

The Catholic Community in Sharpsburg

Saint Mary Parish + Madonna of Jerusalem Parish + Saint John Cantius Parish

Very Reverend Frank D. Almade, V. F., Administrator

FEBRUARY 1, 2009

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER

201 9th Street, Sharpsburg, PA 15215

Office.....412-784-8700
Office Fax.....412-781-1101
CCD.....412-784-8700
Cemetery Clerical Office.....412-784-8960
St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry.....412-781-2866
Christ the Divine Teacher
Catholic Academy.....412-781-7927
E-mail.....CCinSharpsburg@yahoo.com
Web site.....www.catholicsharpsburg.org

SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Saturday

4:00 pm Madonna of Jerusalem Church
6:00 pm Madonna of Jerusalem Church

Sunday

8:30 am St. John Cantius Church
10:30 am St. Mary Church
10:30 am St. John Cantius—KCC (in Korean)

BAPTISMS by appointment. Pre-Baptism session required. Baptisms will take place during any Sunday Mass.

MARRIAGES Six months' notice required. Please call Father to arrange an interview.

ANointing OF THE SICK Available at the conclusion of all weekend Masses or call Father Almade. Kindly inform us of hospitalized or shut-in parishioners.

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Wednesday : 5:30 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. MOJ
Saturday: 3:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. MOJ

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Monday: 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. John Paul I Center

MATTHEW 7:7 PRAYER GROUP

Monday: 7:15 p.m. in Madonna Church

KOREAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY (KCC)

Masses in Korean at St. John Cantius Church
Sunday: 10:30 a.m.
Rev. Jang Won Choi, Chaplain
Website: www.tkccp.org

OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

This Week in the Church

Sunday, February 1

St. Ansgar

Monday, February 2

Presentation of the Lord

Tuesday, February 3

St. Blaise

Wednesday, February 4

St. Joseph of Leonissa

Thursday, February 5

St. Agatha

Friday, February 6

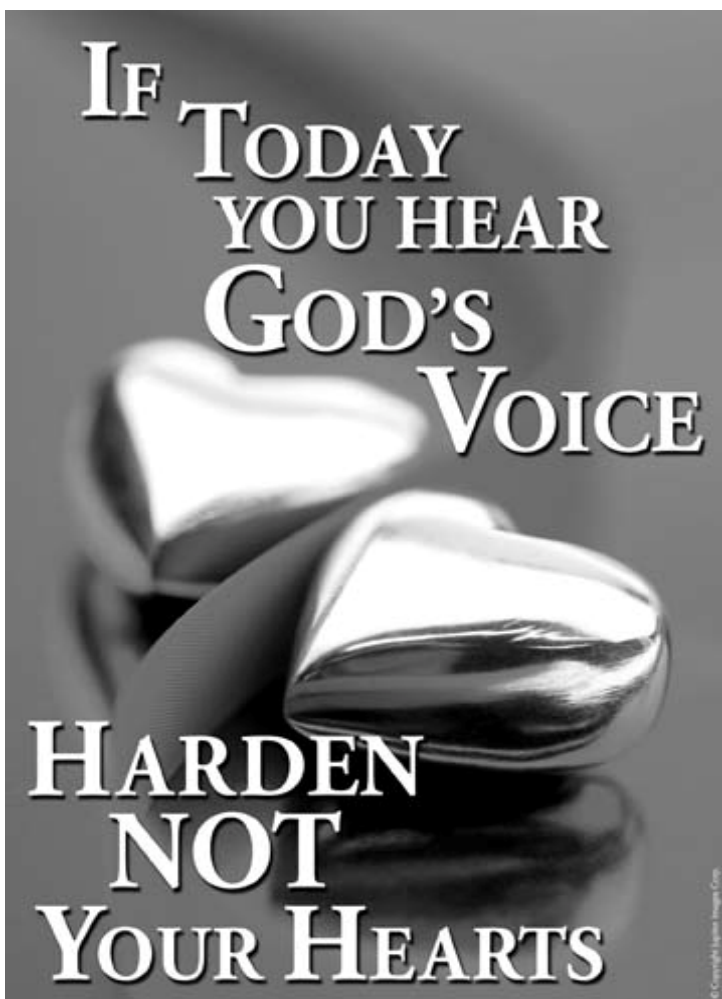
St. Paul Miki and Companions

Saturday, February 7

St. Colette



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Stewardship
Offertory January 24/25, 2009

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|----------------------|------------|
| St. Mary | \$2,740.00 |
| Madonna of Jerusalem | \$2,041.50 |
| St. John Cantius | \$ 504.00 |

THANK YOU FOR YOUR STEWARDSHIP!

BLESSING OF THROATS On Tuesday, February 3, the church celebrates the feast of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr in the 4th century. He was known for his miraculous healings, especially of the throat. Since most parishioners cannot attend morning Mass on Thursday, the blessing of throats will be offered after all Masses this weekend at the conclusion of Mass.

SERIES OF PRESENTATIONS The first of Father Almade's presentations on Evangelization will take place at 12 Noon and at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 5. The topic is, "What does the Bible say about evangelization?" Each talk will include time for discussion and will last approximately 90 minutes.

ECUMENICAL SERVICE At the kind invitation of Reverend Howard Ravenstahl, Father Almade will preach at the 11:00 a.m. service of First English Lutheran Church of Sharpsburg, 125 North Main Street, this Sunday, February 1. CCS parishioners are invited to attend. Father Jim Garvey will take Father Almade's place at the 10:30 a.m. Mass today in St. Mary Church.

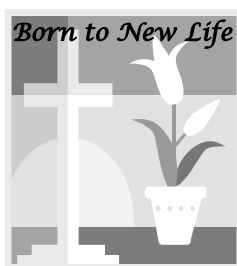
Next week, Father Almade will be helping to present a retreat and out of the parishes. Father Jim McDonough will preside at the Masses on Saturday, February 7 and Father Carlo Napoli will preside at the Sunday Masses on February 8. As always, please make all of our wonderful visiting priests feel welcome in Sharpsburg.

WORLD MARRIAGE DAY This year, World Marriage Day will be celebrated next Sunday, February 8. World Marriage Day honors husband and wife as head of the family. It salutes the beauty of their faithfulness, sacrifice and joy in daily married life. If during this year of 2009, you are celebrating an anniversary ending in the numbers 0 or 5 or are married over 50 years, please contact the Parish Office no later than Monday afternoon, February 2, so that we may recognize your wonderful commitment on February 8.

2009 FLOWERS AND CANDLES Candles and flowers are available for just about every weekend for this year. The offering for candles is \$25 and the cost for flowers is \$50. Please call the Parish Office if you would like to remember your loved ones in a special way through flowers and candles.

RESPECT LIFE COMMITTEE Join us for coffee (cocoa) on Saturday, February 7 at 10:00 a.m. to plan pro-life activities for our parishes for this year. For more information, call Cathy Zuza at 412-784-9403 or email her at johnzuza9403@msn.com. Youth and adults are welcome.

HEARTFELT CONGRATULATIONS This past Sunday, very deserving parishioners of the Catholic Community in Sharpsburg were presented Manifesting the Kingdom Awards by Bishop Zubik. From St. Mary Parish, the recipient was Betty Phelan, from St. John Cantius the recipient was Chuck Beck and from Madonna of Jerusalem the recipients were Chuck and Marie Warrene. May God bless these people for their devotion and dedication to our Catholic Community!

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|  | <p>Please pray for Bernard E. Persechetti, Rita Yocum and Dale Ealy, brother of St. Mary Cemetery employee, Bruce Ealy</p> <p>May they rest in peace.</p> |
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CCD NEWS The CCD children have been making visits to St. Mary's Courtyard throughout the year. The residents enjoy the children's visits as much as the children enjoy visiting them. While there, the children sing songs, play games such as bingo, pray with them and even share a snack together. The children like visiting the residents because in their words, "...they don't get many visitors and it makes them happy."

FIRST RECONCILIATION There is a correction from last week's bulletin. Our second graders will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time on Monday, February 9 at 6:45 p.m. in Madonna of Jerusalem Church, **not** on February 2 as previously stated. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will also be available for anyone who wishes to attend with Father Carlo Napoli and Father Almade available. Please keep our little ones in your prayers as they receive this wonderful sacrament.

YOUTH GROUP NEWS The youth group will participate in the 19th annual Love Walk for the Poor, sponsored by the Department for Youth and Young Adult Ministry. The walk is scheduled for Sunday, February 8 beginning at 2:00 p.m. at Sacred Heart Church in Shadyside. Bishop Zubik will be the main celebrant. All participants are asked to bring baby items for the Catholic Charities Rosalia Center and non-perishable items for the EECM Soup kitchen. The participants in the walk will carry their collected items for 1 mile as a way of showing the hardship of the homeless who must carry their possessions with them. Any donations from parishioners will be greatly appreciated and the youth group thanks you for your generosity.

MEN'S RETREAT WEEKEND The men of the parish are invited to a retreat weekend from February 20 through February 22 at St. Paul of the Cross Retreat Center located at St. Paul's Monastery in the South Hills. This weekend provides the participants with the opportunity to spend quiet time in prayer and fellowship with other Catholic men. For more information, please call Pietro Ferraro at 412-781-6283.

MINISTERS NEEDED We are once again in need of ministers for Holy Communion, as well as lectors and altar servers. If you feel that God is calling you to serve him through ministry, please call the Parish Office.

WORLD DAY OF PEACE The annual World Day of Peace celebration will take place on Friday, March 26 at Faith United Methodist Church in Fox Chapel. A planning meeting for the event will be held on Thursday, January 29 at 11:00 a.m. Readers and choir members from all local churches are asked to participate if possible. Ideas are also needed for advertising. This year's country to be sponsored is Papua New Guinea and the program for the celebration was designed from women from Papua New Guinea. Offerings will be collected and will go to help with women's and children's issues in Papua New Guinea. For more information, please call Barbara Amsler at 412-828-3197.

A PERSPECTIVE ON THE MARCH FOR LIFE The following article has been written by Cecelia Troyan, one of the youth group members who participated in the March for Life last week. Cecelia is a 7th grader at Dorseyville Middle School.

“On Thursday, January 22, the youth group had the opportunity to go to Washington, DC, for the March for Life. I went to the march and was enlightened by it. There was a rally and a Mass before the march. Out of everything I encountered that day, the rally was definitely the most phenomenal.

“More than 30,000 seats were filled by young people in the Verizon Center. It was a challenge to find seats and in the end, we stood against the wall. To see so many other children of all ages gathered together was something that opens your eyes to your faith. The rally included singing and speeches give by people whose lives were changed because of their faith. There was also the opportunity to go to confession. The line was half of the perimeter of the entire center. It was amazing to see priests and bishops sitting at tables, bars and standing against walls to listen to confessions. When you stepped into the room, you could feel the holiness wash over you.

“After the rally came Mass. It was two hours long, however, I’m convinced the first hour was just the procession. There was an estimate of 100 deacons, 350 priests and 50 bishops. Archbishop Wuerl named all the bishops representing the cities throughout the United States. Communion was also unbelievable as priests spread out through the whole building.

“When Mass was over, the march began. It was a long walk that held what seemed to me an important message. I learned that people feel very strongly about being pro-life. I saw many people holding signs with messages about their beliefs. Being part of the march made me feel that I alone am only one voice. And even when you look around at the thousands upon thousands of others marching for the lives of the innocents who cannot speak for themselves, you see that you are only a part of something much greater and that our efforts are indeed being noticed.

“Over all, being part of this event, seeing the rally, participating in the Mass and the march showed me that life is something more than what we take it for. The lesson that I learned is that life is a most valuable gift. The March for Life was the most inspirational event that I have ever experienced.”

“CHILDREN OF EDEN” Vincentian Academy is presenting performances of “Children of Eden”, a highly recommended Bible-based drama about the book of Genesis. The performances will take place on Friday, February 20, Saturday, February 21, Friday, February 27 and Saturday, February 28. Each show will begin at 7:30 and dinner will be served prior to the shows at 5:30 p.m. The performances will take place at the Catherine Thomas Theater located at the St. Benedict Center on Perrysville Avenue. Seating will begin one hour prior to the show and for more information or to buy tickets, please call 724-481-1200.

BINGO!

at MADONNA

SUPER BOWL SUNDAY MATINEE

DOORS OPEN AT 12:30 P.M.
BINGO BEGINS AT 1:45 P.M.
in the John Paul I Center

No one under 14 permitted.

SMOKERS/NON-SMOKERS WELCOME!!!

LARGE PAPER GROCERY BAGS ARE ALWAYS NEEDED!

*Next week, bingo will resume at its regular time of 7:00 p.m.
with doors opening at 5:30 p.m.*

For more information, call Marie at 412-781-3388.

SPECIAL SUPER BOWL BINGO Don't forget about special bingo this afternoon beginning at 1:45 p.m. Doors will open at 12:30 p.m. and wear your black and gold to root on the Steelers. Also, to receive a dollar off of your admission, please bring a canned good or non-perishable item for our youth group for their “Souper” Bowl Sunday collection. All items collected will be used to help the needy in our area and will be donated to our St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry. Next week, bingo will resume at its normal time of 7:00 p.m.

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS On the back cover of our bulletin each week is a listing of businesses who help to support our church. Their ads provide free printing of our bulletin from the company that we use. Please patronize our advertisers and let them know you appreciate their support.

This week's featured advertisers are the Bock Funeral Home on Mount Royal Boulevard in Glenshaw and Z Florist, also located on Mount Royal Boulevard in Glenshaw.

WOMEN'S RETREAT This Saturday, February 7, a Women's Retreat will be held at Mount Alvernia. The theme of the retreat is Franciscan Solitude. The cost is fifty dollars and includes lunch and supper, exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Reconciliation and a Sunday Liturgy. For more information or to register, please call 412-275-7708.

DIOCESAN ADULT FAITH FORMATION SERIES What does the future look like for the youth and faith? Join us for an evening with Colleen Carroll Campbell who has thought, investigated and written about this very interesting subject. Mrs. Campbell will present a lecture centered on 1 Timothy 4:12, “Let no one have contempt for your youth, but set an example for those who believe.” The talk is entitled: Have No Contempt for Their Youth: The Story of Today's New Faithful. Her presentation will be held at St. Paul's Seminary Auditorium on Thursday, February 5 at 7:30 p.m. Continuing education credit is available for priests, deacons and catechists. The lecture is free and all are welcome to attend.

FAITHFUL CHRONICLES
by Father Frank D. Almada

(For those of you who may think you heard this before, the following is a summary of my sermon from last week.)

St. Scholastica Parish, Aspinwall, recently hosted a "listening session" for any who had a complaint or criticism of the Catholic Church. As I took in the comments, I had two thoughts: that it is valuable to listen to honest criticism of the church, and that the experience of the complainers wasn't my experience. I wanted to tell them of the riches of our Church, of what it meant to me. Let me offer three things that maybe I and other priests or bishops haven't said plainly or loudly enough.

The Catholic Church is founded upon the Word of God, the bible. It is true that 50 or more years ago priests were telling their people not to read the bible, because they feared major misunderstandings. But the Catholic Church has revered the Sacred Scriptures (both Old Testament and New Testament) since Peter and Paul began preaching after Jesus' resurrection and ascension. Every single Mass throughout the Church's history offers three or four readings from the Bible. Every doctrine or dogma must be based in and consistent with the major themes of the bible. The Second Vatican Council restored the bible to its rightful place as the book of books for all Christians to read, pray and meditate over. In October Pope Benedict XVI convened the Synod of Bishops for the purpose of seeking wider distribution and promotion of the bible by the faithful. You can't be a faithful Catholic if you don't own, read, reflect on and pray the bible (with an up-to-date American English translation).

All Catholics have a loving relationship with Jesus which we must nourish. This relationship began with our reception of the sacrament of baptism, is nourished when we go to confession and receive Holy Communion, was affirmed in Confirmation, and is sustained whenever we pray, either individually or communally. Some evangelical Christians think that they are the only ones with this relationship, but all of us are privileged to be in a special relationship with Jesus the Christ. He is the Son of God, who is also our friend, mentor, healer and teacher.

Jesus strongly invites every adult Catholic to learn more about our Catholic faith. It has been a good many years since we sat in a classroom as students. But all of us are in "the school of continuing education." We've given up coal cellars for whole house A/C, party lines for cell phones, manual transmission cars for hybrids with automatics, telegrams for email and text messaging. We hold dear past pastors of our parishes (Fathers Oliveri, Vecchio, Styka, Rosenbach and others), but today we support the Catholic Community of Sharpsburg as it soon becomes one parish. As children we read the *Baltimore Catechism* (1884). Today we learn from the universal *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (1992) and the *U.S. Adult Catholic Catechism* (2006). Each of us has to keep up with our changing and evolving Church, and update ourselves in how to practice the Faith today.

Schedule of Masses for the Week

SAT., JAN. 31

4:00 PM MOJ BOB MATTHEIS by the Mattheis Family
6:00 PM MOJ FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE
CATHOLIC COMMUNITY IN SHARPSBURG

SUN., FEB. 1

8:30 AM SJC DECEASED MEMBERS OF THE MAJEWSKI
FAMILY & WALTER & LUCY WISNEWSKI by
Family
10:30 AM STM FRANK, MARCELLA AND JOSEPH TARASI
by Family

MON., FEB. 2

7:30 AM MOJ FRANK GALLO, JR. by Mr. and Mrs. John
Artzberger

TUE., FEB. 3

7:30 AM MOJ CHARLOTTE KAZMERSKI by Joe Bonicky

WED., FEB. 4

7:30 AM MOJ ANNA B. SETTINO by daughters, Betty and Rene

THU., FEB. 5

7:30 AM MOJ ROBERT BARTH by Joyce and Joe Tappe

FRI., FEB. 6

7:30 AM MOJ RAYMOND WERBANEC by Sharon Lippert

SAT., FEB. 7

4:00 PM MOJ TWILA ANDERSON by Christian Mothers and
Rosary Society
6:00 PM MOJ FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE
CATHOLIC COMMUNITY IN SHARPSBURG

SUN., FEB. 8

8:30 AM SJC MARCIANO FAMILY by Chuck and Marie
Warrene
10:30 AM STM IN THANKSGIVING FOR PRAYERS ANSWERED
by Matthew 7:7 Prayer Group

**If you have a Mass scheduled and wish to bring the gifts to
Father, please tell the ushers prior to Mass starting.**

LENT The season of Lent will begin this year on Ash Wednesday, February 25. The Mass schedule (with distribution of ashes) is as follows: 7:30 a.m. at Madonna of Jerusalem Church, 12:00 Noon at St. Mary Church and 7:00 p.m. at Madonna of Jerusalem Church. Please look in next week's bulletin for upcoming Lenten activities.

ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY In the Gospel today we read that because Jesus spoke with authority, his reputation spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee. As his disciples, we can also speak with authority when we put our faith into actions by helping the poor and suffering. Your kind contributions will assist our St. Vincent de Paul Society to help those in need in our area.

MARRIAGE MOMENT In the spirit of the groundhog, develop your shadow side today. If you are shy, make an overture to someone in need. If you are not very affectionate, give your spouse an unexpected hug or kiss. If you are a workaholic, take some time off to play together.

PARENTING POINTER Are you friends with your teen? Regardless of whether or not you are into the Facebook or MySpace social networking sites, it doesn't hurt to sign up. If for no other reason, parents need to be aware of how they work. It's also a handy way to stay connected with your young adult children.

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Catholic Community in Sharpsburg

201 Ninth Street

Sharpsburg, PA 15215

Office: 412-784-8700

Attn: Rosemarie

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Brother 5140