

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

This Sunday I want to offer my encouragement to you as we enter the final days of Advent and also extend my sincerest wishes for a blessed and peaceful Christmas. I know many of you may be traveling in the coming days, please be assured of my prayers for you. I look forward to the special Christmas blessings the Lord has in store for our parish family and pray that you also approach Christmas with a similar expectation of God's blessings for your family.

I want to remind you again of the new program we have for electronic giving through *Faith Direct*. With *Faith Direct* you can make all of your regular contributions to OLPH electronically via automatic withdrawal. To sign up, just visit www.faithdirect.net with our parish code **MD115** and your parish envelope number. They will guide you through the secure process, or you can use one of the enrollment forms that are available in the church. Please take advantage of this convenient and safe way of supporting the work of our parish!

Finally, I want to say thank you again to all of those who have supported the important work of our parish Capital Campaign! To our parish advocates and leadership team and to all of those who have made pledges, please know how sincerely grateful I am for all that you have done to help us meet the needs of our parish family! May God bless you this Christmas and into the New Year!

Fr. Arnold

PREPARE

Please include the sick of our parish in your prayers that they may experience Christ's comfort and healing.

Carol Beall	Eugene Huget	Mary Ann Sharp
Clyde Bradley	MaryAnn Humm	Ann Shively
Diane Buckley	Jack Kelly	Mary Ellen Shotting
Helene Cadman	Fred Lourenso	Billy Simpson
David Clark	Lois Malarkey	Jack Simpson
Daniel Couvillion	Joyce Mathias	Ardelia Smith
Patricia Donadio	Lucy McKenna	Julia Smith
Mike Doshim	Tony Mello	Bill Snyder
Warren Drell Jr.	Joseph Murray	Joanne Strock
Doris Eustis	Nathan Niessner	Edna Walker
Jayne Fleischer	Mary Joyce O'Neill	Laura Wall
Richard Flynn	Larry Putgenter, Sr.	Libby Weller
Mary Grace Howard	Mary Reichel	Kyla Zeilinger
Francis Hubbard	Rosemarie Rippel	

If you or your loved one is on the mend, please notify the Rectory!



Masses For The Week

Mon., December 22	6:30 am	Mark Wilkens †
	8:15 am	Mario J Coco, Sr. †
Tues., December 23	6:30 am	Robert E. Smith †
	8:15 am	Maria Mannarino †
Wed., December 24	6:30 am	Chiara Gambo †
	8:15 am	E Joan Smith †
	4:00pm	Barbara Coakley †
	6:00pm	Karen M. Smith †
	8:00pm	Kevin M. Klein Sr. †
	Midnight	Cheryl McLaughlin †
Thurs., December 25	8:00am	Paul Ellison †
	10:00am	Gregory Kitzmiller †
Fri., December 26	6:30 am	Perry Suter †
	8:15 am	Pat Chairs †
Sat., December 27	8:15 am	George Raley †
	4:30 pm	John Bach †
Sun., December 28	7:30 am	Jack Garrity †
	9:00 am	Genevieve T. Smith †
	10:30 am	Ingrid Simonwitz †
	12:00 noon	For the People



Offering for December 14, 2008	
Envelopes 441	\$16,183.08
Loose	\$1,474.00
Children	\$82.31
Total	\$17,739.39
Poor Box	\$879.52
Share in the Care	\$2,923.08
Immaculate Conception	\$1,174.00
Catholic Review	\$1,062.00

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

MINISTRY SCHEDULE for December 28, 2008

Saturday 4:30 pm Fr. Arnold
 Lectors Terry Muldoon, TBD
 EMHC Longo, Longo, McKissick
 Servers Welsh, Weir, Wichmann

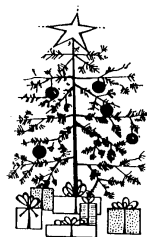
Sunday 7:30 am—Fr. Larry
 Lectors Benedict, Rusnak
 EMHC Brigoli, Griffith, Weaver
 Servers Brigoli, Griffith, Wolfe

Sunday 9:00 am—Fr. Larry
 Lectors Hochkeppel, TBD
 EMHC Auger, Coelho, Funk, Guseman,
 Guseman, Hunter, C Krause, Mansfield,
 Mansfield
 Servers Kallmyer, Kallmyer, TBD

Sunday 10:30 am—Fr. Arnold
 Lectors Arterburn, Minadeo
 EMHC Minadeo, O'Neill, O'Neill, Sebastian, J Smith,
 B Smith, Sonni, Steele, Steele
 Servers Sebastian, Smith, Smith

Sunday 12 Noon - Fr. Arnold
 Lectors Fox, Green
 EMHC Gettmann, D Krause, M Krause
 Servers Green, Green, Krause

*Subject to change when necessary.



The Giving Tree

The St. Vincent de Paul Society would like to thank everyone for their contributions and assistance with the "Christmas Giving Tree" program. Your generosity allowed many people less fortunate than ourselves to have a merrier and blessed Christmas. May God bless you for your continued support and kindness

VOCATION CHALICE PROGRAM

You are invited to participate in a new program here at OLPH. It is called the Vocation Chalice Program. Every other Sunday, a family, couple, or individual will be called forward at the end of Mass to receive the Vocation Chalice and special prayer book and instructions written to accompany it. In taking the chalice, they will commit themselves to pray for vocations during the week in the name of our parish in thanksgiving for all those generously sharing in Church ministry and, in particular, for the gift of sisters and brothers, priests, and deacons. All of you are invited to participate in this program. There is a sign up sheet in the back of the church. We encourage you to sign up for one of the weeks then to attend that Mass and receive the Vocation Chalice. It is our hope that this experience will encourage each of us to take seriously our vocation as a member of the Body of Christ and encourage ALL of us to pray for the gift of vocations to priesthood and the consecrated life (not just the family with the chalice for the week). We believe that the Holy Spirit is calling forth men and women from our faith community to these roles of service. May our prayer help to inspire young women and men to be attentive to the movement of the Spirit with them and to step forward in faith and with generous hearts to wherever the Holy Spirit lead them. For more information contact Fr. Larry.

Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

We are grateful to all those parishioners who are serving on the Leadership Team or as Advocates of the Capital Campaign. All of them have given and will continue to give generously of their time in order to make this historic undertaking as successful as possible.

Honorary Chair: Sam Chairs

Campaign Co-Chairs: Bill Glover and Crissy Reid

Brian Auger	Tom Cynkar
Greg Douglas	Theresa Fernandes
Tom and Mary Gregorini	Teresa Jeschke
Roch Kallmyer	Thomas Kieffer
Jim Kinnear	Lindsey and Claire Krause
Greg Leitner	Erika Lucas
Patrick Massari	Mairzie Mulholland
Jackie Pellegrino	Elizabeth Rendon-Sherman
Jim Roche	Fritz Schroeder
Bill and Mary Sharp	Wayne and Anne Shugars
PJ Small	Jonathan and Barbara Smith
Glenda Snavely	Chuck and Sue Steele
Michael Steer	Christine Twele
Jane Ward	

May Our Lady of Perpetual Help Bless you.

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

A Musical Prelude will begin one half hour before each of the Christmas Eve Masses.

A Children's Christmas Program will begin promptly at 3:30pm, followed by the Children's Mass at 4pm.

Date	Music	Mass Times
Dec. 24th	Children's Choir	4:00pm
Christmas Eve.	Youth Choir	6:00pm
	Traditional Choir	8:00pm
	Contemporary	Midnight
Dec 25 th	Organ & Cantor	8:00am
Christmas Day	Organ & Cantor	10:00am



Solemnity of Mary Mother of God
 Vigil; December 31st—7pm Vigil Mass
 1:00pm—Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
 Midnight Mass—Silent Mass
 January 1, 2009 9:00am and 7:00pm

CATHOLIC FORMATION MINISTRIES

Office Phone Numbers: 410-747-0131, 410-455-0399
Office Hours are Monday—Friday 9am—4pm

NO
CLASS—
PLEASE
READ THIS

Elementary Religious

Education: There are **NO**

Rel. Ed. classes on

Dec. 22 and Dec. 23 due to

Howard County Schools
being closed for Christmas
break. Classes will resume

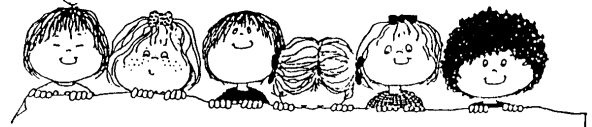
on Monday, Jan. 5 and
Tuesday, Jan. 6. The CFM Staff

wishes all families a very blessed and

Merry Christmas. Our monthly Children's Liturgy
will take place at the 4:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass. Please
join us!

CATHOLIC BOOK CLUB

The next meeting of the Catholic Book Club will be on January 16th, 2009. We will again have two meetings: one at 10 am in the Ministry Center and another at 7 pm in the Parish Center. We will be discussing Pope Paul VI's encyclical, "Humanae Vitae" (on Human Life). This encyclical, which celebrated its 40th anniversary this year, made many prophecies which have come true. Come and learn more about what happened to the world and to the Church. You can obtain the encyclical on-line. Go to www.vatican.va; click "Holy See, English"; then click on "Site Map" in the upper middle of the screen; click on "H"; click on "Humanae Vitae"; then choose "print" or read it on-line. For more information, contact Fr. Larry



Honoring Our Past, Preserving Our Future The Campaign for Our Lady of Perpetual Help

A man came, sent by God.
His name was John.
He came as a witness,
as a witness to speak for the light,
so that everyone might believe through him.
He was not the light,
only a witness to speak for the light. *John 1:6-8*

Last Sunday's gospel appears to offer an excellent background to our parish campaign, particularly this repeated use of the theme of witness. Is that not our vocation as Christians, to come together at Mass and in reception of the sacraments, in our religious formation and in the programs here at OLPH, and to respond as a community witnessing to Christ? To join as a community and offer ourselves "through Him, with Him, and in Him" and then to go out back to our families, our community, our workplaces and spread the good news through our example?

Certainly one of the ways we witness to Christ is coming together to sacrifice a portion of our finances to promote His Kingdom. Equal sacrifices, not equal gifts. We witness not only by celebrating who we are, but what we do. The fact that many have given generously and sacrificially surely is a sign of our belief and our hope in His coming to share His life with us during the season of Advent.

Please consider the capital campaign as we come to the close of the year and you review the various possible charities to which you might give. Our parish is certainly worthy of your support in every way.

Bill Glover
Campaign Co-Chair

Crissy Reid
Campaign Co-Chair

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Pregnant, Need Help? Call the Gabriel Network – 1-800-ANGEL-OK
Suffering Post-Abortion Stress? Call Project Rachel – 1-800-



Are we willing to have the faith of Mary in believing the angel? Do we have faith in our spouse that will give us the strength to make our Sacrament holy? The next Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends are Feb. 8-10, 2009 and August 8-10, © 2009. For more information or to register call toll free 1-877-558-LOVE (5683) or

visit our Web site at <http://wwme.net>.
86-4224

You can make your voices heard immediately in Annapolis and Washington D.C. by using the MCC's Legislative Action Alert. Please, if you have not done so already, go to our parish website and sign up for these Alerts so they come to your e-mail in box and then stress to these lawmakers that your vote is important too. Again, besides prayer and fasting, the action you can take if your church's desires are ignored is in the voting booth.

Washington, D.C. March for Life: Thursday, Jan. 22, is the anniversary of Roe v Wade which marks the Supreme Court decision which legalized abortion through all 9 months of pregnancy. Join tens of thousands of others to show the new administration and our legislators that we will not tolerate abortion on demand, partial-birth abortion, assisted suicide and euthanasia. Please plan to participate in this March! Call your Respect Life Coordinator.

What is "FOCA"? FOCA, the "Freedom of Choice Act" establishes abortion as a "fundamental right" throughout the nine months of pregnancy and forbids any law or policy that could "interfere" with that right or "discriminate" against it in public funding and programs. If FOCA became law, hundreds of reasonable, widely supported, and constitutionally sound abortion regulations now in place would be invalidated. Gone would be laws providing for informed consent, and parental consent or notification in the case of minors. Laws protecting women from unsafe abortion clinics and from abortion practitioners who are not physicians would be overridden. Restrictions on partial-birth and other late-term abortions would be eliminated. FOCA would knock down laws protecting the conscience rights of nurses, doctors and hospitals with moral objections to abortion, and force taxpayers to fund abortions throughout the United States. We cannot let this happen! (To read the entire article, go to <http://www.usccb.org> check out Pro-Life, Abortion, and Newsletter)