

**Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time
Strengthened by Faith
September 6, 2009**

Reading I: [Isaiah 35:4-7a](#) Be Strong
Reading II: [James 2:1-5](#) Show No Partiality
Gospel: [Mark 7:31-37](#) He Makes the Deaf Heal

Gospel Summary - Many people did not want to hear the words of Jesus, but the deaf-mute, perhaps a symbol of the Gentiles, wanted to hear and speak. He was brought by friends who also had faith in Jesus' healing power. Jesus touched the man's ears and anointed his tongue with spittle. Looking toward heaven, Jesus commanded that the man's ears be open. At the same time, the man's tongue was free and he began to talk. Mark's gospel frequently has Jesus telling those cured not to say anything about what has happened, but many of the people, including those who witnessed this miracle, could not keep the news to themselves.

Reflection for Families - This gospel shows us the importance of keeping ourselves open to God's will. We may look at the many things we own that help make our lives easier and more comfortable. But, only when we consider the difficulties of one who lives with a handicap, do we realize the value of what we might otherwise take for granted. Our ability to open our ears and move our tongues may help us communicate easily, but there is more in the message of today's gospel. How open are we to hearing and sharing the Good News of Jesus? Do we worship and pray regularly with our family? Do we give witness to the Good News at school, work, in the neighborhood and community?

Bringing the Gospel into Your Family - Ask each family member to share one way in which they realize they are "deaf". What is it that they prefer not to hear or refuse to listen to? Consider, then, whether or not this "deafness" is helpful or gets in the way of acting as we know we should. Help one another take steps to heal the deafness and pray with one another for each person's success in the plan.

CHAPEL CLOSING

Our chapel will close Thursday, September 3rd at 9:00PM for the Labor Day Holiday and re-open on Tuesday, September 8th after the 8:30AM Mass. Thank you adorers for all your sacrificial praying.

HOPE MEAL & RIDE PROGRAM

Hope will resume on September 6th.
September 6 thru 12th
Nancy Villas - 610-353-1841

**MASS INTENTIONS
SATURDAY, September 5**

8:30AM Dr. Val Liberace
5:30PM Robert Simpson

SUNDAY, September 6

7:30AM Matthew Mullin
10:00AM Ryan Smith
11:30AM Sr. Mary Immaculate
5:30PM Raffaella Mansolina

MONDAY, September 7 – LABOR DAY

6:30AM Marie Hudy
8:30AM Michael Doyle

TUESDAY, September 8

6:30AM Intentions of Nancy Prince
8:30AM Michael Doyle

WEDNESDAY, September 9

6:30AM Edward Belczyk
8:30AM Joyce Seidman

THURSDAY, September 10

6:30AM Dolores Solitario
8:30AM Harry J. Bradley

FRIDAY, September 11

6:30AM People of the Parish
8:30AM Anthony Del Borrello

SATURDAY, September 12

8:30AM Teresa Campbell
5:30PM Joan Rauchut

SUNDAY, September 13

7:30AM Frances M. Reckner
10:00AM Barbara Dzwonczyk
11:30AM Mary Mark
5:30PM Grace Firmani

BREAD/WINE- In Memory of William & Isabel Murphy

CANDLE- In Memory of Anthony Pardo

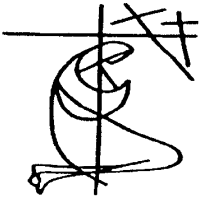
CHAPEL FLOWERS -In Memory of Patrick Cotter

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY & FAMILIES

**In Flanders Field the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row
That mark our place and in the sky
The Larks, still bravely singing, fly;
Scarce heard amid the guns below**

**We are the dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow.
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders Field**

**Take up our quarrel with the foe;
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; Be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die,
We shall not sleep, though poppies
Grow in Flanders Field.**



WHY I AM A CATHOLIC?

Have you ever felt like you were wasting your time being a Catholic? So many people say that the Church is a fraud and that we can find God without all the drama and hypocrisy. Why can't we just find God on our own? After all, the only thing that really counts is being a good person, right? Life for a Catholic these days is pretty tough, especially when you interact with people of different religions or no religion at all. You think it's hard for you, try walking around in a priest's collar these days. Based on the ugly stares and loaded questions from total strangers, it seems that many folks have formed opinions not only about our religion but also about us as individuals. To be honest, these folks have some reasons for what they do. Something terrible has happened in the Church and we can't just wish it away. We have to confront it.

We begin by confronting ourselves. Why am I a Catholic? Why am I remaining one even in the midst of scandal, frustration and disappointment? The answer is to be found in the teaching of the faith itself.

- I am a Catholic because I believe that Jesus Christ is the Eternal Son of God made flesh.
- I am a Catholic because Jesus died on the cross in obedience to His Father's will to pay the price for my salvation.
- I am a Catholic because Jesus established His Church upon the Rock of Peter, first Bishop of Rome, first pope, and endowed His Church with all the means necessary to attain salvation.
- I am a Catholic because of the seven sacraments that Jesus gave to His Church to communicate His divine life to me, in particular the Holy Eucharist, the real and true body, blood, soul and divinity of Jesus, which nourished me with eternal life.
- I am a Catholic because Jesus has given me, and all others who so desire, the gift of the forgiveness of sins in the sacrament of penance.
- I am a Catholic because the Church has taught me, fidelity to the teaching of Jesus and His Apostles.
- I am a Catholic because the Church has led me to the arms of the Blessed Virgin Mary, whom Jesus gave to me and to all as a mother in the spirit.
- I am a Catholic because the Church has introduced me to the communion of saints, the friends of Jesus in heaven who pray for me and souls in purgatory who rely on my prayers.

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- I am a Catholic because the Bible bears witness to the Catholic faith of the Church
- I am a Catholic because for two thousand years, the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic church has proclaimed Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior of the world.
- I am a Catholic because every time scandal and sin has weakened the public face of the Church, God has raised up saints-ordinary people like you and me, called extraordinary witness-to heal and restore His church.
- I am a Catholic because the faith of the Catholic Church is true, guaranteed by Christ's promise of the Holy Spirit, and against the Church of Jesus Christ, in spite of the perennial weakness of its shepherds and sheep, the gates of hell

SHALL NOT PREVAIL!!

SHARE YOUR FAITH GIFTS AND TALENTS

We need teachers and helpers for our PREP program on Wednesdays from 4 PM- 5:15 PM.

Lectors, cantors, musicians, and Eucharistic Ministers are needed for all masses, especially our 5:30 SUNDAY Mass when our new Youth Ministry will begin. Contact Deacon James for training.



From Mrs. Burke's Desk...

Welcome to the Saint Mary Magdalen 2009-2010 school year. We anxiously await the arrival of your child/children and hope the following information will prove helpful in the days to come: **Opening day for students in Grades 5 through 8, only, will be Wednesday, September 9th. Students should arrive by 8:10 AM. Students in Grades 1 through 4, only, will begin classes on Thursday, September 10th with an 8:10 AM arrival. All students in Grades 1 to 8 should report to school on Friday, September 11th with classes beginning at 8:10 AM. The celebration of the Eucharist will begin at 8:30 AM. Dismissal on September 9th, 10th, and 11th will be 2:55 PM. All Kindergarten students are invited to attend their orientation on September 11th from 10:45 to 11:45 AM. Kindergarten classes will begin with a full day on September 14th.**

HOME AND SCHOOL MEETING SEPTEMBER 17TH

At 7:15 PM in the Parish Center - Meet the faculty and join our Home and School organization. Fr. Chieffo, Mrs. Burke, our faculty, and the Home and School Association will invite you to partner with us so that together we communicate our faith and family values to our children and assure them of our sacrificial love.

TRANSPORTATION

SEPTEMBER 9th, 10th, & 11th: Rose Tree Media, Marple Newtown, West Chester, and Great Valley School Districts will provide bus transportation to and from school on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. If your child uses another district's bus service, we ask that you check with that particular school district for busing information. **Rose Tree Media School District Transportation bus schedules for our students will be posted on the Rose Tree Media website (www.rtmsd.org).** Enjoy the remainder of the summer!

Celebrate our vision for learning...moral awareness, academic excellence, responsible citizenship, and cultural development.

Registration information: 610-565-1822

SMM Kentucky Derby: contact Kelly and Joe Hassey (610-353-1750) to help in our Parish Social and Fundraiser on March 20th at Drexelbrook. Start the fun now by volunteering for one of the committees.

PREP NEWS

Our PREP school year for Grades 1 through 6 begins with a Parents Meeting on Wednesday, September 16 at 7:00 PM. Classes for students will start on Wednesday, September 23rd at 4:00 PM. Registration forms and a schedule for the year can be found in the Church Narthex. We still need 1 or 2 teachers for the coming year. Call Deacon James 610-565-5782.

First Holy Communion for Grade 3 is scheduled for **Saturday, October 17 at 10:30 AM in the Church.**

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY

JOHN & KAREN HOEY

Attention all middle and high schoolers! Did you ever wonder why Catholics believe the things that we do?

Did you ever want to know why we do the Catholic things we do? We can't wait to share your ideas and ours to try and have it all make sense. We'll talk in a fun, laid back way about how the Catholic church started, who the important people were (and why they were so important), and where all of these rules came from! That way, when you are busy going to Mass, celebrating a holiday, or expected to follow a rule, at least you will know why you are supposed to do it and how it can help your life instead of getting in the way of your life. Then, it will be easier for you to do those things if you want to, because you will have a reason that is important to you. The first time we get together, we are going to figure out why there is a Pope, who all of them were, and what they have to do with us. Each week the things we talk about will be different but it will

be directed by what you want to understand and how it can all fit into your life now.

We need lectors, Eucharistic ministers, greeters, musicians and singers for the Sunday 5:30 PM Mass. Please see me, John Hoey or Karen.

PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Consider the blessings we have here at SMM to have the Risen Jesus present in our Monstrance just waiting for a visit from YOU. We need an adorer for Saturday, 1-2 AM and there are many hours with only one adorer where two are preferred. Won't you prayerfully consider spending one hour per week or even every other week with the Lord who has done so much for YOU? Call Monica 891-9483 or Shelly 353-7739.

CHILD CARE WORKER: wanted

Reformation Church (located @ RoseTree Rd & Sycamore Mill Rd) is seeking a dependable, child loving adult to watch children from infant to age 4 on Sunday mornings from 8:15AM to 12:15PM. Competitive wage. Pleasant site. Call 610-891-0600X108 or email rlc@relcmedia.org for more information.

INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK

Please email Sue Fromhold at sfromholdcihn1@verizon.net if you can volunteer. Meals and supplies are needed. Please help us keep the IHN in Delaware County. Donations can be sent to: Delco IHN, P.O. Box 2384, Aston, PA 19014 Sue will make an annual appeal at our Masses in September.

LEGION OF MARY

Come and pray for our Blessed Mother to grant you the peace of Jesus in your hearts and home. We meet Mondays, 7:00PM, Parish conference room. Info: Call **Karen Kelly 610-565-6539**. Our Lady is calling you to this great work!

PLEASE NOTE: Because of Labor Day weekend we will have our meeting on Tuesday, 9/8/09. We will celebrate the Feast Day of the Nativity of the B.V.M. A social will follow to celebrate Our Lady's Birthday. All are welcome.

The **Annual Legion of Mary** day at the National Shrine of the Immaculate heart of Mary in Washington, N.J. will be held on Saturday, September 26th from 10AM to 4PM. Mass at 12:00PM. Rev. Frederick L Miller will be the speaker. Any questions call Karen Kelly at 610-565-6539.

BEREAVEMENT MEETING

The next bereavement meeting will be held on Monday, September 14th at 7:00PM in the Parish office area. For information call Barbara Eubanks, 610-891-8851.

BAPTISMAL PREP CLASSES: Call **Peter or Mary Zurbach** to sign up for class at **610-565-5736**. Sponsor Eligibility Letters from the parishes are needed three weeks before the Baptism. Next **Pre Jordan will be September 16 from 7 to 8:00PM in the Gathering room**. We ask you to come for instructions before you give birth so that you can be prepared in choosing your date and sponsors. We remind all parents and Godparents that they must be registered and practicing Catholics. Godparents must be 16 years of age and have received the Sacrament of Confirmation.

A time to die, please pray for the members of our SMM Faith Community who have died, **Rev. Bernard J. Herron, Joseph Orlando, Anthony Del Sordo**, and all victims of war, hurricanes, and the 4,100 daily abortions. **We thank the Belczyk and Del Sordo family for their donations to the SMM Parish in memory of Edward Belczyk and Anthony Del Sordo.**

A time to heal...PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK & OUR SOLDIERS in harm's way: Our Children:
Constance Ashbach, Bernie Brill, Fred Cambio, John Cammorato, Giana Campbell, Rosemary Casey, Tony Chieffo, Daniel Casullo, Lily Ciocca, Dave Clark, Nancy Clay, Christina Connors, Sean Cosden, Regis Cronin, Gennela D'Orazio, Ted D'Orazio, Ann DiDonato, Marcella DiMaggio, Erin DiMartino, Eleanor DiPangrazio, Rose Dennin, Carol Desko, Carla Donato, Sr. Michael Marie Donnelly, RSM, Frances Dougherty, Robert Franklin, Vincent Grasso, Dorothy Greenwald, John & Helen Hartman, Elliott Johnson, Henry Johnson, Alaina Lafferty, John & Claire Laskas, Richard Lucente, Joseph Manion, Michael Manganiello, Joe MacDonald, Theresa MacCombie, Debra Marcoux, Peggy Matthews, Mary McDevitt, Patrick McFadden, William O'Brien, Timothy Poole, James Ranieri, Sr, Bobby Ruggieri, Carolyn Rock, Louise Saar, John Schad, John and Phyllis Scott, John Shea, Dan Shillington, George Tyson, Louise Veit, Catherine Walsh, Lindy Zwahlen

WEDDINGS need to be arranged 6 months ahead. You need to be a practicing Catholic and registered.

Please call the rectory if you are sick or want a priest to visit you in the hospital or at home. Please pray and visit the sick & bring them consolation and companionship. You can contact Deacon James or Anita Morro also to provide Communion.

NEW FAMILIES

Christopher & Andrea Orsini & Family, Darrell & Jessica Schuler & Family, Joseph & Cathleen Orchar & Family and Daniel & Bonnie Morrow & Family.

See Fr. Chieffo for a Registration Form after Mass. If you would like your family and home to be blessed, please call the parish office. If you are interested in visiting our new families to share about our parish activities, please contact Joanne Hinkle at 610-892-3998

RCIA

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) will begin September 22nd 2009. Classes are held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month from 8:00 PM to 9:00 PM in the Parish meetings rooms. Individuals who are interested in becoming Catholic or those who have not received all the Sacraments are invited to attend the RCIA program which culminates on the Holy Saturday Easter Vigil.

Deacon Peter Zurbach conducts the classes. Deacon James and others assist. Please call Deacon James for more information 610-565-5782

THE PRESIDENT'S DESK- By Patricia Miniszak

Our wonderful Marketing Committee has assisted in publicizing our school and one of the results is we are welcoming 397 students of which 57 are new. We are in the process of planning an all class Alumni Reunion for the classes from the first graduating class to the class of 2005. Please pass on the word that the reunion will be on Saturday, November 28th beginning with our 5:30 PM Mass. If you are not on our alumni database and have not received information concerning it, please contact me at presidentsmm@comcast.net or 610-566-8821 X122. In the Spring we will have a reunion for all of our high school students.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT WORKSHOP

All volunteers at St Mary Magdalen School and Parish who have contact with children must meet the following requirements before any contact with children.

1. Attendance at a Safe Environment Workshop.
2. A current Criminal Background check.
3. A current Child Abuse clearance.

These requirements from the Philadelphia Archdiocese apply to all adult participants at St Mary Magdalen School, PREP, CYO, Scouts and anyone working with children in any capacity. St Mary Magdalen Parish will hold a seminar on Wednesday, September 30th @ 7:00PM in our school. Forms for the two background checks will be available at this session or at www.epatch.state.pa.us/Hone.jsp. This one time seminar will fulfill the Archdiocese requirements. Please register with Pierina Antonello at www.smmnurse@comcast.net or www.virtus.org. Registration is needed to prepare for workshop materials.

CATHOLIC ADULTS LEARNING THEIR FAITH

Need a Huge Return on Your Investment?

Our small Faith Sharing group is more a discussion group with your fellow parishioners using the current Sunday Mass readings as a kick-off point. The time you invest, especially will return to you a hundredfold in a deeper awareness of your own spirituality and that of your neighbors. Meetings are kept to an hour and a half and are in a relaxed, sociable setting. Facilitators and times of meetings are listed below. Please call **Bonnie Clark (610-353-7930)** or one of the facilitators.

Mondays 2 PM: Betty Mulhern 610-353-5035.

Twice monthly: Sue Mita 610-566-4819

Tuesday 7:30PM (monthly): Mary Ann Foster 610-566-1399.

Men's Group: Jim Dooley (1st & 3rd Tuesdays) 610-892-9684 at 7:30PM.

Wednesday 7AM Men's Group: Don Saleski (610-566-3492) in Church Gathering Room.

Monthly, 9:30AM, toddler's welcome: Jeanne Barker 610-627-1009.

Weekly, 3 PM: Eleanor O'Rourke, White Horse Village 610-558-9128.

Thurs 7:30PM: Bonnie Clark (2nd & 4th wks) 610-353-7930. If you would like to start a group, call Father.

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THOUGHTS OF SAINT JOHN VIANNEY

Nothing is so common among Christians as to say: "O my God, I love you!" and nothing rarer, perhaps, than the love of God.

THE ROSARY

Join us every Tuesday in the chapel at 7:15PM to pray the Rosary. Benediction will resume in September. The parish family thanks you for your prayers.

DIVINE MERCY CENACLE

The first meeting of the Divine Mercy Cenacle will be held on September 10th. The meeting will begin with the Divine Mercy Chaplet at 12:30PM in the chapel and move to another room for the Cenacle meeting. We will discuss the Divine Mercy Message and Devotion and Fr. Chieffo will give his reflections. For more information, please call Doris 610-325-2876 or Eleanor 610-566-0317.

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR

Deepen your relationship with Christ! Take part in a Spirit-filled weekly series of six Life in the Spirit Seminars at Nativity BVM's Conference Room (adjacent to the rectory), September 22nd through October 27th at 7:30 PM. All are welcome. Any questions, please call Paul or Betty at 610-627-1581. Learn to praise God and enjoy Christian fellowship.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTRY: Angel Visits

Our parish needs individuals who can visit private homes and Nursing Homes with Holy Communion and good cheer for those who are sick or can't come to Sunday Mass. Visits can be made on any day of the week. Some of these visits will be once each week, others may be for a short term only. If you can help us bring God to those in need, please call **Anita Morro and Deacon James** in a ministry that lets you bring spiritual aid and comfort to those in need.

LITTLE CHURCH SCHOOL

Parents are reminded that **Little Church School** takes place most Sundays during the 10:00A.M. Mass. **Little Church School** is for children from ages 4 to 5. Parents bring children to the Gathering room in the church opposite the restrooms. Children learn about God through stories and arts and crafts while parents are attending the 10:00A.M. Mass. **Starting date will be Sunday, September 27th.** Please call Deacon James 610-565-5782.

MEN'S MORNING OF RECOLLECTION

Enjoy the blessings of mass, spiritual talk, and sharing with brothers in Christ desiring a closer relationship with Jesus and other Christians. We meet the second Saturday of the month for Mass at 8:30 AM, followed by meeting until noon in the church meeting area downstairs. Contact Len Wroblewski at 353-3647.

BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY

The Bereavement Ministry would appreciate help in sending cards a few times a year to those who have lost a loved one. These cards reinforce the concept that we are a caring parish. They mean a lot to those who are grieving. If interested please contact **Dottie Donohue at ddonohue@cohs.com**.

LADIES NIGHT OUT

Our 5th annual evening has been scheduled for Friday, November 13, 2009. If you or anyone you know would like to fill our vendor tables, please contact Nicky Verna at tnverna@comcast.net or 610-627-2383. Please mark your calendars for this fun and friend-filled evening.

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

Saturday – September 12

5:30PM – T & R Allen

Sunday – September 13

7:30AM – E & M Goldhorn

10:00AM – A & C Keith

11:30AM – S Byrnes, M. Gilligan

5:30PM – M T Bane, E. Campbell

STEWARDSHIP AND TITHING

It is truly more blessed to give than to receive.

Our organist, Dr. Jacqueline Gibbons has volunteered her time and talents for many years serving as our adult choir director. She also makes the schedules and chooses the hymns for most of our liturgies. Please personally thank her for sharing her gifts and love for our parish family. I praise God and thank all who volunteer with the love of Jesus. May God bless your family-team spirit for providing for our material and spiritual needs. Jesus loves you and so do I, Fr Ralph

August 30th - \$20,488.00

Last Year - \$16,977.00

ARCHDIOCESAN CAPITAL CAMPAIGN: We thank four parishioners for pledging \$3,125,000. Our parish capital campaign for the benefit of the Archdiocese and our parish will begin January 2010. If you would like to serve on the committee, see Fr. Ralph

SPONSOR A STUDENT

St Mary Magdalen School is asking for donations to the **Sponsor a Student Program**. Over the past few years we have been able to assist some of our parish families with financial aide who have fallen on bad times. This year we are especially in need of help for 4 or 5 families. We know many of our parish families have suffered set backs over the last couple years but if you can, we would be most grateful to anyone who is able to help a needy student attend our parish school. Any amount is appreciated. Please forward your donation to the parish office attention Mary Lou. We assure you that the families receiving this aid are truly needy and practicing our Catholic Faith.

ELECTRONIC TITHING – EFT

Back in December we established an electronic Funds Transfer program for Sunday giving. Several families have signed up for the program. It is a monthly withdrawal on the 15th of each month. This program provides a simple, convenient and time saving service for you and us. Please consider using this method of contributing. Forms are available in the Narthex or you may call Mary Lou in our office at 610-566-8821 X109.

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL - Clothing Drive to be held on September 12th from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM. The truck will be located at Our Lady of Charity, 231 Upland Road, Brookhaven, PA 19015.

CHURCH BOOKLETS ARE AVAILABLE

For \$5 at the parish office or SCRIPT table.

Please thank Peter Lerro and our benefactors.

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PAINTINGS FOR THE NARTHEX

We thank **Mike Quarto and Family** for donating the future painting of **St. John the Evangelist** in memory of **Jean Quarto and the Laskas Family** for donating the painting of **St. Luke in honor of their parents, John and Claire Laskas.**

We are grateful to **Patricia and Robert Rottensteiner** for the baby grand piano in church.

COMMEMORATIVES AVAILABLE

PAINTING OF ST. MATTHEW (\$5,500)

PAINTING OF ST. MARK (\$5,500)

Reconciliation Room - \$15,000

Chandeliers & Pews (\$10,000)

Windows in Chapel (\$25,000)

Memorial Board- \$5,000

Processional Candle(s) - \$300 each

Robes, Crucifixes - \$100

Be part of our new statue of SMM with any donation you can afford. Call Mary Lou at 610-566-8821 X109
We thank Mike Quarto for a donation for the SMM Statue in memory of his wife, Jean Quarto.

COMMEMORATIVE BOARD

All donors for our new church and offices are recorded in our BOOK OF GRATITUDE located in the Narthex. For those who made a significant donation and their names are not on a plaque (for instance our pews and chairs), we will install a BENEFACTOR BOARD in the Narthex.

ADULT CHOIR

The Adult choir will reconvene for the coming year on Wednesday, September 9th at 7:30 PM in Church. We invite any parishioners who would like to sing to the glory of God to join us. You do not have to have a solo voice in order to be a part of our ministry; choir members are best as blenders! Please consider coming for your own edification as well as the benefit of the choir and the parish.

SMM CYO ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

Edgemont Country Club

October 1st - 1:00PM Tee Time

50/50 tickets will be available in the back of church starting September 5 through September 27. Hole sponsors (business or families) are available for \$100. For registration or sponsor info please contact. Jim Natale at 484-442-8314 or

Paul McCarthy at 484-574-3993

Please support SMM CYO

RESPECT LIFE

GOVERNMENT "HEALTH CARE"

This remains the prime LIFE issue. We hope you are aware that it mandates abortion as health care. Medical professionals will be punished if they do not participate in abortion. It provides rationing of care for the disabled and elderly (the federal government will examine all citizens every 5 years beginning at age 55). Contraceptives, abortifacients and condoms will be provided for the married and unmarried. Essentially, it will install FOCA as health care. What other evil lurks in this 1,000 page assault on humanity cannot be determined by us at this point. We encourage all to contact and sign petitions addressed to our Representatives and to Senators Casey and Specter.

HEALING AND HOPE PROGRAM

The Healing Ministry along with the HOPE program, by the power of the Holy Spirit, continued to serve the parish throughout the summer. In spite of decreased volunteers due to vacations, the necessary prayer, communion visits, guidance, counsel and meals were generously provided to our parish families who experienced crisis, death and illness. In September, The Healing Ministry and HOPE program will power up to recruit and train new volunteers. The ultimate goal is to have 100% of our families on the list. To be a volunteer you need only be willing to make a meal a year or stop in and check on a neighbor. Training for other acts of service will be provided as needed. This effort will ensure that when the Lord calls His people to Love and serve Him; we will be prepared to say "yes" to the call.

Remember, "God does not call the qualified, He qualifies the called. Hope to have you join the effort. In His Timing, Anita Morro RN BSN 610-566-8821 ext 7.

MUSIC WORKS COMES AT SMM

MusicWorks is a nonprofit, music therapy service provider working with children (3-20) and young adults (21+) with autism spectrum disorders, Down syndrome, cerebral palsy and other special needs. In September 2009, SMM is offering small group music therapy sessions on Tuesday late afternoons & early evenings. MusicWorks will be offering financial assistance for families who qualify. MusicWorks also works with Magellan Behavioral Health Clients. Please call us at 610-449-9669 to register for sessions. For more info, go to www.musicworkswonders.com today!

LAUGH WITH THE PASTOR

Signs, Signs Everywhere Signs

In a London department store: "Bargain Basement upstairs."

In an office: "Would the person who took the step ladder yesterday bring it back, or further steps will be taken."

In an office: "After tea break, staff should empty the teapot and stand upside down on the draining board."

Outside a second hand shop: "We exchange everything - - bicycles, washing machines, etc. Why not bring your wife along and get a wonderful bargain?"

Notice in health food shop window: "Closed due to illness."

OPEN ARMS MINISTRY

Open Arms is a reconciling ministry of Daylesford Abbey whose purpose is to present a loving and welcoming presence to gay and lesbian Catholics, their families and friends. We meet on the third Monday of each month in the Spirituality Room at 7:30 PM. Contact Brother, Jack Giner, O.Praem jbginder1@yahoo.com or parishioners George & Ellen Curran, gdcetired@aol.com

SACRED SONGS & ARIAS-CDs & DVDs

The CD and DVD recordings of the Sacred Songs & Arias recital performed at SMM on March 14th by Stephanie Piraino, Patricia Au and Patrick Davey are now available. Those who reserved CDs or DVDs can pick them up from Lee Gardella at the Script Table in the church lobby after the 10:00 AM and 11:30 AM Masses. Please provide your name and telephone number to Mr. Gardella and you will be contacted when your recording is ready for pick-up.

ACME RECEIPTS

DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR Acme receipts with you to church and place them in the box in the Narthex. These receipts help our school obtain new equipment. Thank you for all who do so faithfully.

NEW SMM SCHOOL SPIRIT STORE

Opening Friday September 11th. Located in Sr Kathleen Hall adjacent to GYM lobby. Hours: Mondays and Fridays 7:45 AM to 8:30AM & Noon to 1:20PM. On sale will be SMM Hawks tee shirts, sweatshirts and novelty items, etc. All proceeds benefit SMM School. Check us out! We thank all who will help.

IS OUR FINANCIAL CRISIS A SPIRITUAL ONE? Pope Benedict believes the economic crisis is a result of a moral crisis: Its ultimate solution will therefore not be found in tinkering with the material—as in simple policy reforms – but in renewing our spiritual underpinnings. Pray that we restore biblical values in all areas of our life for the good of all.

SMM MAGDALEN SENIORS

SMM Seniors has planned several great trips. We will begin our "New Year" on September 9th at 1:00PM in the basement meeting room of **SMM Church**. Most meetings have a speaker on a current topic of interest and finish up with refreshments & friendly conversation. Please join us on the 9th and each month thereafter. Trips include **Villa Roma**- October 5th to 9th in the **Catskills**. Price includes 3 meals a day & many activities. **Single** \$615; **Double** \$495; **Triple** \$470. A deposit of \$100 per person is required with your reservation. **Radio City Music Hall Christmas Show** – (November 30th) \$144 per person includes show, dinner & bus. Dinner at S.P.Q.R. **Peter Nero presents "Holiday Pops"**- (December 19th) \$148 includes bus, show & dinner at Lamb Tavern. **Billy Elliot-(March 3rd, 2010)** bus, a dinner at Carmine's and cost of the show is \$199.00. **Woodloch Pines** – May 3rd thru May 7, 2010 the price includes all meals and many activities. A deposit of \$100.00 per person is required with your reservation. **Single** \$769; **Double** \$649; **Triple** \$639. For more info call **Joe Profeto at 610-359-0931** or write him at 2689 Old Cedar Grove Rd. Broomall, Pa 19008.

WELCOME TO ST JOSEPH'S IN THE HILLS

Malvern Retreat House invites you today to attend the upcoming Our Lady of Peace Women's Retreat Weekend on September 25-27, 2009. Call 610-644-0400 for additional information and visit the web site www.malvernretreat.com for photos and more details. Only 20 minutes from our parish!

For those interested in experiencing the faith experience of a Retreat but who have family obligations over most weekends, there is a mid-week retreat group – Pope John XXIII – that will meet 6PM Tuesday, October 6th and ends after breakfast on Thursday, October 8th. Mid-week retreats are an excellent way for family men to refresh their souls while not disrupting their family. For further info call Chris Sowa at 610-891-8971 or Bill Cotter @ 610-675-8003, or www.malvernretreat.com.

MARRIED COUPLES RETREAT

September 18 – 20TH

When was the last time you had the opportunity to have a getaway with your spouse? Hosted in the Family Life Center you will be pampered with a private room and bath, delicious meals and inspirational talks. Popular retreat director, Fr. Jude Michael Krill, OFM will direct this refreshing retreat. He is currently a chaplain, Campus Minister and teacher at Neumann University, Aston, PA. All of the scheduled talks and exercises are a la carte; you may choose to attend all aspects of the retreat or spend leisure time with your spouse. The choice is yours! Register early.

RELIGIOUS BOOK STUDY GROUP

Are you interested in how you can live a more Spiritual life in such a secular world and find a deeper meaning to life's hardships and sufferings? Come join us as we commence the book, **Life of the Beloved: Spiritual Living in a Secular World**, by the late Father Henri Nouwen. We will meet starting Tuesday evening, October 6th @ 7:35PM at St. Mary Magdalen's School Library in Media. We will meet every 1st and 3rd Tuesday evening of the month for approximately 3-4 months. It's a very casual, informal and enjoyable setting. If you are interested or have questions, please contact Gina Mesko @ 610-872-0876. New comers are most welcome!

DO YOU KNOW YOUR TRIBUNAL? The Tribunal is a group of specially qualified priests, sisters, and lay persons whose responsibility is to come to the help of people who experienced divorce. When divorce occurs, the Catholic Church always seeks to balance two realities. One is the unbreakableness of the bond of marriage. This is God's law. It cannot be broken by human intervention. On the other hand, the Church is concerned about the spiritual welfare of the people involved. Was this a true marriage? Even though a Catholic marriage was celebrated, was there perhaps some weakness in the consent of the parties involved? The annulment procedure addresses this problem without affixing blame on either party. If you are divorced or married outside the Catholic Church, please telephone the Tribunal Office. Have no fear. All interviews are private and confidential. **THE TRIBUNAL, 222 NORTH 17TH ST., PHILA., PA 19103 (215)587-3750.**

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

The next couples experience will be October 2 – 4, 2009. For more info call 1 800 456 8330. Have you done anything to enrich your marriage or renew your commitment to your spouse, family and others.

THE CREIGHTON MODEL FERTILITY CAR SYSTEMA ND NOPRO TECHNOLOGY

Authentic Catholic Health Care for Women and Couples To be held on October 21, 2009 at St. Mary Magdalen, 2400 N. Providence Road, Media, PA. The cost is free. To register call 610-789-4547. Sponsored by Friends of Fertility Care Philadelphia.

**AS OUR CHILDREN RETURN TO SCHOOL,
WHY NOT INVEST SOME TIME TO RENEW
YOUR FAITH BY SPIRITUAL READING.
WE HAVE MANY BOOKS IN THE CHAPEL
LOBBY AND GATHERING ROOM FOR YOU.**