

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 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

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 Zakarauskas
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.



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 SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
The Thirty-Sixth Day of Easter
May 17, 2009

*"This I command you:
love one another."
-- John 15: 17 --*

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 (May 31, 2009)**.

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 already raised from the dead** with Jesus.

The **Easter Season** is moving very quickly. On **Thursday** of this week, on **the fortieth day of Easter**, we will celebrate the **Solemnity of the Ascension of Jesus into heaven**. On this special day, we remember and celebrate the fact that Jesus in his risen and glorified body was taken into heaven and that one day we will follow him.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Your **Sacrificial Offering** for the last weekend was **\$14,057.54**. **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!**

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. The months of May and June are traditionally difficult months for offerings because of so many activities and special events during these two months – Church and Sacramental and others As you always do, please keep the needs of the parish in mind during these months. **Thank you again for all that you do!**

BAPTISM.

AVA MAE COLAROSSO, daughter of Corey and Melissa Doris Colarossi, and EMMA TRAN DUBAS and IAN TRAN DUBAS, children of Jeffrey and Hue Tran Dubas, 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.

BULLETIN BRIEFS

The daily devotion and continuous commitment to serving sick children is an eloquent testimony of love for human life, particularly for the life of those who are weak and dependent on others on all things and for all things.

Pope Benedict XVI (Message for the World Day of the Sick, February 11, 2009)

CALENDAR

Sunday May 17, 2008

11:15 A.M. OLS Choir **
12:20 P.M. May Crowning at CSB
5:00 P.M. Confirmation Practice (May 20th) ****
6:30 P.M. Confirmation Practice (22nd) ****

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

6:00 P.M. Divorce Care ***
6:00 P.M. Divorce Care for Kids (DC4K) *
9:30 A.M. Bible Study ***
7:00 P.M. Confirmation Practice (May 20th) ****

Wednesday, May 20 2009

10:00 A.M. MOMS & TOTS *
5:00 P.M. CONFIRMATION ****

Thursday, May 21, 2009

7:00 P.M. Confirmation Practice (May 22th)****

Friday, May 22, 2009

10:00 A.M. Friday Morning Company *
5:00 P.M. CONFIRMATION ****

Parish Center * Church **

Large Conference Room * Church of Saint**

Benedict ** Small Conference Room *******

Gathering Room *****

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Monday

7:00 A.M. Michael Wilk John Wilk/Family
12:10 P.M. Karen Graney M/M Fred Campbell

Tuesday

7:00 A.M. Judson Hannigan Amy/Frank Stabinski
12:10 P.M. David (Nick) Philbin Bill/Barbara Roehl

Wednesday

7:00 A.M. David (Nick) Philbin M/M Roy Bayless
12:10 P.M. Joseph Cawley Family

5:00 P.M. Confirmation Mass at CSB

Thursday Solemnity of the Ascension

7:00 A.M. All members of the parish
12:10 P.M. Catherine Monahan Joan Beyrent
5:00 P.M. Mary Gilbride Friend
7:00 P.M. Whilma Geraulo M/M James Seidel

Friday

7:00 A.M. Joseph Kreder Family
12:10 P.M. Ann Morgan Friday Morning Co.

5:00 P.M. Confirmation Mass at CSB

Saturday

4:00 P.M. Pauline/Oliver Cruciani M/M Jerry Maloney
5:00 P.M. Robert/Regina Gallagher John Grual, Jr.
6:30 P.M. Harriet Carroll Kathy/Wayne Griffiths

Sunday

7:00 A.M. For all members of the parish
8:00 A.M. Mary/Peter Shimkus Robert Shimkus
9:30 A.M. Irene Petrina Asay Family
11:00 A.M. Ann Morgan First Friday Pinochle Club
11:15 A.M. Frank Lunario Ann Toraldo
12:20 P.M. Connie Lacey Virginia/Johnny

A PRAYER PLEASE- Your prayers are requested for all the sick and deceased members of our parish and community, especially Donald Franko.

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

The **Sacrament of Confirmation** will be celebrated in our parish this week. Because of the large number of candidates (105), there will be two celebrations: **Bishop Martino** will be with us on **Wednesday, May 20, at 5:00 P.M.**, at the **Church of Saint Benedict**; **Bishop Timlin** will be with us on **Friday, May 22, at 5:00 P.M.**, at the **Church of Saint Benedict**. We welcome Bishop Martino and Bishop Timlin to our parish this week. We thank them for coming to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation. We ask you to pray for our candidates as they complete their preparation for Confirmation.

ASCENSION THURSDAY

Thursday of this week, **May 21**, is the **Solemnity of the Ascension of Jesus into Heaven** and is a **holyday of obligation**. Our Mass schedule for the holyday is as follows:

Wednesday, May 20:

5:00 P.M. at the Church of Saint Benedict. Remember that this is a Confirmation Mass being celebrated by Bishop Martino.

Thursday, May 21:

7:00 A.M. at Our Lady of the Snows Church

12:10 P.M. at Our Lady of the Snows Church

5:00 P.M. at the Church of Saint Benedict. This is an additional Mass scheduled at CSB because the Wednesday afternoon Mass is a Confirmation Mass.

7:00 P.M. at Our Lady of the Snows Church

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 **\$500,000.00 deficit** in the **2008 Appeal**. The second of these collections will be conducted in our parish this weekend, **May 16 and 17**.

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.

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 (August 6, 7, and 8, 2009)**. 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.

LITURGY COMMITTEE NOTES

The Sacred Space, Furnishings, Vesture, Books
Do you know about the AMBO?

Ambo is the name we give to the special lectern in our churches from which the Scriptures are proclaimed. In the early church, this was a raised platform with a reading desk located somewhere in the midst of the assembly – an arrangement taken directly from what was customary in the synagogue. The ambo became obsolete in the Middle Ages as the various ministries were assumed by a single priest who performed his various functions from different areas of a very long altar. Restored to us by the reforms of Vatican II, ambos are now prominently located in all of our churches. The ambo should be commanding in appearance and used only for the proclamation of the Scriptures, the Responsorial Psalm, the preaching of the homily, the singing of the Exultet

at the Easter Vigil and announcing the intentions of the Prayer of the Faithful. The dignity of the ambo requires that only a minister of the Word should go up to it.

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.

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

In his first letter to Corinth, Paul uses the image of God's building. Paul's specialty as a "builder" is in laying foundation, firm and steady because they are built on Jesus Christ. A large part of his legacy is the number of faithful communities who got their start from preaching and example, communities in Thessalonica, Colossae, Philippi, and in other places we may never know. What he does when speaking to the local churches is affirm their identity as the building that comes forth from this foundation. This image comes with a special emphasis on the call to holiness. To the Corinthians he says, "Do you not know that you are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? . . . For the temple of God, which you are, is holy" (3:16-17)

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

Weekly Inspiration: 5/17/09 6th Sunday of Easter Sunday

Our love for one another must be like God's and break through all barriers.

Readings for Next Week: 5/24/09 Acts 1:15-17,20a, 20c-26; I John 4:11-16; John 17:11b-19

Music for Next Week: 5/24/09 Opening Song: "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today" #260; Communion Song: "One Bread, One Body" #472; Closing Song: "Eternal Father, Strong to Save" #536

NEIGHBORHOOD PARISH (NP) PROGRAM

IN MEMORY OF KATE FRYE:

Our beloved Kate Frye who was the Neighborhood Parish Coordinator for several years would have celebrated her birthday this May 29th. Kate also coordinated the Blood Drives in our parish, and in memory of her we are holding a **Blood Drive at Our Lady of the Snows Church on Sunday, May 31, 2009 from 9:00 A.M. until 1:00 P.M. in the Gathering Room.** Please consider, in loving remembrance of our dear friend, donating a pint of blood, coming to help at the Blood Drive or baking something to be used for the people who are donating blood. All presenting donors at the blood drive will receive a collectible Memorial Day T-shirt. **To make an appointment call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE.** For further information please call Carol at the Parish Center at 586-1741.

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.

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 54th INF REGT
2 Platoon, RN#228
8775 Albanese DR
FT Benning, GA 31905

P.F.C. Jenkins
F.O.B. WARRIOR
C.C.O. 15TH BSB 2BCT ICD
A.P.O. AE 09338

Kieth Kempinski ASGA
ACO 1/111th 56 SBCT
Unit #6260
APO/AE 09378

IMPLEMENTATION CLUSTER MEETING

April 30, 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. Msgr. Louis led the group in The Lord's Prayer.

Minutes: Minutes of the meeting of 4/16/09 were approved.

Small Committee Meetings: Prior to this meeting, a small committee met and rewrote the Partnership Implementation Plan, incorporating the comments and suggestions put forth at the April 16th Cluster Meeting. A small committee from Our Lady of the Abingtons and St. Patrick's also met and developed an Implementation Plan for the Linkage of those two parishes. Copies were distributed to all members and were discussed item-by-item.

Partnership Plan: The prepared draft of the Partnership Plan was approved. Due to additional requirements in the April 28th email from Msgr. Grimalia, additional pages had to be added so that each of the Bishop's general and particular directives was addressed. There was a discussion on General Directives #6 and # 7, the financial directives. It was pointed out that any Diocesan assessments would seriously impact budgets for all the parishes; therefore, this

information is needed in order for finance committees to make realistic budgets.

Linkage Plan: The committee approved the prepared draft with only a minor language clarification in the Directive/Goal Section.

Closing Prayer: Father Kilpatrick led the group in a closing prayer.

Next Action: The secretary will email the Cluster Implementation Plan to consultant John Reid by May 8th and will submit the final packet to Msgr. Grimalia by May 15th. If you have any questions please call the Rectory at each individual parish. The plan will be placed in the bulletin.

WE THANK those who brought Cereal this weekend. If you can, please bring Coffee/Tea next weekend. Your generosity will not go unnoticed by a grateful Lord.

MEN'S CLUB 500 CLUB WINNERS

Week 1 winners - \$100.00 – Jack Beaudry \$50.00 – Pat Durkin, \$25.00 – Breanna/Kayla Wood, Rose Kamla, Michele Calvey and Marianne Esgro.

COMMUNITY NEWS

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

WANTED IDEAS The Prism Newsletter Editors are on a search for a fitting slogan of 3 (or 4) words to focus awareness on You, the Reader? Any ideas, anyone???? Please submit before July 1 to Kay Gallagher, 586-7236 or Susan Chuff 586-0212. Also, with 100th Anniversary of Parish approaching in 2011, we are looking for memorabilia, pictures, etc... Thank in advance for honoring the past.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS is having a recruitment drive on the weekend of May 23-24 2009. The Knights of Columbus Council is recruiting new members and any Catholic Man, 18 yr. or older, is invited to join. Any questions contact Pat Williams 587-5567.

ALL YOU CAN EAT BREAKFAST BUFFET will be held at the Clarks Summit Fire Company, 321 Bedford St., Clarks Summit, PA on May 17, 2009 from 8:00 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. Adults \$7.00 and Children \$4.00.

ECUMENICAL DIALOGUE DAY on SAINT PAUL All clergy, religious and interested lay persons are invited to an Ecumenical Dialogue Day on: Friday, June 19, 2009 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Fatima Renewal Center, Dalton. The dialogue day will focus on different aspects of the life and ministry of Saint Paul. Presenters are: Sister Marie Noel Keller, R.S.M., Th.D, Director, Institute of Sacred Scripture at Misericordia University, Dallas; Father Daniel C. Gunn, Rector, St. Stephen's Episcopal Pro-Cathedral, Wilkes-Barre; and Father Michael Dahulich, Ph.D., Dean, St. Tikhon's Orthodox Theological Seminary, South Canaan. Cost per participant: \$25.00 (includes lunch). Registration deadline: June 1, 2009. For further information or to receive a registration form, contact: Rev. Philip A. Altavilla, (570)587-5191 or e-mail at: frfrosty@epix.net. All are welcome!

DISCUSSION ON DOWN SYNDROME will take place on Tuesday, May 26, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, 205 West Grove St., Clarks Summit, PA Robert Durkin member and representative of PODS; Parents of Down Syndrome, and parent of a child with

Down Syndrome will present a discussion on Down Syndrome.

INFORMATION NIGHT for Enthronement of the Sacred Heart of Jesus & Immaculate Heart of Mary in the home is scheduled for Tuesday, May 19th, 2009 at 7:00 P.M. at St. Gregory's Church. For more information please call Anetta DeAngelo @ 563-1461. All are welcome.

SILENT AUCTION & RAFFLE .. The Rose Center for Mediation and Conflict Resolution is a non-profit organization under the umbrella of Lourdesmont and sponsored by the Sisters of the Good Shepherd. This Sunday, May 17th, we are having our 2nd annual Silent Auction and Raffle in Our Lady of the Snows Church Gathering Room at 12:00 – 4:00 p.m. adult admission is \$12.00, this includes: "ID" Bib number, lunch, "20" Raffle Numbers, and Door Prizes. Children admission is \$3.00 includes Lunch and Door Prizes. The success of this fundraiser will help The Rose Center continue to "turn conflict into conversation".

FAMILY MINISTRY

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

The next bereavement session will be at on **Sunday May 17th at 2:00pm** 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 15-17th 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 4-11 yrs.. **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

Even the early Christians had their ideas of who could "belong" to their group and who could not. It was hard for many to accept the idea that even Gentiles could be members of their community. How open are we to accepting others into our community? Do we place restrictions on who can

join us—whether it is our Church or our social groups? We are called to love one another not just a chosen few but everyone. How is your love limited and what can you do to share your love more fully?

FOR BETTER FOR WORSE

Today, consider changing yourself rather than someone else. Sometimes the effect is the same.

'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, 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

FIRST EUCHARIST INFORMATION:

First Eucharist Video and Group Photo Orders:

It is not too late to order a First Eucharist video and group photo. Order forms are available at the parish office.

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
August 6-8thOLS Bazaar
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: \$60!!!



Relay for Life

May 30th and 31st is the annual Relay for Life of the Abingtons sponsored by Our Lady of the Snows Youth Ministry. This event brings together over 600 people throughout the Abingtons in order to fight for a cure for cancer. Here's how you can get involved:

1. Start or Join a team at relayforlife.org/paabington
2. Donate towards the event as an individual or business. Businesses will be recognized for their contributions throughout the weekend.
3. Volunteer to help out at the day of the event or for cleanup the next day
4. Contact us if you are a cancer survivor so we can invite you to a special dinner in your honor!

Light the Fire

Our annual Youth Rally! This year we're at a brand new location: Misericordia University! A one day event filled with great speakers, fun music, Adoration, Mass, games, and new friends.

Find out more at: CombinedYM.com

Keynote Speaker: Jesse Manibusan

Music: Catholic FX and Full Armor

WHO: Students in 8th to 12th grade

WHEN: June 16th 2009

WHERE: Misericordia University, Dallas

TIME: 10:00AM-9:00PM

COST: \$25 (includes breakfast dinner)



Dear Parishioners of Our Lady of the Snows and St. Benedicts:

Because of your generosity and outpouring of love for the orphan girls in India, when their new building is constructed near Hyderabad, there will be a stepping stone with your name on the "100 Steps To Home" pathway. You will be remembered and prayed for by the orphan girls and the Salesian sisters.

You donated over \$3,000 (and the gifts are still coming in) so that these precious girls will no longer have to sleep on a concrete floor, but will have their own bed each night. As soon as the building is constructed, you will be sent a duplicate of that richly decorated stepping stone to remember this great act of giving.

It was wonderful to be with you. I will keep you in my heart, and now I wish you all the best as you live out the great Catholic faith that we share.

In addition to your financial contributions, I know that some of you have talked about taking on various needed projects at the orphanage and others are considering going to India to assist in our work.

How about you? Is this call for you? Please contact me if it is.

Until our paths cross again – in those beautiful Pennsylvania hills or in India,

Many thanks....and *Namaste*.

Paul Wilkes
US Coordinator - Home of Hope
1413 Hawthorne Road
Wilmington NC 28403
910-815-0695

Young Adults: THEOLOGY ON TAP

The first Theology on Tap in our Area!

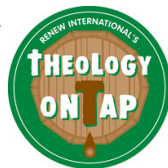
What: A monthly discussion series for young adults, single, married, 18-40 yrs old.

Where: Armetta's Pizza

When: May 26th 2009

Time: 7PM – 9PM

Cover: \$5 includes Pizza and wings



Topic: God is here: Experiencing God through Adversity

Guest Speaker: Fr. Mike Kloton, Assistant Pastor at St. Peter and Paul in Plains.