

Pastor's Notes



Merry Christmas! Emmanuel ... God is truly With Us. Now that is worth celebrating. As I write these notes I am looking forward to celebrating Christmas with you for the first time. For those who are “coming home” to celebrate with family and friends, I bid you a hearty welcome. These days bring that special feeling I especially love, that is the good will we have towards one another. Even people of little faith seem to have that extra spirit of communal love. I pray that God-with-us and communal love will touch our hearts in such a way that it will have a positive impact on the way we live with each other. On behalf of my entire staff, I wish you a very Merry & Blessed Christmas!

On December 15th we had our 3rd ***Listening Session***, which ***focused on Youth***. In attendance were: Barb Brocks, Barb Smith, Chris Morgan, Jim Ludwig, Judy Kerns, Glenn Zahner, Kasey Zahner, Garrett Zahner, Bill Linthicum, Scott Miller (our facilitator), and Carlo Stebbings, Sue Bangert and myself. One issue that became really clear is the desire to have youth active and engaged in all aspects of our parish life. A second issue was to have a listening session for Youth, where they can speak and share what they would like to see our parish look like. We will do that right after our next session on parish debt.

Our next listening session will be held on Tuesday, January 26th and will focus on paying off our ***Parish Debt***. This topic came from our floor at our second listening session. As have done with the last 3 sessions, we will open the doors at 6:30 pm and begin our listening session at 7:00 pm. The night will be complete by 8:30 pm. No matter what age you are, all are welcomed to come and lend their voices as we build our futures together

For your information, New Year's is the ***Feast of the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God***, a Holy Day of Obligation. Our Mass schedule is:

Thursday, Dec 31st at 5 pm

Friday, Jan 1st at 10 am

Remember God loves you and so do I! Have a good week!

Father Lou

410-299-6731 (Cell)

December 27, 2009
The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Epiphany of the Lord

Isaiah 60:1-6
Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6
Matthew 2:1-12

Mass Intentions for the Week

12/28 Monday 8am Vittorino Pierorazio
12/29 Tuesday 8am Catherine Webb Brouse
12/30 Wednesday 8am Linda Bonolis
12/31 Thursday 8am Communion Service
5pm William Poreca
1/1 Friday 10am Julie Rybczynski (*living*)
1/2 Saturday 4pm Anna Campana
1/3 Sunday 9am Saint Clare Parishioners
11am Maria Pierorazio

Prayer List: One of the most important gifts we give one another as a Christian community is the gift of our prayers. We join in praying for one another's needs, especially for the sick: Joseph H. Bangert, Tillie Bell, Marie Bray, Joseph Bucci, Michael Bucci, Lorraine Campbell, Jeanette Gleason, Donna Goetz, Ralph E. Greer Sr., William Grzech, James Harper Sr., Maryann Holcomb-Dziennik, Doris Jones, Raymond Jones, Margaret Kalinowski, Gabrella Loprespi, Paul Mosmiller, Shelly Mulkern, Sandra Nuth, Edward & Anna Oldewurtel, William C. Ogden, Matt Paruszewski, Paula Piechocki, Chuck Plansky, Julie Rybczynski, Jacqueline Seitz, Colleen Slifker, Pete Slifker, Charles Szmurlo, Jeff Vilkas, Cynthia Vollmer, Barbara Wancowicz, Louie Wancowicz, Peter Wancowicz, Sandy Wancowicz.

Prayer Line: If you or a loved one needs prayers for any situation, including terminal illness, critical surgery, loss of a loved one, severe emotional problems, loss of employment or any other intention, please call any of the following to have your intention added to the prayer line: Maryrose Scism 410-391-6337; Joanne Reiter 410-682-5126 or Betty Sinisi 410-686-9513.

Listening Session

Topic – Debt Reduction

Tuesday, Jan. 26
Doors open at 6:30pm
7:00pm – 8:30pm Listening Session



STEWARDSHIP CORNER

The first reading today provides a challenging blueprint for the good stewardship of our family relationships. How do I measure up?

Thank you for your generous contributions to our Parish.

At the time of printing this bulletin, collection numbers were not available. Collection numbers will be reported in the next bulletin.

Many Thanks...

- ❖ To the liturgy committee for transforming our church for Christmas!

For this and other random acts of stewardship, may GOD BLESS YOU!

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Adults: How are you, too, called to our Father's house?

Children: Why is it important to obey our parents? Why is it important to obey God?

THE WEEK AHEAD

12/28 Monday 10:00am Riverview Service
12/29 Tuesday
12/30 Wednesday
12/31 Thursday 8:00am Communion Service
5:00pm Mass
1/1 Friday 10:00am Mass
1/2 Saturday
1/3 Sunday 9:00am Holy Name at Mass

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



May you and your families have a very Merry Christmas and a happy & peace-filled New Year!

No Classes December 23, 2009
Classes will resume Wednesday-January 6, 2009

Upcoming Parish Events

.... Mark your calendar



Jan 8	Family Movie Night
Jan 16	Alumni Event
Jan 23	Vera Bradley Bingo
Jan 31	Catholic Schools Week Begins
Feb 12	Family Movie Night
Feb 20	Kids' Bingo
Mar 5	Family Movie Night
Mar 13	Annual School Auction
Mar 20	Bunny Lunch
Apr 4	Easter
Apr 9	Family Movie Night
Apr 17	Saint Clare Dance School Recital
Apr 24	First Communion
Apr 30	Spring Play
May 1	Spring Play
May 7	Family Movie Night
May 12-15	Annual Spring Carnival
May 23	Confirmation
June 11	Family Movie Night
June 12	Annual Flew Market
June 21-25	Vacation Bible School

All Are Welcome to Join Our Parish Community

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Please Check One:

- New Registration
- Change of Address
- Want Envelopes Mailed
- Moving Out of Area

Please cut out and drop in the Collection Box
or mail to the Parish Center.

Response to Child Abuse

Physical and/or sexual child abuse by anyone, especially those in a position of trust within our Church, is never to be tolerated. Please know that as a Church family, our Faith Community stands by you. If you have ever been abused at any time, please confide that in a person you trust – a doctor, counselor, social worker, priest, deacon, or staff member, etc. Please allow us to help you. If you hear of any such abuse, please remember that the law requires that you report it, and that you will be guaranteed anonymity. Call the Baltimore County Department of Social Services, 410-853-3000; the Baltimore-based Catholic Church Hotline, 410-547-5589; or any local city or county police.

Bringing the abuse to light is the first, courageous step in a long journey toward healing. Your Faith Community supports you in that journey, and holds you in our prayers.

Sodality



Sodality will celebrate Mass on Sunday, January 3rd at 9AM. . Please sit in the Sodality section (the left as soon as you walk in the front door). Hope to see you all there.

Our meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 13th after the 7PM Mass, so please try to attend. If you are interested in joining our Sodality, please give me a call at 410-391-6360 or email me at Kjoyness@yahoo.com.

School News



***"We are a community
shining with Christ's light"***

The School Board, Faculty, Staff, and Students of Saint Clare would like to wish the entire Saint Clare Community a blessed and joyful Christmas. You are in our thoughts and prayers during this season. Thank you for all of your support this year!

Merry Christmas!



Christmas is a time for lights, presents, good food, family and friends. All these things are good. However, we need to make sure that Christ is at the center of Christmas. We live in a world that is increasingly trying to push God away. We as Catholic Christians need to increasingly bring God into our lives and the life of our society.

As the Youth Minister of St. Clare Parish my number one concern is the spiritual health and wellbeing of our young people. My one encouragement to the parents and grandparents this Christmas season is to bring your children and grandchildren to mass. Even though your child may scream and carry on, bringing them to mass is invaluable. I have learned this through my own life.

My mother and father would make sure my brother, sister and I went to mass every weekend unless of course we were sick. I admit I liked church so getting me to go was not an issue, but my brother and sister sometimes fought my mother and father. Because of the "encouragement" from my parents to go to church during their younger years, my brother and sister went to church while they were in college, and now make it a priority in married life.

Since we see mass attendance a priority in our spiritual walk with Jesus, we have begun a Youth/Family Mass one Sunday a month at 5pm. The next Youth/Family Mass is tentatively scheduled for Sunday January 17th. If you or someone you know plays an instrument, we are looking to put together a contemporary music group for the mass. Please email me at cstebbing@saintclare.org if you are interested!

If your Catholic Christian faith is important to you, then show it in your example by coming to mass and "encouraging" your children to take part in the celebration of the Eucharist with you. Together we can form strong, faithful young men and women to lead the church into the future.

May you find Christ this Christmas and in the New Year!

Peace!
Mr. Carlo Stebbings

Youth Ministry January Calendar

- 1st- Happy New Year!
- 3rd- Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord
- 6th- Middle School YM meeting 7-8:30pm
- 10th- Feast of the Baptism of the Lord/ Confirmation Class #3
- 13th- High School YM meeting 7-8:30pm
- 16th- Snow Tubing (Youth/Family Event)
- Permission Forms required and due by Wednesday the 13th
- 17th- Youth/Family Mass 5pm
- 20th- Middle School YM meeting
- 22nd- March For Life
- 27th- High School YM meeting
- 31st- February 6th- Catholic Schools Week/ Mass on Sunday at 9am

Living Will & Testament



The future of St. Clare Church depends on YOU! Please remember your Church in your will. Our legal title is St. Clare's Roman Catholic Congregation, Inc., 714 Myrth Avenue, Essex, Maryland 21221

Right to Life March January 22

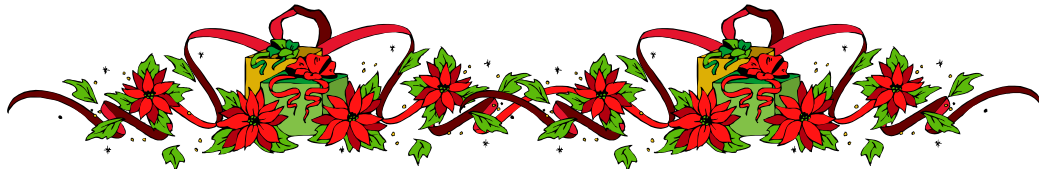
Based on the responses from our survey regarding attending the march, it appears we will be pairing with another parish for the bus ride. If you are able to attend the March and did not turn respond last weekend, please contact Sharon Tomko on 443-834-3144.

Help Needed!

Join us on
Thursday, January 7
6:30pm -7:00pm
in the Church

Learn more about serving as a Eucharistic Minister and/or Lector: what one needs know, what one needs do, in either capacity. We need to expand the census. Training for all assignments will be scheduled and conducted in the nave of the church.

Frank Kernan
(410)686-8658/c(410)800-5221
frank.kernan@gmail.com



Christmas Flower Spiritual Bouquets
(as of 12/21/09)

<i>Dolores Allan</i>	<i>Peter Galligan</i>	<i>Katherine Kapp</i>
<i>Elizabeth Angelini</i>	<i>Alice Galligan</i>	<i>Walter Kapp</i>
<i>Rose Benner</i>	<i>Robert E. Gasior</i>	<i>Theresa A. Kelly</i>
<i>John Bosse</i>	<i>Robert M. Gasior</i>	<i>Tina M. Kelly</i>
<i>John Bosse</i>	<i>Gembarosky Family</i>	<i>John Kelly</i>
<i>Donald W. Brieker</i>	<i>Mr. & Mrs. James Gilner</i>	<i>Katherine Kelly</i>
<i>Larry Buttrey</i>	<i>Carole Goertz</i>	<i>Frances Kispert</i>
<i>Anne K. Collins</i>	<i>Fred Gomeringer</i>	<i>Frances Kispert</i>
<i>J. Gerald Collins</i>	<i>Christine Gomeringer</i>	<i>Frederick Kispert</i>
<i>Cecelia Connelly</i>	<i>Frederick Sr. Green</i>	<i>Barbara Kleutsch</i>
<i>Charles O. Connelly</i>	<i>Mary Green</i>	<i>Irvin Kleutsch</i>
<i>Gordon Connelly Jr.</i>	<i>Edward Gresh</i>	<i>Russell Kness</i>
<i>Geraldine Connelly Jr.</i>	<i>Syl Grzymiski</i>	<i>Anna Kolar</i>
<i>Gordon Connelly Sr.</i>	<i>Bud Gue</i>	<i>Elizabeth Kordell</i>
<i>Bill DeCarlo Sr.</i>	<i>Julia Gue</i>	<i>Anna Kuyawa</i>
<i>Franeo DiPietro</i>	<i>Henry Hanes</i>	<i>George W. Kuyawa</i>
<i>Pasqualina DiPietro</i>	<i>Wanda Hanes</i>	<i>Michael Kuyawa</i>
<i>Catherine Dlabich</i>	<i>Mr. & Mrs. Horace C. Harrison</i>	<i>Frank Lanocha</i>
<i>Wladyslaw Dlabich</i>	<i>William Herdel Family</i>	<i>Jean Lanocha</i>
<i>Helen Doran</i>	<i>Charles V. Hirsch</i>	<i>Daniel Lanocha</i>
<i>Tom Doran</i>	<i>Leona Hirsch</i>	<i>Mary Lanzi</i>
<i>Louise Dozier</i>	<i>Fred Hock</i>	<i>Pio Lanzi</i>
<i>Frank Dozier</i>	<i>Mr. & Mrs. George Hock</i>	<i>Frances Lembach</i>
<i>Charles Eckharet</i>	<i>Family Hofferbert</i>	<i>Family Levy</i>
<i>Frank Ernst</i>	<i>Joseph Hoffman</i>	<i>Hilda Libonate</i>
<i>Helen Ernst</i>	<i>George Hoffmann</i>	<i>James Love</i>
<i>Mattheu Family</i>	<i>Margaret Hoffmann</i>	<i>Mr. & Mrs. William Mackessy</i>
<i>Family Fitez</i>	<i>Tanner Luke Holcomb</i>	<i>Mr. & Mrs. John Mackessy</i>
<i>Eric Focht</i>	<i>Thomas Holcomb Sr.</i>	<i>Evelyn Maguire</i>
<i>Gene Friend</i>	<i>Pat Kaczynski</i>	<i>Michael Maguire</i>

Thomas Marks
Emilie Mattheu
Bud Mattheu
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Maunes
Mr. & Mrs. Leon Mazur
Laura Miller
Angela Napolillo
Katherine Natur
John Natur
John Edward Natur
Michael Natur
Herman Noppinger
Sharon Noppinger
Lawrence Novak
John Oborski
Katie O'Brien
Cesidio Paeistti
Geneva Pelley
Frank Pelley
Milton J. Phillips
Ronald L. Pollard
Judy M. Pollard
Francis L. Pollard Jr.
Francis L. Pollard Sr.
William Poreca
Veronica Poreca
Daniel Poreca
Mr. & Mrs. Walter Posluszny
Bud Raab
Marie Raab
Marie Roberts
Adeline Russell
Stewart Russell
Joseph W. Rutkowski
Louis Rynkowski
Fannie Sauer
Elmer Sauer
Emma Schenning

Dolores Schenning
Edward Scheutte
Lorenzo Schiappacasse
Orlando Schiavone
Frances Schiavone
Louis J. Schmitt
Josephine Shannon
Kelly Simeonson
Msgr. Richard Smith
Elizabeth Smith
Helen Smith
John Smith
Edward Suehle
Maryanne Suehle
Helen Szott
Joseph Szott
Louis Tauber
Agnes Tauber
Barbara Testa
Bertha Vondracek
Bill Vondracek
Elizabeth Wancowicz
Peter Wancowicz
Milton Wancowicz
Mary Wancowicz
John Wandishin
Thomas Wandishin
John J. Weglein
Dorothy Weinhold-Chester
Rose Wiegmann
Reynold Witherle
Aimee Willard
Tom Williams
Matilda Wimmer
Louis Wimmer
Franklin Wimmer
Charles Wimmer



*Come Shine with the Stars at the
Saint Clare School Annual Auction
"A Red Carpet Affair"*

Saturday, March 13, 2010

7 PM- 11 PM

St. Clare Stallings Hall

\$25 per person OR a Table of 10 for \$200

McKinney Caterers

Heavy Hors D'Oeuvres, Carving Stations

Premium Open Bar

More information:

School 410-687-7787 or Barb Suehle 443-226-0950



Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Student Name & Gr.: _____
(if applicable)

Address: _____

_____ tickets for \$25
_____ table(s) of 10 for \$200 Total Amount \$ _____

Adult Confirmation Class

Wednesdays

January 6 – February 3

7pm

Parish Center

Lead by Kevin Barr

Have you ever wanted to have your marriage acknowledged in the Church?

Would you like to be an Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist?

Would you like to be a sponsor or God parent?

If you are an adult, have not been confirmed and are interested in any of the above, then please join us for an opportunity to strengthen your faith and become full members of the Catholic Church. Confirmation is a sacrament of mature Christian commitment and a deepening of baptismal gifts. Like Baptism and Eucharist, it is a Sacrament of Initiation for Catholics and a Sacrament of faith in God's fidelity to us.

Confirmation brings an increase and deepening of baptismal grace:

- it roots us more deeply in the divine filiation which makes us cry, "Abba! Father";
- it unites us more firmly to Christ;
- it increases the gifts of the Holy Spirit in us;
- it renders our bond with the Church more perfect;
- it gives us a special strength of the Holy Spirit to spread and defend the faith by word and action as true witnesses of Christ, to confess the name of Christ boldly, and never be ashamed of the Cross.

Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1303

For more information or to sign up, please contact Carla in the parish center on 410-687-6011, ext. 117 or cberkenkemper@saintclare.org.



Saint Clare

Presents



Vera Bradley Bingo

Featuring Purses and More!

Saturday, January 23, 2010

Doors Open: 5:00pm

Game Starts: 6:00pm

Stallings Hall

Tickets: \$15 in advance
\$20 at the door

Ticket includes: 20 games of Bingo
Door Prize Chance

We will have 3 specials for \$2 each or 3 for \$5.

Instant Bingos & Raffles

Food, snacks and drinks will be available for purchase.

Tickets available through the school.

For more information, please contact Carla in the parish center on
410-687-6011, ext. 117 or cberkenkemper@saintclare.org

Vera Bradley Bingo Ticket Order Form

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Grade: _____ # of Tickets: _____ x \$15 = \$_____ Amt. Enclosed

Saint Clare School Alumni Program

Attention All Alumni from Saint Clare
School Class of 1962-2002

Join us for the Saint Clare Top 40

Saturday, January 16

Alumni Mass at 4pm with an Alumni Top 40
Reception to follow in Stallings Hall

It's Free!

Food, Fun, Games & Open Bar Provided

**Reconnect with Old Friends and Make
New Ones!**

If you or know of anyone who attended Saint Clare, during the years from 1954-2002, or would like to an Alumni volunteer coordinator, we would like to hear from you. Please email us at alumni@saintclare.org.