

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As we arrive at the Fourth Sunday of Advent we enter into the final days of preparation for Christmas. I pray that these days really help you to prepare your hearts for Christ. Recently, Pope Benedict spoke beautifully of what our Christian faith is all about and his words are a great reminder of why the Lord has come to us: "Dear brothers and sisters, this is true for every Christian: faith is first and foremost a personal, intimate encounter with Jesus, it is having an experience of his closeness, his friendship and his love. It is in this way that we learn to know him ever better, to love him and to follow him more and more. May this happen to each one of us!" I will make the Pope's prayer my own, praying that each of us may have this same experience of the Lord's closeness, friendship and love.

A reminder that this Sunday night I will be offering an evening of reflection and prayer through sacred art beginning at 7:30pm. This evening of reflection will make use of different images to draw us more deeply into Advent and the coming celebration of Christmas. Slow down this Sunday night and take some time for yourself to prepare for Christmas!

I look forward to seeing you for our Christmas Masses this Thursday and Friday. For those who will be travelling please know of our prayers for your safety and joy as you visit family and friends. God bless you!

Rev. Eric Arnold



Masses For The Week

Mon., Dec. 21	8:15 am	Rev. Isacc Karoor
Tues., Dec. 22	8:15 am	Marie Aumick †
Wed., Dec. 23	8:15 am	Bernardine O'Neill †
Thurs., Dec. 24	8:15 am	Mary Strunck
	4:00 pm	The Kim Family
	4:00 pm	Mary Galindo †
	6:00 pm	Lois Malarkey †
	8:00 pm	Gregory Kugler †
	12 Midnight	For the People
Fri., Dec. 25	9:00 am	For the People
Sat., Dec. 26	8:15 am	Miller Ulrich
	4:30 pm	Pat Chairs
Sun., Dec. 27	7:30 am	Lorraine Kramer †
	9:00 am	Harper Ulrich
	11:00 am	John Back
	5:00 pm	For the People

Christmas Eve Masses

Thursday, December 24, 2009

- 4:00pm - Church (*Children's Choir*)
- 4:00pm - Parish Center (*Contemporary*)
- 6:00pm (*Youth Choir*)
- 8:00pm (*Traditional Choir*)
- 12:00am Midnight Mass (*Contemporary Ensemble*)

A musical prelude will begin 20 minutes before each Christmas Eve Mass.

The Children's Christmas Program will begin at 3:30pm in the Church

Christmas Day Masses

Friday, December 25, 2009

9:00am (*Organ and Cantor*)

New Year's

Solemnity of Mary Mother of God

A Holy Day of Obligation

Thursday, December 31, 2009

- 7:00pm - Vigil Mass
- 11:00pm - 12:00 am Midnight Adoration
- 12:00 am Midnight Mass

Friday, January 1, 2010

9:00 am Mass

Advent Prayer and Reflections through Sacred Art

Join Fr. Arnold this Sunday night at 7:30pm for a quiet evening of Advent reflections through sacred art. Give yourself some time to slow down and allow the familiar images of Advent and Christmas to prepare you for the coming celebrations!

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.



March for Life

March for Life 2010... mark your calendars--we will make our pro-life presence known to the lawmakers in Washington, the citizens of the United States, and people around the world, on **Friday, January 22, 2010**. OLPH is planning to team up with other churches in the area to rent a bus and will be available on a first come first serve basis. Please contact John Mansfield (410) 480-9538 or Sue Smith (410)750-7577 from the Respect Life Committee to reserve your spot on the bus and for more details.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

LITURGICAL MINISTERS:

For updated schedules, please check the Parish Website, or the printed schedule available in the back of church.
THANK YOU!



Offering for December 6, 2009	
Envelopes 409	\$13,088.00
Loose	\$1931.12
Children	\$9.50
Total	\$15,028.62
2nd Collection, Retired Religious	\$6,251.00
Poor Box	\$340.19
Christmas Flowers	\$190.00

“When Parents Divorce—How to Help and Comfort Our Children and Youth”-Tuesday, January 19, 7:00pm
 Please join us for a practical and hopeful evening for parents, grandparents, family, and all who work with or minister to children and youth whose parents are separated or divorced. This Catholic seminar is designed to help parents, children, and all others better understand young people’s reactions to parental separation and divorce, their needs in working through this loss, and how to help their healing and growth.
 This seminar will speak practically, from a human and spiritual perspective, about how we can help our children and youth who are experiencing a separation or divorce at home. There is no cost and no registration is necessary – All are invited to join us.
 The seminar will be held in the OLH Parish Center.

Upcoming Changes to your Catholic Review Subscription!

Effective January 3rd 2010, only parishioners who subscribe to the Catholic Review will continue to receive home delivery service. If you would like to continue receiving the Catholic Review, please look for a new blue Catholic Review Subscription envelope in your December-January envelope packet. Simply return this envelope with a payment of \$45 for a one-year subscription either during January 3rd weekend Mass or mailed to the Parish Office by January 11th, to guarantee uninterrupted service. Currently, OLPH provides the Catholic Review to all registered parishioners. Parishioners have the opportunity to cover the annual subscription rate of \$45 through secondary monthly collections. As collections have not met the expense to provide this service to all, the parish must subsidize the difference at a net cost \$20,000. It is with the hope of retaining this money at OLPH for programs and ministries that benefit parishioners, that we will begin a new process for collection and distribution of this periodical will occur in January 2010.

Please stay tuned for more details!

Living Covenant in a Contract World
A Scripture-based Valentine’s Day Retreat for Married Couples
 Joe and Cinda DeVet have been involved extensively in Family Life Ministry, including Sponsor Couple training, Marriage Encounter, Natural Family Planning teaching, family vocation ministry, and days of reflection. But it is their love for and commitment to the continuing journey of growth in love and understanding of the vocation of matrimony that most contributes to their involvement in this retreat.
 After 43 years, their love continues lively, and their enthusiasm and willingness to laugh at their own mistakes invigorate their presentation style.
 Retreat date: **February 12-14, 2010.**
 Registration deadline: February 1, 2010 Cost: \$325 per couple. Includes room and meals. *Scholarship help is available.*
 For more information, contact Kathy Schmidt at 410-747-5611 or mak.schmidt@gmail.com.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help School
 is accepting applications for our Fall 2010 Kindergarten class. Applications are due by January 20, 2010 and the Brigance screening for prospective students will take place on February 10. An information session will be held on Wednesday January 13 at 10:00 a.m. You are welcome to meet with Mrs. Errera, our Kindergarten teacher, and visit the classroom. The application form is on our website www.olphschool.org under "Prospective Families", or you may contact Brandy Munoz at 410-744-4251 or bmunoz@olphschool.org.

BIBLE STUDY: THE BOOK OF REVELATION
The Kingdom Yet to Come

In this intriguing look at one of the most talked-about books in Scripture, Jeff Cavins explores Revelation to demonstrate how the Kingdom established by Christ in His Church is intimately connected with the Kingdom of Heaven, especially through the celebration of the Mass. You will also learn what all the mysterious figures and images of Revelation represent, as well as what will happen during the Second Coming of Christ, what has already happened, and what is happening now in salvation history.

This Study will meet in Harrison Hall on Thursday evenings from 7:00pm to 9:00pm beginning January 14, 2010 concluding on March 25, 2010. Cost: \$25.00

Registration Forms can be found online on the parish website, or in the narthex of the church. Any questions ...e-mail Mairzie at mmulholland@archbalt.org or call 410-747-0131

OFFICE OF FAITH FORMATION

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

4th Grade Catechist and Rel. Ed. Aide needed immediately! Due to the large number of 4th graders at the Monday, 6:30 pm session, we must divide the class into two classes. A teacher and aide is needed as soon as possible to alleviate this situation. Please call Judy Gruel, 410-747-0131, or email jgruel@archbalt.org Please help so God's Word can more effectively be taught to our parish children.

Pre-K Religious Ed and Nursery: There will be no Pre-K Rel. Ed., Sunday Kindergarten, or Nursery, December 27th through January 10th. All families are invited to attend our monthly Children's Liturgy at the 9:00 am Mass on Sunday, January 10th. Classes will resume Sunday, January 17th.

Elementary Religious Ed. There will be no Elementary Rel. Ed. classes on Mon., Dec. 21st or Tues., Dec. 22nd. Classes will resume on Mon., Jan. 4th and Tues., Jan. 5th. The Office of Faith Formation staff wishes all catechists and Rel. Ed. families a very blessed and Merry Christmas!

The **MIDDLE SCHOOL ADVENT PARTY**, which was cancelled due to snow, has been re-scheduled! **MIDDLE SCHOOL EPIPHANY PARTY** will take place on Saturday, January 2nd, 7:00-9:00 pm in Harrison Hall. Come for our Dodgeball Tournament, Gingerbread House Making Contest, and more! Email Kristen to sign up, just so she has a rough head-count. Feel free to bring friends. Kfisher_olph@yahoo.com

Congratulations to Teams St. Hildegard, Ignatius, and Blessed Kateri at IMPACT for winning the Almighty Scoreboard Challenge! Our final night for this session of IMPACT: Sacraments is Sunday, December 20th.

It's that time of the year to sign up for **MOUNT 2009!** Spend Valentines Weekend with the true love of your life - **Jesus!** Contact Erin to register - spots are limited so act FAST! Erincooneyolph@yahoo.com

ABLAZE is still every TUESDAY night for December from 6:30 - 8:00 - all high schoolers are invited to worship, pray, and fellowship with friends for at this 90 minute retreat to keep the fire in your heart blazing! Dr. John "Molar" Mohler will be taking over for Erin while she's on her honeymoon, so you'll still have the chance to worship at ABLAZE!

Fresh Start!! A new year is a great time to strive for excellence in your marriage. Couples who use *Natural Family Planning* have a less than 5% divorce rate. Find out what the secret is at a Natural Family Planning course offered for engaged and married couples at Our Lady of Perpetual Help starting January 9, 2010. For more information, contact Mark & Kathy Schmidt 410-747-5611; mak.schmidt@gmail.com or to register go to www.ccli.org

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

John Austraw	Janet Feldman	Nathan Niessner
Paul Bagley	Jayne Fleischer	Mary Joyce O'Neill
John L Baker	Richard Flynn	Brenda Pelton
Mary Barber	Carol Freese	Larry Putgenter, Sr.
Lucy Bodner	Shawna Giuffrida	Rosemarie Rippel
Janet Brigoli	Will Houck	Maureen Roche
Diane Buckley	Mary Grace Howard	Mary Ann Sharp
Helene Cadman	Francis Hubbard	Debbie Shipley
Jennifer Campbell	Chuck Hutzell	Jack Simpson
Rose Centineo	Michelle Janson	Ardelia Smith
Betty Clausen	Ally Jarkiewicz	Julia Smith
Kaelynn Collazo	Jack Kelly	Bill Snyder
Daniel Couvillion	Lauren Kelly	Rosemary Snyder
MaryJo DeFillipo	John F. Klosek	Mary Stevens
Michele DeLean	Josephine Lucas	Lauretta Vaccarino
Patricia Donadio	Fred Lourenso	Ed Ward
Mike Doshim	Lucy McKenna	Edna Walker
Warren Drell, Jr	Sandy Miller	Libby Weller
Doris Eustis	Joseph Murray	Kyla Zeilinger
	Robert Myers	

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



Do you know someone who is hurting from the pain of abortion?

There is **HOPE & HEALING** for those who are suffering the after-effects of abortion trauma

All communication is strictly confidential.
Counseling – Spiritual Support- Rachel's Vineyard Retreats
The next Rachel's Vineyard Retreat is

January 29-31, 2010

410-625-8491 or 1-800-286-4224
Or email: projectrachel@archbalt.org
www.project-rachel.net (local website)
www.rachelsvineyard.org (national website)

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

We are writing to you today to ask for your assistance in helping the US soldiers deployed to hostile areas. We are a coalition of student groups at Stevenson University, in an effort to collect and send care packages to our troops deployed in the Middle East. We are asking for donations from area business to fill the care packages that we will pack up and send overseas. We also greatly need and appreciate any monetary donations to help with the high cost of shipping these items. All donations will be used for the sole purpose and benefit of sending care packages to the troops.

The items our men and women in Afghanistan have especially requested include toiletries, individually-wrapped non-perishables, powdered drink mixes, stationary, DVDs and electronic games (new or used), books, batteries, vitamins, gum, heat wraps, and other necessities and small comforts of home. We also greatly need monetary donations, as shipping the packages overseas is very expensive. We are planning to include pictures of home, drawings for the troops from local schools, and hand-written letters as well.

Checks should be made out to Stevenson University. All donations can be sent to Stevenson University Student Activities, 100 Campus Circle, Owings Mills, MD 21117.

Our goal is to show these brave men and women that we appreciate them risking their lives day after day to ensure our freedom. It is important that they know we are thinking of them, and your help in this project is a significant factor in its success.

Sincerely,
Kristin O'Neill



BEANS & BREAD NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

At Beans & Bread Center, we try to meet the many needs of the hungry and homeless in Baltimore city. We currently are looking for volunteers to help feed approximately 300 persons daily on

12/24/09, 12/29/09, 12/31/09, 1/5/10 and 1/7/10.

Contact Erin Shutt at 410-732-1852 ext. 111 or erin.shutt@vincentbaltimore.org if you are interested in volunteering.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND COMPUTER TEACHERS NEEDED

St. Thomas Aquinas School has immediate openings for teachers in the following content areas:

Physical Education—Thursdays, Pre-K to 3rd Grade; Fridays, Grades 4 to 8; 8:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m. both days. Computer Technology—Wednesdays, Grades 6 to 8; 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. St. Thomas Aquinas School is located in the Hampden area of the city at 3710 Roland Avenue (21211). If interested, please contact Sr. Marie Rose Gustatus, SSND, at 410-889-4618.

What have you done for your marriage today?

www.foryourmarriage.org

Any enduring relationship involves sacrifice and the cross. What has my spouse sacrificed for me (time, career, hobbies, having his/her own way, where we live)? Thank your spouse.