

The Catholic Community in Sharpsburg

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

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

NOVEMBER 9, 2008

DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA IN ROME

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

6:00 pm

7:30 pm

Madonna of Jerusalem Church

Madonna of Jerusalem Church

St. John Cantius—KCC (in Korean)

Sunday

8:30 am

10:30 am

10:30 am

St. John Cantius Church

St. Mary Church

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 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

KOREAN CATHOLIC COMMUNITY (KCC)

Masses in Korean at St. John Cantius Church

Saturday: 7:30 p.m.

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, November 9

Dedication of the Lateran Basilica in Rome

Monday, November 10

St. Leo the Great

Tuesday, November 11

St. Martin of Tours

Wednesday, November 12

St. Josaphat

Thursday, November 13

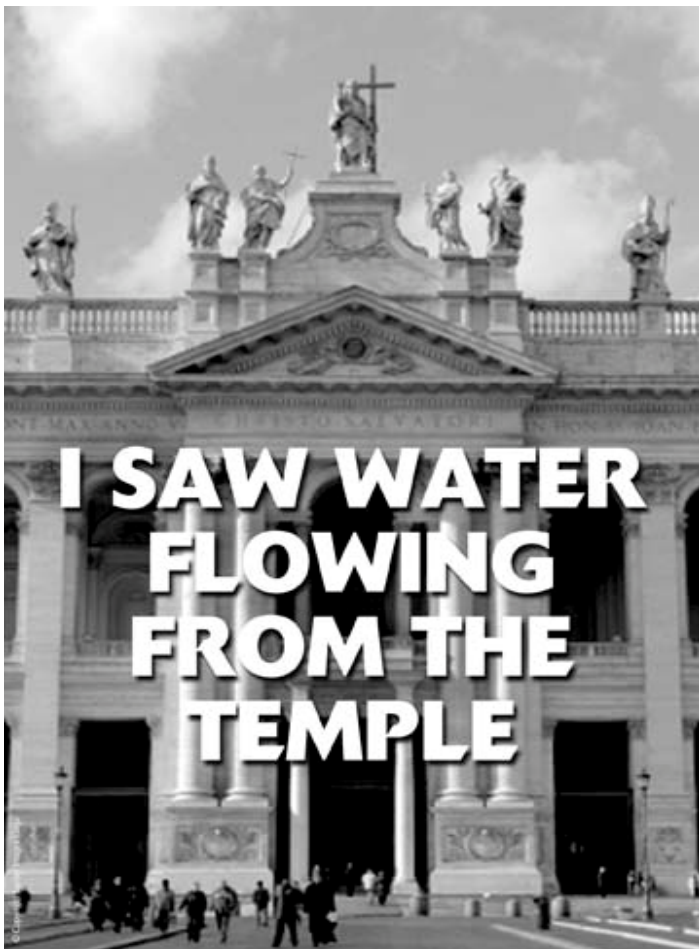
St. Francis Xavier Cabrini

Friday, November 14

St. Gertrude

Saturday, November 15

St. Albert the Great



Stewardship
Offertory November 1/2 2008

St. Mary	\$2,451.00
Madonna of Jerusalem	\$2,678.50
St. John Cantius	\$ 652.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

MASS SCHEDULE As Father Almada announced at all Masses two weeks ago, the Mass schedule for our three churches will not change for the upcoming winter months. The two Saturday Masses at 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. will be celebrated at Madonna of Jerusalem, 8:30 a.m. Mass will be offered at St. John Cantius and 10:30 a.m. Mass will be celebrated at St. Mary Church.

NEW CANDLES New candles are now available for purchase in our three churches. The candles will burn for six days instead of just five and will change colors with the liturgical seasons. For the first four weeks of the month of November, the candles will be amber in color and then will change to blue for Advent. The cost of the candles will now be three dollars instead of two. We hope you like the new candles.

LUNCHEON BINGO The Christian Mothers and Rosary Society will hold their annual "Deer" Luncheon Bingo on Monday, December 1. The doors will open at 11:30 a.m. and bingo will start at 1:00. Any donations for raffle prizes are greatly appreciated. For more information or for tickets, please call Evelyn Troyan at 412-781-9368.


YOUTH GROUP Our youth group will meet on Friday, November 21 from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. The older children will undergo training for the AED devices that are located in each of the churches and movies will be shown for all. Mark your calendars for this fun and informational night. Hope to see all of you there!

CHRISTIAN MOTHERS AND ROSARY SOCIETY The Christian Mothers and Rosary Society will hold their monthly meeting on Thursday, November 20 at 7:00 p.m. in the John Paul I Center. New members are always welcome!

ADVENT PENANCE SERVICES The priests of our cluster of parishes (Sharpsburg, O'Hara, Aspinwall and Blawnox) have scheduled four Advent penance services, so as to allow Catholics to properly prepare for the Feast of Christmas. Penance services will be held on Monday, December 1 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Scholastica Church, Aspinwall; Tuesday, December 9 at 7:30 p.m. at Madonna of Jerusalem Church; Wednesday, December 10 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Edward Church, Blawnox; and Wednesday, December 17 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Joseph Church, O'Hara.

C **EMETERY LOTS** As published in the insert in last week's bulletin, the price for lot sales in St. Mary's Cemetery will increase beginning on December 1. If you are considering making a purchase, now may be the time for you to do so. Interment fees will also increase effective December 1. The increases are posted on our website and available by calling Joyce at 412-784-8960.

**Please remember to give a bequest
to your parish in your will.**



Flowers at the Altar

In memory of
Marilyn Horton

by
Jack Merchant


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

In memory of
Marilyn Horton

by
Jack Merchant



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Born to New Life

Please pray for

HELEN A. OLEJARZ

May she rest in peace.

ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY REPORT During the month of October, the St. Vincent de Paul Pantry served 82 households (200 individuals). In one month, this is a 12% increase in number of households and a 23% increase in individuals served. Overall, the number of individuals requesting help is growing with the greatest growth of persons under the age of 34. The cost (both actual and donated value) to serve these 82 households includes:

Fresh meat and produce	\$ 775.00
Utilities (Light, Gas)	\$ 307.00
Housing (Rent)	\$ 200.00
Transportation	\$ 30.00
Paper products, furniture, clothing, toiletries (Donated)	\$1,390.00
Canned foods, cereal, crackers pasta, etc. (Donated)	\$6,196.00
Children's Halloween candy bags (Donated)	\$ 627.00

Thanks to the generosity of our Catholic Community in Sharpsburg, as well as many generous food contributions from the parishioners of St. Edward's in Blawnox and the St. Vincent de Paul Societies of St. Joseph's in O'Hara and St. Mary of Assumption, Glenshaw, we are able to continue the work of St. Vincent de Paul and Blessed Frederic Ozanam.

THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE In the spirit of generosity, please bring a bag of non-perishable food to the 10:00 a.m. Mass on Thanksgiving Day at Madonna Church to help the St. Vincent de Paul continue to provide for the needy in our area. A basket will also be available at the front of the church for any

ADDITIONAL DECEASED NAMES In your prayers, we ask that you also remember Audrey Vecchio, a member of Madonna of Jerusalem who was buried from St. Joseph Parish this year. If anyone else was a member of one of our parishes but buried elsewhere, please contact the parish office so that we can include the name in our next bulletin.

CONFESSIONS Father Almade hears confessions every week from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. on Wednesdays and from 3:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Saturdays in Madonna Church. Parishioners can also make an appointment with Father Almade for a time more convenient to their schedules.

FINANCE COUNCIL The Catholic Community in Sharpsburg Finance Council will meet on Tuesday, November 11, from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the John Paul I Center.

PARISH TEMPORALITIES IMPROVEMENT The Finance Office of the Diocese of Pittsburgh is hosting another regional meeting for Finance Council members and those interested in parishes finances and administration on Monday, November 10 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at St. Scholastica Parish, Aspinwall, in the Father Duch Pastoral Center. This meeting is free and open to all.

IRA CHARITABLE ROLLOVER If you are over the age of 70 1/2, you must take a required minimum distribution from your IRA. Normally, the amount of this distribution is taxed as ordinary income. However, federal legislation enacted on October 3, 2008, extends the opportunity for you for the remainder of 2008 and throughout 2009 to make a direct distribution from your IRA to a qualified charity, such as your parish. Such distributions, while not subject to income tax, will still count toward fulfilling your required minimum distribution. For more information about how you and your parish can benefit from an IRA charitable rollover, contact the parish office or Paul Stabile, the Director of Planned Giving for the Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh at 412-456-3055.

MARRIAGE MOMENTS Divorced men and women can teach married couples a lot. Often, they tell of taking their marriage for granted or being too busy making a living to live their vocation. Let their pain not be in vain.



VETERAN'S DAY This week November 11 commemorates the first celebration of Armistice Day in 1919 (which has since become Veteran's Day). Let us pause and offer a prayer for our veterans and honor them for their patriotism, love of country and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good.

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.

PAPAL INTENTION FOCUSES ON SAINTS Pope Benedict XVI is praying this month of November that the saints may become role models for Christians in their imitation of Christ.

The Apostleship of Prayer announced the general intention chosen by the Pope: "That the testimony of love offered by the Saints may fortify Christians in their devotion to God and their neighbor, imitating Christ who came to serve and not to be served."

The Holy Father also chooses an apostolic intention for each month. In November, he will pray that "the Christian communities of Asia, contemplating the face of Christ, may know how to find the most suitable ways to announce Him, in full faithfulness to the Gospel, to the peoples of that vast continent so rich in culture and ancient forms of spirituality."

Our website is www.catholicsharpsburg.org

The following is an update on the **Parish Share Program**. We are pleased to say, with your support, St. John Cantius and St. Mary parishes have reached their goals. Madonna parish is diligently working to meet its goal. We are immensely grateful to be doing so well. Any continued funds for St. Mary and St. John is similar to a bonus. We get to keep these funds in the parish and they are not subject to the 17.6% parish share assessment for next year. May you know that your monies are continuing to support a variety of ministries and the entire diocese benefits from this campaign. It is my hope that all three parishes will reach their goal.

	2008 Parish Share Assessment (17.6%)	Amount Collected as of October 27, 2008	Amount over/under goal
Madonna of Jerusalem	31,071	20,703	Under goal by \$10,368
St. John Cantius	5,297	7,828	Over goal by \$2,531
St. Mary	17,863	17,863	Over goal by \$6,862

FAITHFUL CHRONICLES
by Father Frank D. Almada

On Thursday, October 30, 2008, the Catholic Community in Sharpsburg officially took the next step in moving forward to become one parish. On that day I hand delivered the formal petition to Bishop Zubik's office. The petition states that after much consultation and prayer, the deliberation of the 18 members of the Moving Forward Task Force, two town hall meetings attended by 175 people, and repeated bulletin articles, the three parishes of Sharpsburg—St. John Cantius, St. Mary and Madonna of Jerusalem—want to become one.

This process actually began back in 1998 when Father Andrew Fischer called the three parishes he pastored "The Catholic Community of Sharpsburg." Since then suggestions had been made to the diocese to combine the parishes, but for a variety of reasons never went anywhere, and never earned a response from the diocese. In January I convened the Moving Forward group, to represent all three parishes as well as the Korean Catholic Community, which joined us in Sharpsburg at St. John Cantius in September 2007. After six meetings we affirmed these goals: (1) Support the Korean Catholic Community; (2) Sell unused buildings at St. Mary's site (rectory, school, lyceum, garage); (3) Do the work of evangelization; (4) Keep open all three churches as long as fiscally possible; and (5) Merge the three parishes into one new parish.

The petition included over 100 pages of written documentation, with correspondence with the diocese, all the Moving Forward bulletin reports to parishioners, several of my Faithful Chronicles columns, the 2006-07 and 2007-08 CCS Financial Reports, the Moving Forward Committee meeting agendas, and statistics for CCS and the parishes of the Allegheny Valley Deanery. I listed all the suggestions for a new name for our parish as well. If he accepts our petition and issues the decree, Bishop Zubik himself will decide on a new name for our parish.

Now Bishop Zubik will ask various diocesan departments (Envisioning Ministry, Clergy Office, finances, canonical) and the Priest Council to review our petition. I estimate it will take four to six months until we hear back from the diocese. In the meantime, we can continue to pursue the other goals. I announced two weeks ago that we will retain Sunday Masses in all three churches throughout the winter of 2008-2009. (Make sure you tell your friends and neighbors. The schedule is also posted on all church doors.) We have a buyer for the St. Mary buildings, a local businessman. Our (second) petition to sell these buildings is currently before the diocesan Consultors. (I expect a speedy and positive reply.) And I will shortly be asking for your help to pursue our evangelization goals.

Pray that Bishop Zubik will affirm our pastoral planning, that our three parishes can be one officially. Pray too that we enact the command of Jesus to "Go teach all nations" and bring the Good News of Christ to all who have ears to hear.

Schedule of Masses for the Week

SAT., NOV. 8

4:00 PM MOJ STANLEY A. UMINSKI & FAMILY by Mary Ann Uminski
6:00 PM MOJ BRYAN AKERS by great-aunt, Jeanette Brill

SUN., NOV. 9

8:30 AM SJC FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY IN SHARPSBURG
10:30 AM STM ANTHONY W. TROZZO by wife, Helen & family

MON., NOV. 10

7:30 AM MOJ RACHAEL NACCARATO by family

TUE., NOV. 11

7:30 AM MOJ CLARA CERONE by Hilda Ferraro and family

WED., NOV. 12

7:30 AM MOJ THOMAS GREGURICH by wife and sons

THU., NOV. 13

7:30 AM MOJ PETER CASSANO by Michelle and Doug Gerwick

FRI., NOV. 14

7:30 AM MOJ AGNES WETZEL by Barbara Imhof

SAT., NOV. 15

4:00 PM MOJ LUCY VINCENT & SAM AND FRANK BRUNO
by Leo and Carmella Rudzki
6:00 PM MOJ JOSEPH GALKA by family

SUN., NOV. 16

8:30 AM SJC FOR THE PEOPLE OF THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY IN SHARPSBURG
10:30 AM STM RAYMOND & MARY ANN SCOTT by daughters and grandson

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

FEAST OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION The Feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary is Monday, December 8 and *is* a holy day of obligation. Catholic Community in Sharpsburg will have three Masses: at 7:30 a.m. in Madonna Church; at 12 Noon in St. Mary Church; and at 6:30 p.m. in Madonna Church. The evening Mass will include participation by the children in our CCD classes. (Please note there will **not** be an anticipated Mass on Sunday night.)

ABUSE PROTECTION The Diocese of Pittsburgh is 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.

ANNUAL CRAFT AND VENDOR SHOW All Saints Church Christian Mothers and Guild of Etna will sponsor a fall craft and vendor show on Saturday, November 15, from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. in the Activities Building on Dewey Street. No admission will be charged. Refreshments and raffles will be available. If you wish to reserve a table for \$15, please call Cathy at 412-781-4788.

FELICIAN SISTERS' HOLIDAY CRAFT SHOW A craft show will be held featuring handmade gifts and decorations created by the Sisters at the Provincial House in Coraopolis on Saturday, November 22 from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. The Sisters will also have gifts from Third World Countries for sale for the support of these nations.

#515550

Catholic Community in Sharpsburg

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Sharpsburg, PA 15215

Office: 412-784-8700

Attn: Rosemarie

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