

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
Web page – 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 and to 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 call 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 classes 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 FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
The Twenty-Second Day of Easter
May 3, 2009

Jesus said:
"I am the good shepherd.
A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep."
-- John 10: 11-12 --

THE EASTER SEASON

The message and meaning of **Easter** is **so rich** and **so basic to our faith in Jesus** that it cannot be adequately celebrated in one day or even one week, but must be celebrated for **fifty days** – from **Easter Sunday** until **Pentecost Sunday**, the **fiftieth day of Easter**.

This **fifty day season** gives us an extended period of time so that we may **appreciate** more fully the meaning of the resurrection and accept its **challenge** more fully in our lives. The Easter Season gives us the encouragement and the help and strength to live more fully as people raised from the dead.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Your **Sacrificial Offering** for the last weekend was **\$13,154.21**. The **Easter Offering** now stands at **\$40,056.65**. **Thank you** for your generosity! As additional gifts are received for Easter, we will update the Report for Easter. **Thank you** for your **Sacrificial Offering** which makes possible the day-to-day life of our parish with its many ministries and the requirements of maintenance of our beautiful properties. **Thank you for all that you do!**

ANNUAL MISSIONARY VISIT

The **Salesian Sisters of Don Bosco, Bangalore India Province**, have been assigned to our parish by the diocesan **Office of the Propagation of the Faith** for this year. **Paul Wilkes**, a representative from the mission team will be with us at all of the Masses this weekend. He will speak to us about missionary work of the Salesian Sisters in India and will ask for our prayers and our financial support in the second collection that weekend. Facing great challenges because of widespread poverty, the Salesian Sisters bring God's love and message of salvation in a wide variety of ways including the **Home of Hope India-US** which helps neglected, abused and abandoned orphan girls in Southern India to live healthy, secure lives and to receive a good education. They are also involved in meeting similar needs through other projects and programs. Please welcome Mr. Wilkes warmly and do whatever you are able to in the second collection. Please pray for the people in India and the work of the Salesian Sisters.

MOTHER'S DAY ADOPTION MASS

The annual Mother's Day Adoption Mass sponsored by the Adoption: A Choice for Life Committee will take place Sunday, May 10th at 11:00 a.m. at St. Ann's Basilica, West Scranton. The public is invited.

CALENDAR

Sunday May 3, 2008

11:15 A.M. OLS Choir **

Monday, May 4, 2009

7:00 P.M. Confirmation Penance Service ****

Tuesday, May 5, 2009

6:00 P.M. Divorce Care ***

6:00 P.M. Divorce Care for Kids (DC4K) *

7:00 P.M. Lector Training **

7:00 P.M. Women's Guild *****

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

10:00 A.M. MOMS & TOTS *

10:00 A.M. Bereavement Support Group ***

6:30 P.M. First Eucharist Practice ****

7:00 P.M. Just a Social *

Thursday, May 7, 2009

6:30 P.M. First Eucharist Practice ****

7:00 P.M. Pastoral Council ***

Friday, May 8, 2009

10:00 A.M. Friday Morning Company *

Saturday, May 9, 2009

11:00 A.M. First Eucharist ****

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 Jo Huben Ann Stevens/Family

12:10 P.M. Michael Guiemento M/M Gary Rudolff

Tuesday

7:00 A.M. William Dickenson Carol Tomczyk

12:10 P.M. Ann Morgan Bill/Barbara Roehl

Wednesday

7:00 A.M. Judson Hannigan Jim/Denise Battle

12:10 P.M. Karen Graney Barbara Roehl

Thursday

7:00 A.M. Judson Hanningan Grace/Denny Dawgert

12:10 P.M. Joseph Sokolorsky Joshua/Heather/Ethan
Flieger

Friday

7:00 A.M. Noelle McGuirk Danny Lavelle/Family

12:10 P.M. Viola Floyd Family

Saturday

4:00 P.M. Elaine Wilk John Wilk/Family

5:00 P.M. Charles Cino Mrs. Charles Cino

6:30 P.M. Frank Melliand Family

Sunday

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

8:00 A.M. Patricia Kretschmer Family

9:30 A.M. Debbie Donath Hughes Sharon Kuduk

11:00 A.M. Angeline Iacobino P. Tarantini Family/
P. Pasquaichio Family

11:15 A.M. Virginia Lee Armbruster Family

12:20 P.M. Rosemary Lawless Pfister Family

A PRAYER PLEASE- Your prayers are requested for all the sick and deceased members of our parish and community, especially Harold Jordan and Walter Van Wert, Jr.

Missionary Cooperative Plan collection in our parish for the weekend of May 2 and 3.)

BULLETIN BRIEFS

President Obama's new executive order in embryonic stem cell research is a sad victory of politics over science and ethics. This action is morally wrong because it encourages the destruction of innocent human life, treating vulnerable human beings as mere products to be harvested. It also disregards the values of millions of American taxpayers who oppose research that requires taking human life. Finally, it ignores the fact that ethically sound means for advancing stem cell science and medical treatments are readily available and in need of increased support.

Cardinal Justin Rigali, (March 9, 2009 Statement concerning President Obama's order to provide taxpayer funding for destructive embryo research)

BABY SHOWER FOR ST. JOSEPH'S

Our Lady of the Snows Women's Guild is sponsoring together with St. Gregory's Women's a Baby Shower on May 7, 2009 for St. Joseph's Center. Items on St. Joseph's wish list include; Bottles, Bibs, Onesies (all sizes), Sleepers, Receiving Blankets, Baby toiletries, Baby furniture. Basically anything new or gently used for babies is needed. Unwrapped items can be dropped off at St. Gregory's Rectory or bring them to St. Gregory's Women's Guild meeting on Thursday, May 7th at St. Gregory's Rectory. For more information, contact Bonnie at 587-2235

2008 DIOCESAN ANNUAL APPEAL

Because our parish has not reached its goal for the **2008 Diocesan Annual Appeal**, Bishop Martino has asked us to conduct a second collection at all Masses on two successive weekends. All parishes which have not attained their goals will be conducting these second collections in attempt to make up the **\$800,000.00 deficit** in the **2008 Appeal**. The second collection will be conducted in our parish next weekend, **May 9 and 10** and the following weekend, **May 16 and 17**. Please review the report on the participation of all the parishes of our diocese included with this bulletin.

Thank you to all who have already donated or pledged to the **2008 Diocesan Annual Appeal**. As of this date, members of our parish have pledged a total of **\$59,273.00** toward our parish goal of **\$109,452.00**. This amounts to **54%** of our goal and leaves us slightly over **\$50,000.00** short of our goal.

Much good is waiting to be done with the funds donated to the **2008 Annual Appeal**. The large deficit will mean that much good that was planned will not be done this year. Cutbacks will be necessary unless the deficit can be erased. The second collection on these two weekends will give us an opportunity to help to reduce the deficit. The Diocese depends on parishes for most of its income and funding. Please pray for God's blessing on the Diocese of Scranton and on the Diocesan Annual Appeal and the many programs and projects funded by the Appeal. (The second collections are scheduled for the first two weekends of May in most of the parishes conducting them. We had already scheduled the Annual

MEN'S CLUB REPEATS RAFFLE

Last call for tickets for **Our Lady of the Snows Men's Club Raffle**. Drawings will start soon. Call Bernie Harding at 563-8565 or Wade Whitney at 563-2472.

BAPTISM

KORA LINLEY ELLIOTT, daughter of Eric and Lauren Robbins Elliott, JULIA ANN SHANDRA, daughter of Edward and Kristen Reuther Shandra and JOSE ARMANDO VALENZANO, son of Michael and Lisa Matri Valenzano will be born into Jesus' life and welcomed into the family of the Church through the Sacrament of Baptism this weekend. We congratulate them and their parents.

DIVORCE CARE and DIVORCE CARE FOR KIDS

Divorce Care is a **thirteen week** program for adults who have been involved in a divorce. Divorce Care groups meet weekly for thirteen weeks to help you face the challenges and rebuild your life after the trauma of a divorce. The next series of sessions will begin on **Tuesday evening, March 10**, in the large conference room on the first floor of Our Lady of the Snows Parish Center/Rectory. The program runs for thirteen Tuesdays and meets from 6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. For more information and Reservations, please call the parish office at 586-1741 or Joseph Munley at 570-963 0900.

Divorce Care for Kids (DC4K) is a **thirteen week** program for **Kids 5 to 12 years of age**. Its purpose is to help kids heal from the pain caused by separation or divorce. Each of the thirteen sessions is filled with motivating and exciting activities. Games, crafts, role playing, discussion times, journaling and workbooks process the divorce and move forward in their lives. The next series of sessions begins on **Tuesday, March 10**, from 6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. and continues for thirteen Tuesdays. The group meets in the Basement Meeting Room of Our Lady of the Snows Parish Center. For more information and for reservations, please call the parish office at 586-1741 or Joseph Munley at 570-963-0900

BAZAAR NEWS

It's not too early to start planning for this year's **Annual Country Bazaar**. With a lot of new and exciting things already happening, we are looking forward to working with all of the **wonderful volunteers** who make our Bazaar a success. With that in mind, please know we are searching for a few new booth chairs. We need chairpersons for the **Potato Pancake** and **French Fry booths**. We also need **chairpersons** for the **Poker Tent** and games/activities such as the **obstacle course**, **moon bounce** and **water wars**. If you or a group of you are interested in getting involved, please call **Sue Burke** @ 587-3913 or **Pat Pasqualichio** @ 586-8959 or the parish office @ 586-1741. **Thank you in advance for helping out with such a worthwhile event.**

MENDED HEARTS

Anyone with heart related ailments and their families are cordially invited to attend a meeting of MENDED HEARTS, on Thursday, May 21, 2009 at 7P.M. in the large conference room, 2nd floor Mercy Hospital, Scranton, Pa. Dr. Kenneth R. Wilcox will be our guest speaker. His topic will be "Minimally Invasive Heart Surgery". 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.

FIRST EUCHARIST

We congratulate the young people of our parish who received the **Sacrament of the Eucharist for the first time** yesterday, May 2, during Mass at 11:00 A.M. in the Church of Saint Benedict. We also congratulate and thank their parents and families as well as their cluster leaders/catechists – all of whom helped to make this very happy day possible. There will be another group of young people sharing in the Eucharist for the first time – on May 9. There was also a group of young people who shared in the Eucharist for the first time on April 25. The names of the young people who are sharing in the Eucharist for the first time this year will be listed in the bulletin after the final group receives the Eucharist for the first time.

LITURGY COMMITTEE NOTES

The Sacred Space, Furnishings, Vesture, Books Did you know about the Altar?

In the early church, the altar was a simple and freestanding table or block of stone as it is today. The altar on which the sacrifice of the Cross is made present under sacramental signs is also the table of the Lord which the People of God is called together to participate in the Mass, as well as the center of the thanksgiving that is accomplished through the Eucharist. The practice of placing relics of Saints under the altar to be dedicated is fittingly retained. Care should be taken, however, to ensure the authenticity of such relics. Decorating of the altar should be marked by a moderation suited to the character of the season. Only what is required for the celebration of the Mass may be placed on the altar. The proper gesture by which one reverences the altar is a bow.

If anyone is interested in any particular furnishings, books, or vestures that you would like explained, please call the Parish Center or tell any member of the Liturgy Committee. We will be glad to answer you in this weekly column. Liturgy Committee Members: Msgr. McGarry, Fr. O'Bell, Peter and Ann Brokus, Gina Cochran, Mary Ann Cornell, Joann Durdan, Steve LaRue, Nancy Lynn, Grace Wolujewicz, Amy and Tim McKeon, Jennie Pitkus, Eileen Christian, A. Carol Salva.

Year of St. Paul from June 28, 2008 to June 29, 2009

In his correspondence Paul provides rich language for the church's self understanding. One such image is the Church as a body. Individual and diverse responsibilities within the Body of Christ are highlighted in the fourth chapter of

Ephesians. To the local church in Corinth Paul says simply, "you are Christ's Body" (1Cor. 12:27), a lesson that will be echoed throughout the centuries. St. Theresa of Avila's prayer begins, "Christ has no body but yours, no hands, no feet on earth but yours." The Second Vatican Council revived the use of this Pauline image in its "Dogmatic Constitution on the Church" and its "Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World" where it speaks of the Church using this imagery and others, including the people of God.

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

Weekly Inspiration: 5/03/08 4th Sunday of Easter Sunday

"Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed."

Readings for Next Week: 5/10/09 Acts 9:26-31; I John 3:18-24; John 15:1-8

Music for Next Week: 5/10/09 Opening Song: "Sing a New Song" #365; Communion Song: "Bread That Was Sown" #486; Closing Song: "Jesus is Risen" #264

VIRTUS PROGRAM

A Virtus Program is scheduled for Wednesday, May 13, 2009 at 6:00 P.M. in Parish Center.

All volunteers who work 20 hours or more with children **MUST** have the one time Virtus Training. If you have not attended training please call Carol at the Parish Center to register or please check the Diocesan website for future training sessions at www.dioceseofscranton.org then click on Departments and Resources, then click on *Virtus: Protecting God's Children*.

NEIGHBORHOOD PARISH (NP) PROGRAM

What are Neighborhood Parishes doing?

Since the pilot project started, Neighborhood Parishes have done many noteworthy activities. Most recently, many Neighborhood Parishes collected food for the Food Pantry in memory of Kate Frye. Many Representatives contacted their families and left a large container on their porches – the donations were anonymous and plentiful. The Dalton Food Pantry was very thankful, and we are sure Kate was dancing in heaven. One Neighborhood conducted a collection of household goods and furnishings which completely furnished the two-bedroom apartment of a young immigrant family. Fully 100% of members participated in the outpouring of both material and financial assistance. Another neighborhood had a prayer service in the Neighborhood for an injured son of one family, and another had a Christmas party with gifts to benefit a family in need. All of these satisfied the goal of contacting the members and inviting them into the life of the parish.

The Country Bazaar will be here before we know it. In the past, some Neighborhoods collected baked goods and took them to the Baked Goods Stand at the Bazaar. Some Neighborhoods collected items for a beautiful basket, and some Neighborhoods participated as a group at the bazaar. In every case, the Representatives reported enthusiasm and generosity among the neighbors who were happy to be invited and participated when asked. These events also satisfy the goal of a contact and an invitation to a yearly social event.

Please consider becoming a Neighborhood Rep. For more information, please contact Carol at the Parish Center. Coming next: Where are we at now?

THE JAMAICAN MINISTRY: A Twinning Project

PENNY POWER: Fr. Jim Price met with the committee on April 15, 2009 and expressed much thanks for the continued success of the twinning project. He gave the committee newly established contact persons for each site. He also handed out written profiles and then reviewed Saint Elizabeth's, Immaculate Conception Church and its four missions and St. Paul of the Cross Cathedral and the four clinics run by Dr. Carol Narkevic. He expressed the need to establish relationships. We should consider ourselves as Catholic Christians doing good work to help one another become better people. There were many suggestions offered on how we can do this. Our efforts for the next meeting will be in discussing and prioritizing what action steps we will take first. The funds collected in March and April will go to St. Vincent Strambi Health Care Center in Bull Savannah, Jamaica. This clinic, part of the Passionist Mission, is staffed by Dr. Carol Narkevic, Diocesan Medical Advisor, and a nurse. Dr. Carol has expressed an interest in having physicians, dentists, and other medical personnel come to Jamaica and assist in her clinics. **If you have an interest in this program, either to visit the clinics personally or to act as a consultant on particular cases, please call Dr. Dennis Dawgert at 587-5437.** For further information of the Jamaica Ministry, please call the Parish Office at 586-1741.

LECTOR TRAINING

A lector training will be held on Tuesday, May 5, 2009 at 7:00 P.M. in Our Lady of the Snows Church. The session will include liturgical catechesis, preparation, helpful hints, and discussion. Anyone who is interested should call either of the priests or Carol at the Parish Center.

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.

Mr. Terry O'Brien C Company 3-19 Med Evac FOB Sykes APO, AE 09351	PVT Shamus McGuigan FCO2nd BN 54 th INF REGT 2 Platoon, RN#228 8775 Albanese DR FT Benning, GA 31905
---	---

P.F.C. Jenkins F.O.B. WARRIOR C.C.O. 15 TH BSB 2BCT ICD A.P.O. AE 09338	Kieth Kempinski ASGA ACO 1/111 th 56 SBCT Unit #6260 APO/AE 09378
---	---

IMPLEMENTATION CLUSTER MEETING

April 16, 2009

The Implementation Team for Cluster Four of the *Called to Holiness and Mission* is composed of members of four parishes: Our Lady of the Snows/Church of St. Benedict, St. Gregory, Our Lady of the Abingtons, and St. Patrick in Nicholson. Members from all four parishes attended the meeting.

Prayer: Members responded and shared from the reading of the Gospel according to John.

Introduction: Members who were not present for the initial meeting introduced themselves and were welcomed.

Minutes: Minutes of the meeting of 3/9/09 were approved.

Mission Statement: After discussion, it was decided that a Mission Statement is valuable and something that we would like to do in the future.

Values Statement/Vision Statement: Marion Eagen and Jerry Aschenbrenner had both written draft statements. These will be rewritten using the group's input and suggestions and presented at the next meeting.

Implementation Plan: Marion Eagen had written and mailed to everyone a lengthy and thorough possible plan addressing all the Bishop's general and particular directives which served as a springboard for our discussions. After discussion the group came to the conclusions that we need to work on only several goals in the first year. These goals include; creation of the partnership, explore the possibility of a regional youth minister, notify each other of our adult formation programs, discuss combining RCIA, expand the Triduum Morning program to include St. Patrick's, and publish our mass schedules. A small subcommittee will meet and prepare a draft for the members to consider at the next general meeting.

Closing Prayer: Msgr. McGarry led the group in a closing prayer.

Next Meeting: Thursday, April 30, 2009 at 7PM.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

We will have exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, when the Eucharist is visibly exposed in the monstrance for adoration, on the second Sunday of the month at Our Lady of the Snows Church. **The next Eucharistic Adoration will be held on May 10, 2009 from 6:00 P.M. until 8:00 P.M.**

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

COMMUNITY NEWS

FOOD PANTRY- A new location for Bread Basket of Northeastern PA has been established at the St. Thomas Aquinas Parish Center, 425 Church St., Archbald. This site serves those residing in the following zip code areas: 18403, 18433 (covering the Valley View School District) and 18411. The food pantry is opened every Tuesday from 10:00a.m. until 12:00 noon.

"SILENT AUCTION AND RAFFLE"...Sunday, May 17th from 12 noon to 4:00 p.m. at OLS Gathering Room. Have fun and help "The Rose Center" a non-profit program for Mediation and Conflict Resolution sponsored by the Sisters of the Good Shepherd. "We help turn conflict into conversation". Adult Admission - \$10.00 (or \$12.00 at the door), children lunch Ticket - \$3.00. Children three (3) and under free. (Cash or Check to "The Rose Center"). Admission ticket covers "ID" Bid number, Packet of "20" Raffle Numbers, Lunch and Door Prizes. You can also get "50-50" and "Tombola Table" chances. For further information, please call 585-6477.

THE SCRANTON CHAPTER OF PENNSYLVANIANS FOR HUMAN LIFE will conduct its annual Mother's Day Carnation Sale after all of the Masses on May 9 and 10. The Project (which is the Major Fundraiser of the year) will honor Mothers and focus awareness on the dignity

and value of human life, and raise funds to continue the Chapter's Pro-Life work and the operation of its Pro-Life Center.

IF YOU NEED: a CNA, Home Health Care or Private Duty Nursing please call Lucille at (570) 586-8192.

FAMILY MINISTRY

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

The next bereavement session will be held on **Wednesday, May 6, at 10:00 A.M. and on Sunday, May 17, at 2:00 P.M.** 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**

BEGINNING EXPERIENCE

Beginning Experience is a diocesan weekend program to help promote healing for those who have lost a loved one through death, divorce or separation. The next program will be **May 15-17 at the Fatima Renewal Center, Dalton, PA**. Registration required. To request more information or to register please call Ann at 587-2851.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL ADULT HELP NEEDED

**This year's theme is: CROCODILE DOCK-
WHERE FEARLESS KIDS SHINE GOD'S LIGHT**

Vacation Bible School will be the week of **June 22-26th** at the Newton Ransom Recreational Center for children ages 4-11yrs.. **Adult help is needed in the following areas:** general director to lead planning and organization of the program, crew leaders, outdoor/indoor game leader, arts & crafts, music/audio Chadder's theater adult leaders,, snack area, and pre school leaders, Please call Nettie at the parish center 586-1741 if you are interested in helping out in any of these areas. . Seventh grade students and older are also needed as crew leaders. . Training Sessions will begin in May. Please watch the bulletin for upcoming training dates.

CONVERSATION CORNER

We are all God's children. Not just our fellow Catholics, not just those who profess to be Christians, but everyone –Muslim, Jew, Hindu, Atheist, and so on. As God's children, we are brothers and sisters. We are one family, even though like most families we have our differences. Do you really believe this? Do you really believe that God loves each person no matter who they are, where they are from, or what they may have done? How does (or should) this affect the way you treat others?

FOR BETTER FOR WORSE

God does not make junk. If our mind and heart is full of what you perceive as "junk" (anger, resentment, poor self-image, sadness, boredom, unfaithfulness, spite, fear, ask yourself,... Is this from God or is this junk put there by me? God **does not** make junk.

'MOMS AND TOTS GROUP

The **Mother's group will meet on the first and third Wednesday of the month Time is 10:00-11:30am at the parish center lower level of the rectory May 6th and 20th** All mothers and tots are welcome to join us for a morning of socializing and faith sharing, For more information call Andrea Rogers @ 587-0715 or Nettie Goldate @ 586-1741.

Care-Giver Support

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

LAZARUS MINISTRY

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

Only you can help...please read on.

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

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

FIRST EUCHARIST INFORMATION:

First Eucharist Dates are Saturday, May 2, and Saturday, May 9, at 11:00 A.M. at the Church of St. Benedict. Videos and group picture will be available for purchase. Order forms will be given out at the practices or by contacting the parish office.

First Eucharist on May 9th at 11:00 am at the Church of St. Benedict

Mandatory Practice Dates for this Eucharist Class will be on **Wed. May 6th and Thursday May 7th at 6:30pm at the Church of St. Benedict**. Banners are to be brought to practice.

**IMPORTANT CONFIRMATION DATES:
CONFIRMATION MAY 20TH 5:00PM CHURCH OF ST.
BENEDICT FOR THE FOLLOWING CLUSTER
GROUPS:**

Akers Cluster
 Eckersley/Kresge Cluster
 Lesneski Cluster
 Santarelli Cluster

Our Lady of Peace Elementary School Students
**CONFIRMATION MAY 22ND 5:00PM CHURCH OF ST.
 BENEDICT FOR THE FOLLOWING CLUSTER**

GROUPS:LaCoe Cluster
 Lo Russo /Chermak Cluster
 Mazur Cluster
 Menendez Cluster
 Pusateri Cluster
 Rovinsky (Sun. OLP) Cluster

Confirmation video and group picture will be taken at the ceremony. Order forms will be available at the practices or by contacting the parish office.

CONFIRMATION PENANCE SERVICE
MANDATORY PENANCE SERVICE FOR
CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES WILL BE ON
MONDAY MAY 4TH AT 7:00PM AT THE CHURCH OF
ST. BENEDICT. Family, sponsors and friends are
invited to attend.

CONFIRMATION STOLE
Stoles that will be worn by confirmation candidates at
Confirmation were given out at the retreat. Anyone
who did not receive a stole is asked to stop by the
parish office to obtain one. Confirmation name is to
be put on stole before Confirmation.

CONFIRMATION SPONSOR CARD: Sponsors who are not parishioners of Our Lady of the Snows/Church of St. Benedict must obtain a card from the parish in which they belong. Please send in the sponsor card to Nettie at the parish center.

CONFIRMATION SERVICE HOURS:

Requirement for Confirmation is total of **30 hours of service** to church and community.
 Service projects should be complete and turned into the director of religious ed. by March.

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

May 30-31stRelay for Life
 June 16thLight the Fire Youth Rally
 June 21-27thSummer Mission Trip – West Virginia
 July 10-12thFranciscan Youth Conference
 November 19-22ndNCYC 09 Kansas City

Franciscan Summer Youth Conference

WHEN: July 10-12 2009
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 2009 High School Graduate.



COST: \$200 before fundraising

Thank you!

Thank you for your support of our annual **Pasta Dinner**. The money raised will be used to help our 50 students and chaperones attend our Annual Mission Trip to West Virginia to work with Habitat for Humanity. You can donate to this cause at anytime with a check made payable to OLS Youth Ministry. Thank you again.

Up and Over

What: Weekend retreat for 7th and 8th Graders.

Where: The Fatima Center

When: June 5-7, 2009

Arrival: Friday @ 7PM

Departure: Sunday @ 1PM

Cost: \$100

Register by May 25th by calling Sarah Mountain @ 563-8500

Next THEOLOGY ON TAP

The first Theology on Tap in our Area!

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

Where: Armetta's Pizza

When: Tuesday, May 26, 2009

Time: 7PM – 9PM

Cover: \$5 includes Pizza and wings

