:30 -6:30 in the choir loft during that same week. This choir is open to young people ages 11-18. We sing for Liturgies which include Christmas Eve (at the Church of St. Benedict), Palm Sunday, Easter Sunday (at the Church of St. Benedict) and Pentecost Sunday. Please call Ann Marie for more information at 586-4112 or e-mail at [Pianogirlz@comcast.net](mailto:Pianogirlz@comcast.net).

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

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

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

## CALENDAR

### **Sunday, December 13, 2009**

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

### **Monday, December 14, 2009**

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

### **Tuesday, December 15, 2009**

7:00 P.M. Penance Service @ OLS\*\*

### **Wednesday, December 16, 2009**

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

7:00 P.M. Penance Service @ Corpus Christi

### **Thursday, December 17, 2009**

7:00 P.M. Penance Service @ OLA

7:30 P.M. OLS Choir Rehearsal \*\*

### **Friday, December 18, 2009**

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

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

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

## LITURGY COMMITTEE NOTES

### The Sacred Space, Furnishings, Vesture, Books

#### Do you know about the SILENCE?

Periods of silence are employed throughout the liturgy to enhance our sense of reverence and to help us focus our attention. Brief silence follows the presider's, "Let us pray," in order that each member of the assembly might focus on personal or communal needs before the prayer is spoken in the name of all. Periods of silence are observed during the Liturgy of the Word to show reverence for the Scriptures, and at the conclusion of the homily, to invite all to be attentive, and to give people time to digest what they have heard. Silence is observed after communion in order that all might reflect on the profound significance of becoming one body by participating in the one bread which is Christ.

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

#### Weekly Inspiration: 12/13/09 **Third Sunday in Advent**

Be joyful! Preach the good news that Our Lord will come again!

Readings for Next Week: 12/20/09 Micah 5:1-4a; Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45

Music for Next Week: 12/20/09 Opening Song: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" #186; Communion Song: "Jesus, Come to Us" #198; Closing Song: "Sing Our, Earth and Skies" #397.

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

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

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

**Attention Neighborhood Parish Representatives: If you were unable to be there at the Advent Reflection, please pick up your Neighborhood Parish Christmas Prayer Cards at the rectory.** Sending them to your members at Christmas is considered a contact. If you need anything else, please feel free to call Carol at the Parish Center at 586-1741.

#### **JAMAICA MINISTRY**

Christmas at the Passionists Communities in Jamaica is not as lavish as Christmas in Clarks Summit. There is great joy and singing, etc., but the reality of trying to provide for a family on very limited resources is a daily challenge. Many of us make monetary gifts to the less fortunate at this time of year. If this is your tradition, please consider supporting our twinning project with the people in the Passionist parishes in Jamaica. We are thankful to the people in Jamaica because, as part of our twinning program the parishioners and school children pray for us daily. If you wish to target your gift to a particular aspect of the Jamaica Program please use the

form below to indicate your choice. All funds are sent directly to the places indicated by wire transfer.

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

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

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

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

Jones, Allen  
Unit 931003 TFTS  
APO AE 09391

P.F.C. Jenkins                      Kieth Kempinski ASGA  
F.O.B. WARRIOR                  ACO 1/111<sup>th</sup> 56 SBCT  
C.C.O. 15<sup>TH</sup> 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](http://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 after the holidays at 9:30 A.M. in the Large Conference Room. If you feel this invitation is for you or need further information please contact either of the priests or Carol at 586-1741. Anyone is welcome to attend.

#### **ANGEL NEEDED**

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

#### **FRIDAY MORNING COMPANY**

Do you believe in the power of prayer? Do you feel that we need prayers, now more than ever? Then join us on **Friday mornings after the holidays in the Parish Center from 10:00 AM until 11:45 AM**. We begin with Morning Prayer,

and then pray for individual and global intention. We have a 15 minute social, followed by prayer and discussion of the Sunday Scriptures. We welcome all our parishioners and friends from neighboring Churches, whether young, young at heart, or

**ADULT BABYSITTERS FOR  
Living Christ Retreats**

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

information, please call Carol at 586-1741.

**EUCHARISTIC ADORATION**

We will have exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, when the Eucharist is visibly exposed in the monstrance for adoration, on the second Sunday of the month at Our Lady of the Snows Church. **The next Eucharistic Adoration will be held on December 13, 2009 from 6:00 P.M. until 8:00 P.M.**

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

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

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

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

( ) SICK ( ) HOMEBOUND ( ) IN HOSPITAL

( ) NURSING HOME

( ) WOULD LIKE COMMUNION

( ) WOULD LIKE A VISIT

( ) NEEDS SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

( ) NEEDS OTHER ASSISTANCE

**Jamaican Ministry Donation Fund**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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

I wish my funds to be used for:

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

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

### COMMUNITY NEWS

**THE LITURGICAL MUSIC MINISTRY** of St. Paul of the Cross Parish cordially invites you to attend: "Journey to the Light: A Celebration of Advent in word and Song" on Sunday, December 13, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary Church building 1217 Prospect Ave., Scranton, PA 18505. All are welcome! For more information, call 570-343-6420.

### FAMILY MINISTRY

Next Bereavement Support Meeting will be on Sunday, December 13, at 2:00 p.m. in the large conference room.  
**Bereavement Support for Parents: Please call  
Sue Brier at 586-2162.**

### MARRIAGE PROGRAMS

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

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

### MOMS AND TOTS GROUP

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

### Care-Giver Support

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

### LAZARUS MINISTRY

The Lazarus Ministry is a group of volunteers to prepare a meal for the bereaved family in The Gathering Room (lower level of the Church) after the funeral of their loved one. We can always use volunteers to help with the cooking, setting up of the tables, serving the meal, and cleaning up afterwards. All ages welcome. Please consider helping out in any way possible. For more information or to sign up call Nettie at 586-1741 or June Burns at 586-2048.

### Only you can help...please read on.

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

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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

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

**CONFIRMATION SERVICE HOURS:**

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

## YOUTH MINISTRY

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

### Scheduled Events for 2009

December 19-20<sup>th</sup> ...Luminary Sales!  
December 28<sup>th</sup> .....Christmas Adventure  
January 12-22<sup>nd</sup> .....March for Life

### Luminary Sale!

The Our Lady of the Snows Youth Ministry will be selling Luminary Kits for this Christmas. They will be available for purchase after all Masses on December 19 and 20. Kits can also be purchased at any time through the Church office at 586-1741. We have limited quantities available and this sale is being advertised to the entire Abington Community. Get yours now! **Each Kit contains 12 white bags, 12 TEN hour votive candles, and 5 lbs of sand. The cost for one Kit is \$7.00 or two Kits for \$12.00.**

*All money goes toward supporting the Youth Ministry Summer Mission Trip to West Virginia and also towards the Franciscan University Summer Youth Conference.*

### Deodorant Collection



Thanks to everyone who contributed to the deodorant collection. Over 150 care packages will be distributed to the needy who come through St. Francis Kitchen this month.

### Pro Life March in Washington DC

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

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



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

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

### Christmas Adventure

This event is in planning by the High School Outreach team. It's a night starting with dinner at OLS, followed by a Christmas Themed scavenger hunt around Clarks

Summit and ending with a gift exchange. Details are still in the works but the date is **December 28<sup>th</sup> starting around 6:00PM** at Our Lady of the Snows!

### Franciscan Youth Conference 2010

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

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

**WHERE:** Steubenville, OH

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

**COST:** \$250 A \$50 per person

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



### 2010 Vermont Ski Weekend Trip

March 4<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> is skiing time and it's time to book your spot! Flyers, reservation forms, and brochures are available soon in the Youth Office. This trip is open to all high school students and those in 7th and 8th grade if an older sibling or parent is going.

**-3 day ski pass**

**-5 meals**

**-3 nights at the Round Hearth at Stowe Mt.**

**-Round Trip Transportation**

**-Loads of Fun**

**Approximate Price: \$400.00**

\$100 reserves your spot. Get your deposit in as soon as possible for this awesome trip! If you are interested in more information, call Steve at the Church: 586-1741. **Forms are available for download under the Youth section of OLSSB.com**



## Young Adults: THEOLOGY ON TAP

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

**Where:** Armetta's Pizza

**When:** December 15<sup>th</sup> 2009

**Time:** 7PM – 9PM

**Cover:** \$5 includes Pizza and wings

