



## Father Sam's Forum

“**C**arnevale” is what this time immediately before Lent begins has come to be called. The word itself means “meat go away,” because abstinence from eating meat—the flesh of mammals and fowl—became the traditional practice for Christians in times of penance. Here in our parish we celebrate with a Mardi Gras Carnival this Tuesday, beginning at 6:30pm with dinner. The celebration includes a palm burning prayer service, games, a parade, and more. Sign up to attend today if you haven't already.

Lent comes to us as our annual retreat, a time to go into the desert of our inner lives and spend time in reflection on where conversion should happen. The traditional practices of fasting, prayer and giving alms are common ways we allow ourselves to be shaped by the holy season in preparation to renew the promises of our baptism at Easter.

Today's Gospel offers us Luke's version of the Beatitudes. This guide for living is countercultural because it asks us to see blessings in things we don't readily want to accept: poverty, hunger, mourning, rejection. Jesus accepted all these and calls them blessed because they offer hope for the injustices that so many in our world suffer today. God's justice and charity are known in the world only through our actions and lives. Trusting in the Lord is for those who know that it is only in God that we can find any sense of security or delight. Everything else fades away.

Think about saying “yes” to God as Lent begins. What will you say “no” to in order to do that? What can you make “go away” from your life this Lent?

## Mass Intentions: Feb. 14—Feb. 21

### Sunday, February 14—6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:45a **Clifford Bumford, Sr.**  
(The Gielarowski Family)  
9:30a **Tom Dugan** (Ann Dugan)  
11:30a **For the People of the Parish**

### Monday, February 15—Weekday

8:30a **Charles Rothhaar** (Davidson Family)

### Tuesday, February 16—Weekday

6:30a **Fred Henning** (Ben's Men)  
8:30a **Special Intention** (Bob & Irene Gordon)

### Wednesday, February 17—Ash Wednesday

6:30a **Beatriz Cominos** (Chris & Bill Kail)  
8:30a **Jim Hendrie** (The Hendrie Family)  
4:00p **Elmer Donze** (M/M Ed Hall)  
7:00p **Jim Gagorik** (Susan & Bob Bradbury)

### Thursday, February 18—Lenten Weekday

6:30a **Carmella Tierno** (M/M Young)  
8:30a **Elizabeth McDonnell**  
(Jerry & Barbara Serrino)

### Friday, February 19—Lenten Weekday

8:30a **Alice Ann Rudzinski**  
(Carol Bobro & Rudzinski Families)

### Saturday, February 20—Lenten Weekday

8:30a **John Wasieleski** (Family)  
5:00p **For the People of the Parish**

### Sunday, February 21—First Sunday of Lent

7:45a **Stanley Joseph** (Bob & Peggy Joseph)  
9:30a **Mildred Teodori**  
(Carol & Len Teodori-Blahut)  
11:30a **Sam & Theresa Bonura** (Kauffman Family)

*The Sanctuary Candle burns this week in memory of Family & Friends, requested by Mary Judith Stewart, and the Bread & Wine are in memory of Living & Deceased member of the Schweibinz & Busch Families, requested by Claire Meredith.*

## Parish News & Coming Attractions...

- *Ash Wednesday is a day of **fast** and **abstinence**, as is Good Friday, while all Lenten Fridays are days of **abstinence**. This means every Catholic from age 14 up is required to abstain from eating meat on those days. Fasting obliges all those 18—59 to limit oneself to one full meal with two lighter meals and no in-between meal snacking.*



- *The schedule for Ash Wednesday has four times for Masses with the imposition of ashes taking place **during** Mass: 6:30 & 8:30am; 4:00 & 7:00pm.*
- *Stations of the Cross are prayed every Friday in Lent (except for March 26 when they are replaced by our Passion Play) at 7:00pm in church. Come and join in this meditation on Christ's Passion and Death.*
- *Our Eucharistic Day, a time to honor Jesus in the sacrament of the Eucharist, is scheduled for Sunday, March 21, with Evening Prayer & Benediction at 4:30pm. That same evening at 7:00 begins our three night Parish Lenten Mission—three performances by Frank Runyeon, TV and film actor, who will dramatize the Gospel of Mark, the Sermon on the Mount, and the Letter of James.*



## Pastoral Staff

To reach a staff member, dial 724-941-9406, and then the extension number listed.

### Pastoral Life & Worship

Rachelle Buynak, Formation Office Coordinator— 107  
 Gregory Fincham, Director of Music Ministries— 108  
 Dennis Gehrlein, Pastoral Associate— 109  
 Cathy Malencia, Middle School Minister— 110  
 Elaine Motyl, Young Adult Coordinator— 111  
 Janet Roberto, Young Adult Minister— 112  
 Marcia Snowden, Catechetical Assistant—107  
 Colette Specca, Director of Faith Formation— 113  
 Jay Specca, Coordinator Adult Formation & Liturgy—114

### Pastoral Administration

Michael Benya, Parish Campus Manager— 105  
 Mary Ann Bitters, Parish Secretary— 100  
 Justin Cumer, Maintenance— 100  
 Shirley Jacobs, Bookkeeper— 100  
 Jan Martin, Rectory Housekeeper— 131  
 Dave Murtaugh, Maintenance— 100  
 Kathy Pfeifer, Parish Life Manager— 106  
 John Risher, Weekend Maintenance— 100  
 Kevin Wolford, Maintenance Supervisor— 100

- Formation Offices: Religious Education/Youth Ministry— 724-941-9587

### St. Benedict Preschool

Beverly Jurcic, Director— 724-731-0222

### Readings for the Week of February 14

Sunday: Jer 17:5-8/1 Cor 15:12,16-20/Lk 6:17,20-26  
 Monday: Jas 1:1-11/Mk 8:11-13  
 Tuesday: Jas 1:12-18/Mk 8:14-21  
 Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18/2 Cor 5:20-6:2/Mt 6:1-6,16-18  
 Thursday: Dt 30:15-20/Lk 9:22-25  
 Friday: Is 58:1-9a/Mt 9:14-15  
 Saturday: Is 58:9b-14/Lk 5:27-32  
 Next Sunday: Dt 26:4-10/Rom 10:8-13/Lk 4:1-13

**Free Blood Pressure checks are available today in O'Brien Hall during Abbey Coffee House.**

## 5 minutes with the Word

It's time to pick up your copy of our Lenten prayer book, *5 minutes with the Word*, as a way to help you keep the season. The pocket size booklets can be found in the baskets in the narthex of the church from today until they run out.

**The February 12 issue of the *Pittsburgh Catholic* was mailed to every registered household in the diocese. This issue includes an extensive list of parish Lenten activities, an article explaining the traditional Catholic practices for Lent, and a Lenten family calendar containing reflections and ideas for activities.**

## Serving the Parish Next Weekend February 20—February 21

**Sat. 5:00pm**— Fr. Ruffalo, Deacon Layton  
**Lectors:** Ellsworth, Reisz **Greeters:** Patnesky, Reed **EMHC:** Klinar, Baumgartner, Vandewater, Greenwald, Sarra, Specca, Femiani, C & R Satler **Servers:** Waigand, P & M Ellsworth, M & C Reisz

**7:45am**— Fr. Ruffalo  
**Lectors:** Gordon, Holot **Greeters:** J & R Jackson **EMHC:** Faina, Petricca, R & E McMillan, S & J Brooks, Prado, Joseph, Walnoha **Servers:** N & V DeRienzo, Brooks

**9:30am**— Fr. Esposito  
**Lectors:** Ruggieri, Fitzgerald **Greeters:** Oberschelp, Stewart **EMHC:** Capozza, McGovern, Schultz, Orient, Serrino, Torres, Glod, Bayer, Weaver **Servers:** Wisniewski, Hilzendeger, S Weaver, C & A Mavrich

**11:30am**— Fr. Esposito  
**Lectors:** Oliverio, Ray **Greeters:** Bartoli, Ragan **EMHC:** E & T Mauro, McGinnis, Oldaker, Boyd, Herald, Baits, Bonadio, Slomiany **Servers:** Toscano Children

## Caring for the Sick

As we strive to practice service and hospitality, part of our mission, caring for the sick, is a real part of how we do that. But to do that we have to first know who the sick among us are. Please contact the parish office if someone is hospitalized or recovering at home and would benefit from a visit, Communion at home, or some other form of pastoral care. In such a large parish it is easy to slip through the cracks. Dennis Gerhlein, our pastoral associate, is trying to bring together volunteers who can assist him and the clergy in this important part of parish life. **Going to the hospital? Please tell one of the priests so that you may receive a special blessing or the sacrament of the sick. It helps.**

## Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

There will be Prayer & Formation meetings for all EMHCs. Please plan to attend one of the following sessions: Mon., Feb. 22 at 7:00pm; Tues., Feb. 23 at 7:30pm; Wed., Feb. 24 at 11:00am and at 7:45pm; and Sat., Feb. 27 at 11:00am. All sessions will meet in Room 202 and should last no longer than one hour. Please contact Jay Specca at 724-941-9406, ext. 114 or email at [jspecca@stbenedicttheabbot.org](mailto:jspecca@stbenedicttheabbot.org), to sign up for one of the sessions. Prayer and formation are an important part of Liturgical Ministry.

**Online giving is in full operation! Visit the parish website and click on the link to sign up to begin donating to the parish automatically today. It's easy and convenient!**



## Parish Eucharistic Day Our Lenten Mission *Come and Be Fed*

Frank Runyeon, known to many as co-star with Meg Ryan on *As the World Turns*, will be with us on March 21–23, at 7:00pm each evening, to conduct our Lenten Mission this year. It is a different format, based simply on God's word, since our Lenten preaching will include some focus on both reading the bible, and Scripture and Tradition. His three presentations include: **MARK** (what God has done in Jesus), followed by **MATTHEW'S SERMON ON THE MOUNT** (the role Jesus calls us to play in this story), followed by **JAMES** (but what are we really doing?). Looking at these three Scriptures will help us to reflect on how we are disciples today. Check out his web site, [www.frankrunyeon.com](http://www.frankrunyeon.com).

## Ben's Men Lenten Fish Fry

It's time for the annual Ben's Men Fish Fry every Friday of Lent (except Good Friday) from 4:00pm to 7:30pm in O'Brien Hall. We are serving delicious fish dinners (Adult \$8—Child \$5.50), fish sandwiches (alone \$6), and Fr. Sam's famous pizza (\$6/pie or \$1 per slice), Benny's Clam Chowder (\$3), and Pierogi (6) with butter & onions (\$4.50). Eat in or take out. Crafts and movies for the kids too! Bring the whole family and tell your friends and neighbors to join you!



Once again we will also have *Fish Fry Lunch* available every Friday (except Good Friday) from 11:00am to 1:00pm. Lunch special will include a fried fish sandwich, coleslaw, and French fries for \$7, fish sandwiches (alone \$6), Benny's Clam Chowder (\$3), and Fr. Sam's pizza for \$6/pie or \$1 per slice. Eat in or take out.

## Passion Play Rehearsals

Join us for this year's Passion Play! Rehearsals have been scheduled for these dates:

- 7:30pm Tuesdays—February 23, March 16
- 7:45pm Wednesdays—March 3, 10, 17, and 24
- 7:30pm Thursday—February 18
- 1:00pm Saturdays—February 20, 27, March 20

All rehearsals will be in the Pope Benedict Activity Center. The Passion Play will be performed on Friday, March 26, and Saturday, March 27, at 7:30pm in the Pope Benedict Center.

## Newly Baptized

Please welcome to our faith family **Benjamin Adam**, son of James & Melissa Brooks, **Caitlin Marie**, daughter of James & Melissa Malloy, **Margaret McCarran**, daughter of Michael & Shawna Locke, and **Kaden Michael**, son of Scott & Jacquelyn Lantz. May they grow in wisdom, age, and grace.

## Respect Life Thanks You!

Thank you to all who joined the Respect Life Committee on this year's annual March for Life January 22 in Washington D.C. Many thanks to Allison Crawford, our Teen Liaison; Frank Torok and Vic Vandewater, bus captains; and special thanks to Fr. Sam and Fr. Michael and the office staff for their support in making this event a success. If you have never experienced the March for Life, please consider joining us next January. It is a wonderful experience to be witnesses to the sanctity of all human life.

## WOSB February Meeting

Want to make a difference this Lenten season? Instead of giving something up, how about doing something that will make a difference in a young person's life! Sara Thomas from Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Pittsburgh (BBBS) will visit the Women of St. Benedict during the general meeting on February 25 at 9:30am in O'Brien Hall. Please consider joining us and explore this wonderful organization. Visit [www.bbbspgh.org](http://www.bbbspgh.org) for more information and bring any questions you may have to the meeting. As always, the women will have something delicious cooking in the kitchen!

## Easter Decorators Needed



Just as we did for Christmas, Fr. Sam is asking for anyone who wants to help plan the church décor for Easter to come to a brief meeting on Wednesday, February 24, at 6:00pm in the Chapel. If you've helped in the recent past or years ago, or never, come join us to help plan for Easter.

**Hotline for Victims of Sexual Abuse**  
412-456-3060 or 1-888-808-1235



## Ask Father Sam

*What were the Crusades and why did they occur?*

### Lesson of the Week

*When we hear those names in the Eucharistic Prayer...Linus, Cletus, Clement...who are they?*

Before the 1970 revision of the Roman Missal, the Latin Rite Mass had only one *canon*, or Eucharistic Prayer. If we check out the Missal today we can see there are four basic Eucharistic Prayers, as well as three for children, two for reconciliation, and four that were composed for the Holy Year 2000. While there were many such prayers in the earliest days of Christianity, over time at Rome, the Church came to use only one of them, what we call Eucharistic Prayer I today.

With special inserts for celebrations like Christmas, Easter, Epiphany, Holy Thursday, Ascension and Pentecost, this prayer is the longest one of the four basic ones. It's Fr. Michael's favorite one. Included in the prayer are two commemorations of saints, one before the words of institution, "this is my body...this is my blood," and one after them. The question posed this week concerns the saints who are named in this prayer.

In the first commemoration we first have the 12 apostles, *Peter and Paul, Andrew, James, John, Thomas, James, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Simon and Jude*. You see missing Judas Iscariot and Paul added. Technically not one of the Twelve, St. Paul is considered an apostle because of his mission and ministry, and so is counted among them. Next come early leaders and martyrs of the Church *Linus, Cletus, Clement*, the immediate successors to Peter as pope, then two other popes, *Sixtus*, and *Cornelius*. *Cyprian* was a bishop martyr, *Lawrence*, a deacon martyr, and the rest, *Chrysogonus, John, Paul, Cosmas, Damian*, all martyrs of the first centuries of Christianity.

In the second commemoration, we find more martyrs, *John the Baptist, Stephen*, the deacon from Acts of the Apostles, *Matthias*, who took the place of Judas as an apostle, *Barnabas*, the companion of Paul, *Ignatius*, the bishop from Antioch at the beginning of Christianity, *Alexander*, a pope, *Marcellinus* and *Peter*, a martyred priest and an exorcist, and then a string of female martyrs who were put to death in the third century Roman Empire's persecution of Christians, *Felicity, Perpetua, Agatha, Lucy, Agnes, Cecilia* and *Anastasia*.

## Youth Ministry News

### Mission Trip Times Two

Last year about 20 of our teens traveled to the hills of Kentucky to perform service work for the people who live in Appalachia. This year we have been given the opportunity to bring two separate groups, both for the same week, but at different locations with the diocese we are helping. This means there will be one Mission Trip the week of July 25-30, but it will be available to both high school students and young adults. Of course, parents are needed as adult leaders for the high school location. There will be an informational meeting on February 18 in the Youth Ministry Office for all those interested. For more information, call Janet Roberto at 724-941-9587.

### Catholic Underground

The *Catholic Underground* returns on Tuesday, February 20, at 8:00pm. This cultural apostolate has spread from New York City to cities around the US and Europe. Young adults will come from across the Diocese to enjoy solemn praise in a candle lit church and then be treated to an evening of great live music and conversation in a coffeehouse setting. Please join us for this completely FREE event at Saint Matthew's Parish (Lawrenceville), 5324 Carnegie Street, Pittsburgh. For more information, please visit [www.CatholicUndergroundPittsburgh.org](http://www.CatholicUndergroundPittsburgh.org).

### Youth Ministry Calendar Feb. 14—Feb. 21

Feb. 14—Leadership Meeting (YM Office)  
Feb. 16, 7:00pm—Theology of the Body (St. Louise)  
Feb. 21, 7:00pm—WORD (PBAC)

### *IHN needs your help —another way to Respect Life*

IHN will be hosting here in our parish on February 21-28. If you would like to volunteer, please call Mary at 742-942-2478 or [pcchefmary@hotmail.com](mailto:pcchefmary@hotmail.com). We hosted two families in January, three adults and four children. Thank you to everyone who donated their time and home cooked meals to this sheltering ministry. If you would like to get involved, please check out the St. Ben's web site. You can also register there.



## Mom's Café

Please join us on February 25 from 9:30am to 11:30am in Rooms 208/210 for our first MOM's Café of the year. Fr. Sam will begin our "Back to Basics" year by presenting information on the Mass. MOM's Café is an 8 week speaker series featuring a guest speaker and discussion, a continental breakfast, and childcare. There is no charge for this program, and you do not need to pre-register unless you need childcare. Please RSVP to Susan DiBartola at 724-941-8012 for childcare and let her know the ages of your children and any food allergies. Any other questions, please contact Kathleen Chaudhari at 724-941-8546.

## Mass Intentions 2010 Mass Book Re-opened

Thanks to everyone's cooperation when we opened the 2010 Mass Book in October, we were able to schedule the leftover requests from 2008 – 2009, and now we have available open spaces to take additional requests. You may stop at the office to schedule Mass intentions to be celebrated this year (2010).

## Magnificat Pittsburgh

Ladies, join Magnificat Pittsburgh for an uplifting prayer breakfast on February 20 from 9:00am until noon at the Sheraton Four Points in Cranberry Township. Hear speaker Gail Buckley, the founder and president of Catholic Scripture Study (CSS), tell the story of her conversion to the Catholic faith. The cost of the breakfast is \$18. Registration deadline is February 12. To register, call Kay at 724-772-6749 or Pam at 412-461-8906, or download a registration form at [www.magnificatpittsburgh.org](http://www.magnificatpittsburgh.org).

## Rachel's Vineyard

This weekend retreat, designed to heal the emotional and spiritual wounds of abortion, will be held February 26-28 at the Spiritan Center in Bethel Park. In a confidential and supportive atmosphere, Rachel's Vineyard demonstrates God's love, forgiveness, and compassion to women and men struggling with abortion's aftermath. To register, or for more information, call Toni Jester at 412-352-5348, or go online to [www.ccpgh.org](http://www.ccpgh.org) and click on Rachel's Vineyard. Registration deadline is February 19.

**Need confidential assistance? Companionship and understanding for a difficult time? Stephen Ministers are here to help you. Call 724-941-5026.**

## This Week In Our Parish

### Sunday, February 14

**Abbey Coffee House Open after  
7:45 & 9:30 Mass**

**No Faith Formation Sessions Today**

### Monday, February 15

**President's Day—Parish Offices Closed**

8:30a	Special Needs Children	(210)
10:00a	WOSB Yoga	(OBH)
6:30p	Aerobics	(PBAC)
7:00p	Catholic Scripture Study	(208)
7:00p	Centering Prayer	(204)

### Tuesday, February 16

8:30a	Special Needs Children	(210)
9:15a	Catholic Scripture Study	(206)

**No Faith Formation Session Tonight**

6:30p	<b>MARDI GRAS</b>	(OBH)
7:00p	Contemporary Choir	(Choir)
7:00p	Cub Scouts Pack 1313	(PBAC)

### Wednesday, February 17

12:00p	AA	(208)
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**No Faith Formation Session Tonight**

**No confessions today**

### Thursday, February 18

9:30a	WOSB Board Meeting	(204)
12:00p	NA	(206)
6:00p	Aerobics	(PBAC)
7:00p	RCIA	(206)
7:00p	Boy Scout Troop 1313	(OBH)
7:30p	Adult Choir	(Choir)
7:30p	Passion Play Rehearsal	(PBAC)

### Friday, February 19

10:00a	Prayer & Share	(ChNur&BrRm)
11:00a	Lunch Fish Fry	(OBH)
4:00p	Ben's Men Fish Fry	(OBH & PBAC)
7:00p	Stations of the Cross	(Church)

### Saturday, February 20

7:30a	Catholic Men's Fellowship	(206)
9:00a	Aerobics	(PBAC)
11:00a	Confessions	(Church)
1:00p	Passion Play Rehearsal	(PBAC)

### Sunday, February 21

**Abbey Coffee House Open after  
7:45 & 9:30 Mass**

9:00a	Faith Formation Session	
11:00a	Faith Formation Session	
7:00p	WORD	(PBAC)



## TO GET INVOLVED, CALL . . .

### **Abbey Coffee House**

Ellie Puskarich  
724-941-4686

### **Altar Servers**

Kathleen Bench  
724-942-0338

### **Ben's Men**

Jeff Mertens  
724-941-6484

### **Bowling League**

Blaise Hollot  
724-942-0748

### **Boy Scouts**

Kevin Dolinar  
724-942-0388

### **Cantors, Choirs,**

### **Bell Ringers**

Greg Fincham  
724-941-9406

### **Catholic Men's Fellowship**

Ed Corbett  
724-942-6429

### **Catholic Scripture Study**

Tara Curry  
724-942-7539

### **Cub Scouts**

Steve Ridge  
724-941-9816

### **Elijah Cup**

Carlotta Zuback  
724-941-5758

### **Engaged Couples' Program**

Ed & Mary Lou Fraticelli  
724-941-4230

### **Eucharistic Adoration**

Mary Ann Campbell  
724-941-4297

### **Extraordinary Ministers**

Jack McGinnis  
724-941-4213

### **Finance Council**

Fred Abrew  
724-941-4696

### **Food Bank**

Susan Brooks  
724-942-4287

### **Funeral Repast**

Mary Kay Schaner  
724-941-5147

### **Funeral Server**

Dick Gawronski  
724-873-7911

### **Greeters**

Erma Grego  
724-941-6956

### **IHN**

Mary Spinabelli  
724-942-2478

### **Lectors**

Dawn Pustay  
724-942-2451

### **Library**

Ellen Mavrich  
724-941-2446

### **Liturgical Environment**

Emma Diamond  
724-941-8315

### **Military Support**

Jamie Christopher  
724-747-9396

### **Ministry to the Sick**

Barb Scheuering  
724-941-9104

### **MOMS**

Kathleen Chaudhari  
724-941-8546

### **Pastoral Council**

Aimee Schmidt  
724-941-7046

### **Respect Life Committee**

Beth Quinn  
724-942-1057

### **Stephen Ministry**

Jay Jarrell  
724-941-5026

### **St. Benedict Gardeners**

Linda Maydak  
724-941-3123

### **St. Vincent de Paul**

Please call parish office  
724-941-9406

### **Ushers**

Mike Silvestri  
724-941-5238

### **Wedding Coordinators**

Lois McCloskey  
724-941-6879

### **Women of St. Benedict**

Nancy Huffner  
724-941-6805

### **Youth Council**

Sheila Arcuri  
724-942-6431