

Saint Juan Diego Parish

Reverend Frank D. Almada, Pastor

NOVEMBER 15, 2009

THIRTY-THIRD 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.....saintjuandiegopgh@verizon.net
Web site.....www.saintjuandiegopgh.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.

HOLY ORDERS Young men who wish to find out more about the priesthood should contact Father Almada.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK Available at the conclusion of all weekend Masses or call Father Almada. 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)

Sunday: 10:30 a.m.
Rev. Jang Won Choi, Chaplain
Website: www.tkccp.org

OFFICE HOURS

Monday to Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.



Stewardship
Offertory November 7/8 , 2009

\$5,193.00

Attendance

723 *Great! Great!*

SECOND COLLECTION Next weekend, a second collection will be taken to help with the Retirement Fund for Religious. As expenses continue to increase and economic difficulties tighten everyone's income, the Religious rely on your help more than ever. Your donation supports the care of elderly and frail Religious women and men. Please give as generously as you can to next week's second collection.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION Bishop Zubik has asked parishes and pastors to continue having Eucharistic Adoration during the Jubilee Year of the Priest (June 2009-June 2010). With the enthusiastic support of the Parish Pastoral Council, Father Almade is planning to start a new parish tradition: having a Day of Eucharistic Adoration on the Feast of Saint Juan Diego, December 9. After 7:30 a.m. Mass, the Eucharist will be exposed for prayer in Madonna of Jerusalem Church all day. At 6:00 p.m., there will be a dinner for all parish volunteers in the John Paul I Pastoral Center. At 7:30 p.m., there will be Evening Prayer and Benediction to conclude the celebration of our parish's patron. Father Almade has invited the new regional vicar, Father Phil Farrell, to preside and preach at Benediction (subject to his acceptance). Please mark Wednesday, December 9 on your calendar for prayer and celebration of Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, as we honor our patron.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT Saint Juan Diego Parish is holding a benefit Christmas concert on Sunday, December 20 beginning at 2:00 p.m. in St. Mary Church. Performers include William Dell and Wee Jams and an octet from the Fox Chapel High School Orchestra. Watch for ticket information in future bulletins.

PAPERWORK Anyone who attended the recent Protecting God's Children workshops or who has received their background clearance in the mail is must send their original paperwork to the Parish Office for our records. We will be happy to make copies for your records.

CCD NEWS This Monday, November 16, at 6:30 p.m., confessions will be heard by two visiting priests at Madonna of Jerusalem Church for the students of our CCD Program. Anyone else who would like to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation is invited to join the children.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT Back again for a second year is a Christmas Pageant presented by the Children of Saint Juan Diego Parish. The pageant will take place on Saturday, December 12 at 7:30 p.m. in the John Paul I Pastoral Center. Immediately following the pageant will be a parish social. Everyone is welcome to this free performance.

CHRISTIAN MOTHERS AND ROSARY SOCIETY The Christian Mothers and Rosary Society will have their monthly meeting this Thursday, November 19, at 7:00 p.m. in the John Paul I Pastoral Center. Any new members are welcome to attend this meeting.



Flowers at the Altar

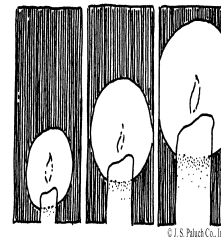
In memory of

Richard E. Ruszkiewicz
by
Wife, Marilyn, and Family

**Altar and Sanctuary
Candles are burning
this week**

In memory of

Veronica Lach
by
The Lach Family



Born to New Life



Please pray for

Beatrice Szyper
Albert Szwedko
Frank Ceraso
Rose Tornese

May they rest in peace.

ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY During the month of October, 81 households (200 individuals) received food assistance and 5 households received help with utilities, furniture and/or medicine. Additional, through the St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store, clothing (3 outfits, jacket, shoes) was provided for twelve people.

The cost (both actual and donated value) to serve these 86 households includes:

Fresh Produce	\$ 452.00
Purchased meat/cheese	\$ 0.00
Furniture	\$ 85.00
Medicine	\$ 5.00
Utilities (gas, electric, water)	\$ 392.00
Total Actual	\$ 934.00

Canned foods, cereal, bakery	\$6,736.00
Meats and other frozen foods	\$1,058.00
Other (baby products, paper, household, etc.	\$ 877.00
Halloween treats for children	\$ 907.00
Winter jackets for children	\$ 280.00
Total Donated	\$9,858.00

Grand Total \$10,792.00

October volunteer effort = 260 hours

Many, many thanks for the continued generosity of Saint Juan Diego Parish, as well as the many contributions from individuals, businesses, schools, churches and other organizations. With your help, we are blessed to continue the work of St. Vincent de Paul and Blessed Frederick Ozanam. Please keep the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in your prayers.

DEER LUNCHEON BINGO The Christian Mothers and Rosary Society are sponsoring a luncheon bingo on Monday, November 30 beginning at 1:00 p.m. at the John Paul I Pastoral Center. The doors open at 11:30 a.m. Please come and support this wonderful group!

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN The Saint Juan Diego Capital Campaign is now underway. Our goal is \$350,000. All registered parishioners received a letter from Father Almada this past week. Please pray about your pledge, sign the Pledge Card, make a first payment, and return the Pledge Card to the parish office. Thank you! We can achieve our goal if every household makes a generous pledge.

SENIORS SEMINAR A free seminar will be held on November 20 from 1:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. at the Sharpsburg Towers, 601 Main Street, for seniors and their issues with health coverage. The information needed from anyone who will attend is which plan will keep their doctor, a list of prescriptions, the services that are needed and the amount that you can pay monthly. Doctors and pharmacists will be on hand to answer questions and give health screenings. This seminar, sponsored by the Apprise Program of the Allegheny County Area Agency on Aging, is open to the public and free.

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS In today's bulletin you will find an insert for requests for Christmas flower memorial donations. The deadline for the donations is Friday, December 11 and please make your check payable to Saint Juan Diego Parish.

DIOCESAN ADULT FAITH FORMATION SERIES As part of adult continuing faith formation, the Diocese of Pittsburgh is hosting its second in a series of talks specifically focused on prayer and spirituality. Dr. Susan Muto, executive director of Epiphany Association, is a renowned speaker, author and teacher who has led conferences, seminars, workshops, and institutes throughout the world. Her presentation is, "Practicing the Prayer of Presence", which will be held on Tuesday, November 17 at the St. Paul Seminary Auditorium beginning at 7:30 p.m. The lecture is free and all are welcome to attend.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS We have several young people in our parish who have recently achieved wonderful accomplishments.

Scott Auen, son of Elaine and Jerry Auen and one of our maintenance helpers with the parish, was awarded last weekend the Spirit Award from the Pennsylvania State Special Olympics for exceptional bravery, dedication and effort.

Joseph Panza, son of Brenda and Frank Panza, is the only starting junior for the Shaler Area High School football team. In addition, **Anthony and Michael Ferraro**, grandsons of Hilda Ferraro, and **Kevin Cavlovich**, one of our bingo workers, are also part of this team who is now competing in the second round of the WPIAL playoffs. Go Titans!

Grace Callahan, daughter of Dr. Lawrence and Regina Callahan, recently performed in the OperaTheater's production of "Brundibar." Grace is concertmistress of the Pittsburgh Youth Symphony Orchestra and we are blessed to have her play during liturgies at St. Mary Church.

May God bless all of our youth!



BINGO

at **MADONNA**

DOORS OPEN AT 5:30 P.M.
BINGO BEGINS AT 7 P.M.
in the John Paul I Center

Free Coffee!

No one under 14 permitted.

SMOKERS/NON-SMOKERS WELCOME!!!

LARGE PAPER GROCERY BAGS ARE ALWAYS NEEDED!

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

**During each Sunday in November,
an extra \$5 will be
paid out during each regular game.**

**Tell your friends to join us
for these special nights!**

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN WORKSHOPS St. Scholastica Parish, Aspinwall, is sponsoring an additional Protecting God's Children workshops in November. The workshop is on November 23 starting at 7:00 p.m. Anyone who still needs this to fulfill diocesan regulations is urged to attend one of these sessions. If you would like to register for any of dates, please call the Parish Office and we will be happy to take of the registration.

OPEN HOUSE Christ the Divine Teacher Catholic Academy is having an open house on Thursday, November 19 from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. Come see and hear about the advantages of a Pre-K through 8 environment. Reservations are requested but not required. For more information, please call 412-781-7927.

WEIGHT WATCHERS A Weight Watchers class meets each Saturday morning beginning at 8:30 a.m. for approximately half an hour in the John Paul I Pastoral Center. Anyone interested in joining may call the Parish Office for additional information.

ABUSE PROTECTION The Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh and Saint Juan Diego Parish are committed to the prevention of abuse of children and young people. Our diocesan church has a strong record of responding to accusations of sexual misconduct by clergy or church personnel. The toll free number to contact in case of sexual abuse is 1-888-808-1235.

RESPECT LIFE The Our Lady of Guadalupe Respect Life cluster will meet on Tuesday, November 17 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Edward's Church in Blawnox. All are welcome to attend.

Schedule of Masses for the Week

SAT., NOV. 14

- 4:00 PM MOJ VINCENT, LUCY, SAM AND FRANK BRUNO by Carmella and Leo Rudzki and Family
6:00 PM MOJ RICHARD E. RUSZKIEWICZ by Mrs. Marilyn Ruszkiewicz and Family

SUN., NOV. 15

- 8:30 AM SJC FOR THE PEOPLE OF SAINT JUAN DIEGO PARISH
10:30 AM STM DOLORES SMOREY AND JUDITH LABBY by Christine Girty

MON., NOV. 16

- 7:30 AM MOJ LEO NUCERA by Loving Family

TUE., NOV. 17

- 7:30 AM MOJ RITA MARMARELLI by Robert Stampahar

WED., NOV. 18

- 7:30 AM MOJ MICHAEL AND MARIE CLAUS AND FAMILY by Paul and Dorothy Claus

THU., NOV. 19

- 7:30 AM MOJ HUGH MYERS by Joe and Annette Hilinski

FRI., NOV. 20

- 7:30 AM MOJ JOHN BERNARD LINN by Marc and Melanie Linn Gutowski

SAT., NOV. 21

- 4:00 PM MOJ RAY AND MARY ANN SCOTT by Daughters and Grandson
6:00 PM MOJ STANLEY A. UMINSKI AND FAMILY by Mary Ann Uminski

SUN., NOV. 22

- 8:30 AM SJC VINCENT D'ANGELO by Wife, Ann, Children and Grandchildren
10:30 AM STM FOR THE PEOPLE OF SAINT JUAN DIEGO PARISH

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

AWAY Father Almade will be away from the parish from Tuesday, November 24 through Tuesday, December 2. Part of this time will be a personal vacation but from November 30 to December 2, Father will be in Gaylord, Michigan with a contingency from Pittsburgh to attend the installation of Bishop-Elect Bernie Hebda.

WINTER SCHEDULE Please keep in mind that our Sunday Mass schedule is the same all year round. Remind friends and former parishioners that Mass is celebrated in St. Mary Church every Sunday at 10:30 a.m.

ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY The Gospel predicts end times; our challenge though is to live faithfully now. When we live in conformity to the Word, hearing Jesus' words and living them out, the future holds on fear for us. As you place your gift in the Society of St. Vincent de Paul poor box, know that you are hearing the words of Jesus and living them out.

STEWARDSHIP: A WAY OF LIFE The readings today speak of the end of the world and the coming of the Kingdom. All is not lost with the dark images of the dawning of a new age, because Jesus' words will not pass away. Those who have been faithful disciples will be with him in the kingdom of God, and one with him when he comes again.

FAITHFUL CHRONICLES

by Father Frank D. Almade

It's not every morning that you wake up and find your name in a news article on the front page of the newspaper. But this has happened to me twice this year. In May the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* did an article on a Catholic "disputation" on the topic, "Is it immoral to vote for a candidate for elective office who supports abortion rights?" Dr. James Hanigan, retired professor of theology at Duquesne U., and I debated attorney Brad Tupi and Father Mike Caridi (loving nephew of parishioner Vi Gallo). And this past Monday the *Post-Gazette* reported on an interfaith panel addressing the issue of abolishing the death penalty, on which I was the Catholic representative.

In both cases these controversial subjects were part of educational programs. The disputation was for priests and deacons of the diocese, the interfaith panel was part of a community series addressing social issues by Pittsburgh Theological Seminary.

A consistent theme (and really a frustration) in both events was that "the faithful," the people in the pews, don't know much about these issues. Worse, there was the sense by panelists that the faithful were making no attempt to learn about what the church teaches. Lest you think that this is only true for us Catholics, on the interfaith panel the Jewish rabbi, the Episcopalian priest, the United Methodist minister, and the Lutheran pastor all made the same general claim (accusation?) about their parishioners. Few adults read or learn about their religious faith. Few adults know what their church (or synagogue) teaches on social issues, and about issues of doctrine or personal morality.

Why do I bring this up? So that I can say as clearly and plainly as possible: **Every one of us who is baptized and confirmed in Jesus Christ has the responsibility to continue to learn and grow in our faith throughout our lives.** Or, in other words, every Christian adult is in the "school of lifelong education and formation." I am not just saying this about controversial subjects, such as the ethical analysis of our votes or whether capital punishment should be abolished. This is true about the most basic teachings of our Catholic faith, such as the Trinity, Jesus Christ our Savior, the bible, understandings of the church, prayer formats and styles, what the sacraments are and do, as well as many social and personal moral issues.

Saint Juan Diego Parish recently hosted a series on Catholic Social Teaching for four weeks that had about 30 adults participate. Also I did a talk in August on the pope's new encyclical, "Caritas in Veritate," which drew about 50 folks. I commend those who attended. I know that many parishioners read the *Pittsburgh Catholic* and *Our Sunday Visitor*, which are available free every Sunday. But – this is not enough. Just as I have learned to use a computer, the internet and my Blackberry, just as many of you do research before buying a new car or choosing health insurance, each and every one of us has to regularly make efforts to learn more about our Catholic Faith. If you have a subject you would like to learn more about, please let me know, and I will do what I can to arrange for presentations here. Let us all be lifelong learners before God, and grow in our understanding of God's presence and love.