

North American Martyrs Parish

Two Churches ~ One Community ~ A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust
September 25, 2011, Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

North American Martyrs is a vibrant parish, built on multi-generational and cultural traditions blended through the grace of the Holy Spirit. Reflecting the unconditional mercy of Jesus Christ, we as a faith community sharing God's love with all people, enthusiastically reach out to embrace everyone, especially the poor, broken, suffering and lost. We draw our strength through prayer, listening to and acting upon God's Word and celebrating the Eucharist, to foster a closer relationship with Christ as humble and faithful members of His Universal Church.



North American Martyrs Church
 2526 Haymaker Rd • Monroeville, PA • 15146
 412-373-0330

Rev. Joseph G. Luisi, Pastor
 office@namcatholicchurch.org



St. Michael Church
 740 Wall Ave • Pitcairn, PA • 15140
 412-373-2610

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil4:00 PM
 Sundays8:00 AM, 11:00 AM
 Children's Liturgy of the Word at 11:00 AM Mass
Weekday:
 Monday, Wednesday & Friday8:00 AM

STAFF

Mr. Richard M. Tucek, Deacon, Ext. 4
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Mrs. Melissa Swift, Music Director
 swift.melissa@gmail.com
Mrs. Suzanne Evanchak, School Secretary
 evanchak@namschool.org

www.namcatholicchurch.org • www.namschool.org
 Office Hours Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM
 Diocesan Victim Assistance Hotline 1-888-808-1235

MASS SCHEDULE

Sundays9:30 AM
 Tuesday & Thursday8:00 AM
 St. Anthony Novena begins 13 Tuesdays before June 13th

Pastor412-373-0330 X6
Office/Rectory (NAM)412-373-0330 X4
Office/Rectory (St. Michael)412-373-2610
Business Manager412-373-0330 X5
School412 373-0889
School Advancement Office412-373-0330 X9
School Fax412-349-0175
Religious Education412-349-0942
Youth Ministry412-373-0330 X8
Office Fax, (NAM)412-380-1306
Office Fax, (St. Michael)412-373-2031

SACRAMENTS (AT BOTH CHURCHES)

Rite of Reconciliation: 12:00-12:45 PM: At Saint Michael Church the second Saturday of the month. All other Saturdays confessions will be at NAM.
Baptisms: By appointment only. Second Sundays during 11:00 Mass and fourth Sundays after 11:00 Mass at NAM. Baptisms at St. Michael Church will be on the third Sunday of the month during the 9:30 Mass. A Pre-Baptism Seminar is required for first-time parents. Call Charlotte to make arrangements.
Marriages: Arrangements must be made at least six months in advance. Call Fr. Joe Luisi to make arrangements.



RESPECT LIFE SUNDAY, BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS, COMMUNAL ANOINTING MASS

Respect Life Sunday

Next weekend all the Catholic Churches in the United States will celebrate Respect Life Sunday. There is an insert in today's bulletin that speaks directly to two respect life issues: contraception and sterilization. Please read today's insert which involves a case of discrimination against the Catholic Church and an unwanted intrusion of the government upon our First Amendment Right of Separation of the Church and the State.

As a reminder, The Catechism of the Catholic Church states in #2370: "Periodic continence, that is, the methods of birth regulation based on self-observation and the use of infertile periods, is in conformity with the objective criteria of morality. These methods respect the bodies of the spouses, encourage tenderness between them, and favor the education of an authentic freedom. In contrast, "every action which, whether in anticipation of the conjugal act, or in its accomplishment, or in the development of its natural consequences, proposes, whether as an end or as a means, to render procreation impossible" is intrinsically evil:

Thus the innate language that expresses the total reciprocal self-giving of husband and wife is overlaid, through contraception, by an objectively contradictory language, namely, that of not giving oneself totally to the other. This leads not only to a positive refusal to be open to life but also to a falsification of the inner truth of conjugal love, which is called upon to give itself in personal totality. . . The difference, both anthropological and moral, between contraception and recourse to the rhythm of the cycle. . . involves in the final analysis two irreconcilable concepts of the human person and of human sexuality.

Similarly, sterilization whether it be a vasectomy or tubal ligation is against the teaching of the Catholic Church. Parents do, of course, have the right to regulate how many children they would like to have. The question becomes *how* does one do that? No one should 'play God' by deciding that they want only a certain number of children then be sterilized. What if one of those children dies pre-maturely and you want to have another child? (It may be too late if you're already sterilized unless you go through a costly procedure to possibly reverse a vasectomy). Similarly, what if you didn't *plan* to have three kids (but only two) yet you had a third child. Your older two children became adults and live in another state and your youngest is local and cares for you and your spouse as you get older. If you were sterilized, you never would have the blessing of your third child. The point is, that a couple can regulate the size of their family through Natural Family Planning which is 95% effective. (This is not the rhythm method.) Ultimately, our children belong to God. We are entrusted with their care until they are 18, until they become adults. God is the author of life and life issues are shrouded in mystery. No one has the right to **demand** a child.

Children are gifts from God. There are a limited number of ways, acceptable by the Catholic Church, that medical science can assist couples to become fertile. I recommend that infertile couples (1 out of 6 couples) look into these options as well as considering adoption. They could also volunteer in the Big Brother/Big Sister Program if they are denied being adoptive parents.

Blessing of the Animals

Something that I have done for years throughout my priesthood is the yearly blessing of animals which I really enjoy. It turns out that North American Martyrs Parish had the same tradition with Fr. Tom Lewandowski. Typically the blessing is on or around the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, October 4, which this year falls on a Tuesday. Knowing how busy most folks are on a week night, I think that the best time for the blessing of animals is the Saturday closest to October 4. For that reason, the Blessing of Animals will take place at North American Martyrs Church parking lot (right outside the main doors) on Saturday, October 1 at 5:30 pm. This is right after the 4:00 Mass and right before Bingo. This year, Deacon Rick will have the honors of blessing your pets.

Communal Anointing Mass

The annual Communal Anointing Mass will be on Sunday, October 9 at 1:00 pm at North American Martyrs Church. This will be followed by a luncheon at 2:30 pm at DeLuca Hall sponsored by our Ladies of Charity. Any person who has a **notable** illness egs arthritis, heart condition, depression, cancer, knee surgery, is eligible to be anointed. This also includes the "frail elderly" who may not have any particular medical condition but who are getting weak. It does not include any child below the age of reason (7 or 8 years old) and does not include anyone who has the common cold which is not considered a notable illness.

Please contact North American Martyrs Church to notify our secretary whether you can attend the Mass and Luncheon or not. Wheelchair-bound persons and persons with walkers are welcome to attend.

Fr. Joe

ADVOCATES FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

In recent weeks several parishioners have asked, "What are the responsibilities of the Ministry of Persons \with Disabilities." The following statement may help to bring a full and better understanding. Parish advocates are trained by the Diocese Department under the Secretariat for Catholic Education. The program's focus is on outreach to people who have one or any combination of the following disabilities: Cognitive, ...Continued on Page 4

MEETINGS

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY will meet Wednesday, **October 5** at 7:00 PM in the Conference Room.

WOMEN'S GUILD

The Women's Guild will begin the year of 2011-2012 with a first meeting on Tuesday, **October 4** at 7:00 PM in DeLuca Hall. All women of the parish are cordially invited to a "Bring A Dish Dinner."

MASS BOOK OPENS

The Mass Book for 2012 will open on Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday, **October 4-6**. You may come in person to NAM from 10:00 AM-12:00 Noon on Tuesday and 2:00-4:00 PM on Thursday, or you may come to the vestibule at St. Michael on Wednesday from 10:00 AM-12:00 PM. After Thursday, you may phone for Masses to be said at either church at 412-373-0330 X4. The guidelines will be similar to last year, that is, two Masses may be said during the year for the same intention, only one of them on Saturday or Sunday. If there are additional Masses taken for that intention, it is possible that some would be sent to retired priests or mission priests who are in need of Mass Intentions.

ALTAR ROSARY ENROLLMENT CAMPAIGN

The Altar Rosary Annual Enrollment Campaign will be held during the month of October. Campaign letters will be mailed out next week. You may return your enrollment envelope in the regular collection basket or drop them off at the Rectory Office. We thank you for your continued support of this effort.

MONTH OF THE ROSARY

October is designated as the Month of the Rosary, and the Rosary is usually recited in our church after the morning Masses. If you cannot attend Mass during the week, try to make time to recite the Rosary daily along with the members of your family or come to Sunday Mass a half hour early when a member of the Women's Guild and Christian Mothers or the Holy Name Society will be present to lead the prayer.

This week's Sanctuary Candle at North American Martyrs burns in memory of Alvin S. & Dorothy F. Ellsworth, requested by Bonnie Fisher.



Please feel free to call or stop in to make arrangements for the Sanctuary Candle for your loved one.

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT de PAUL

Help your neighbors in need one step at a time. "The Good Samaritan 10,000 Step Walk", benefiting the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, will be held during the month of October. Register after Masses this weekend, **September 24 & 25** to receive a pedometer to measure your steps. You choose the days, times, and places to walk with family, friends or co-workers. You will also receive Sponsor Cards that when purchased provide a chance to win three fantastic prizes. After you record your 10,000 steps, about 5 miles, you will turn in your pedometer and sponsor money with completed cards to a member of the Society or to the Parish Office. There will be T-shirts and other incentives for walkers. The majority of the funds raised will remain with your local SVdP conference in your community to help people this winter with utilities and other emergency needs. Thank you for your participation.

BINGO!

Fall is on it's way, and so is our next **Bingo Night!** Come out and enjoy the fun on **Saturday, October 1**. This event benefits NAM School. Tickets to the Bingo Night will be sold after all Masses at NAM this weekend, **September 24-25**. Your \$20 ticket includes 6 cards for all 14 regular Bingo games, including the **\$500 jackpot game**. Early Birds, Specials, extra Bingo Cards and Pull-Tab Games will also be available for purchase, as will hot foods, snacks and desserts. If you have any questions, please call Laura Nicolazzo at 412-856-8074.

WEDDING BANNS

III. Timothy Banks & Julie Buffington



Our parish rejoices in the children who have received new life in Christ through the Sacrament of Baptism: Jordan Renee & Katherine Jane Caliri, children of Paul & Nicole and Nathan Bendetto Owoc, son of Christopher & Abbey.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS PENNY COLLECTION

The Knights of Columbus will be at North American Martyrs Parish after all Masses next weekend, **October 1 & 2** for their annual Penny Collection which benefits exceptional children with special needs at McGuire Home and St. Anthony's school program. Thank you for your generosity.

REST IN PEACE

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Robert Slepky, Josephine Damask & Stephen Yanichko, our parishioners, who were buried from here this past week.

SCHOOL NEWS

BAND CLASSES WILL CONTINUE to be held every Monday throughout the school year.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26: 1) **All fall fund raiser orders** are due. Thank you for your support of this event. 2) **There will be a Campaign** for NAM meeting at 6:30 PM in the school library. 3) **A meeting** will be held for all parents and guardians of girls in our kindergarten and/or first grade who might be interested in becoming a Daisy Girl Scout. Please plan on meeting in DeLuca Hall from 6:30-7:30 PM.

INDIVIDUAL SCHOOL PICTURES will be taken on Tuesday, **September 27** for our three-year old preschool students, kindergarten-sixth grade students, and teachers.

MARKET DAY PICK-UP is Wednesday, **September 28** in DeLuca Hall from 4:45-5:15 PM.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29: 1) **The Kidstuff Coupon Book Fund Raiser** begins. If you are interested in purchasing this discount coupon book, please contact one of our school families or the school office. We appreciate your support of this fund raiser. 2) **Hoagies will be delivered.** Please plan to pick them up by the kindergarten doors between 3:00-6:00 PM.

YOU ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US for Mass on Friday, **September 30.** Mrs. Weisser and our sixth graders are helping to plan our liturgy.

B-I-N-G-O!!!!!! That is the word we want to hear you yell on Saturday, **October 1.** Our doors in DeLuca Hall will open at 6:00 PM for the fun to begin. Please contact Mrs. Laura Nicolazzo at 412-856-8074 for tickets and further information.

CONGRATULATIONS to Father Joe, our wonderful priest, as he celebrates his two year anniversary as pastor of North American Martyrs Parish on Saturday, **October 1.** Can you believe how fast the time has flown since his appointment? May the good Lord bless him as he continues his time here with all of us.

OAKLAND CATHOLIC VISITATION

On Friday, **September 30,** Oakland Catholic will hold its annual 8th grade visitation day from 9:30 AM-1:30 PM. This day is designed to introduce students to Oakland Catholic and high school life and is for 8th grade students only. Lunch will be provided. Please call 412-682-6633 x253 to make a reservation.

YOUTH GROUP & YOUNG ADULT NEWS

LAUREN GATES, 412-445-6570 OR youthmin@stbrnadet.org

SR HI YOUTH GROUP will meet Monday, September 26 at 7:30-9:00 PM in Biedenbach Hall at St. Bernadette.

JR HI YOUTH GROUP will meet Tuesday, September 27 at 7:30-9:00 PM in DeLuca Hall at NAM.

YOUNG ADULTS: Join our Facebook group and follow our events at "Monroeville Young Adult Group." Our next Theology on Tap will be held Thursday, October 13 at 7:00 PM at the Rivertowne Pourhouse. Join us for food, fellowship, fun, and faith!! Our speaker will be announced next week.

"How you think when you lose determines how long it will be until you win." ~ G.K. Chesterton

Registrations for CCD for the 2011-2012 school year have been mailed. If you have not received yours, contact the Religious Education Office at 724-986-2557 and leave your name and address. Classes began Wednesday, September 21.

THANK YOU!

The Flea Market Committee would like to thank all the parents, parishioners, teachers and students that helped to make the event a huge success. A special thanks to Mike and Tess Farren, John Kearns & Mrs. Fleet for their generous help. It was a fun-filled, very profitable weekend for the school, with over \$8,000 raised...Praise the Lord!

BLOOD PROGRAM NEWS

Now through **September 30,** the North American Martyrs/St. Michael/St. Bernadette churches will be sponsoring a Virtual Blood Drive at the Central Blood Bank Community Donor Center in the Corporate Office Park, Building II, behind the Miracle Mile Shopping Center. Donor Center hours are Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday, 12:00-7:00 PM, and Friday & Saturday from 7:30 AM-2:30 PM. This blood drive is to honor all those who lost their lives 10 years ago. For all donors who have Rh-negative blood type (A-, O-, B-, AB-), Central Blood Bank will make a \$15 donation to the Flight 93 National Memorial Fund. To schedule your life-saving appointment, please call 1-866-366-6771. For other comments, contact Chuck Summerville, Coordinator at 412-372-4332 or csummervil@gmail.com.

Continued from Page 2.....Hearing Loss/Deafness, Physical, Vision Loss/Blindness. The Goal of the program is that Persons with disabilities may have FULL PARTICIPATION IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH, or INCLUSION for all parishioners in the life of the Mass and the Church, (liturgical, educational and social). We will strive to provide training, information and support services on a continuing basis. Your parish advocates are Yvonne Dimuzio, Marilyn Colosmo and committee members are Carol Koch, Lenny Surniak, Allison Lautman and Linda Ciccarelli. "Let us join together in Christ in breaking down those walls which separate us, one from another."

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Mon: Ezr 1:1-6; Lk 8:16-18
Tue: Ezr 6:7-8, 12b, 14-20; Lk 8:19-21
Wed: Eph 4:1-7, 11-13; Mt 9:9-13
Thu: Hg 1:1-8; Lk 9:7-9
Fri: Hg 2:1-9; Lk 9:18-22
Sat: Zec 2:5-9, 14-15a; Lk 9:43b-45
Sun: Ez 18:25-28; Ps 25; Phil 2:1-11[1-5]; Mt 21:28-3



MASS INTENTIONS

- Sunday, September 25 Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 AM People of the Parish
9:30 AM St. Michael, Bob Cepec-Helen Klassen
11:00 AM Loretta Sutcliff-Joyce & Jerry Kennedy
Monday, September 26
8:00 AM Robert Jessup-Family
Tuesday, September 27 St. Vincent de Paul
8:00 AM St. Michael, Ann & Sam Santangelo-Sam, Linda & Bill Santangelo
Wednesday, September 28
8:00 AM Michael Hammond-Joe & Diane Pysnik
Thursday, September 29 Sts. Michael, Gabriel & Raphael
8:00 AM St. Michael, Lionel T. Tay-Family
Friday, September 30 St. Jerome
9:00 AM Rege Hanlon-Shirley
Saturday, October 1 St. Therese of the Child Jesus
12:00 PM Confessions/NAM
2:00 PM Wedding-Timothy Banks & Julie Buffington
4:00 PM Inez Evans-Flo Litzinger & Edith Sekerka
Sunday, October 2 Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 AM Carmine & Estella Trenga-Daughter Doreen
9:30 AM St. Michael, People of the Parish
11:00 AM 20th Wedding Anniversary-Michele & Greg George

We reserve the right to make unavoidable changes in the Mass schedule.

Articles for the October 9th bulletin must be submitted to the Rectory Office by this Tuesday, September 27. You may submit to office@namcatholicchurch.org

Mass for the Living and Deceased Members of N.A.M.'s Altar Rosary Society is said at our twin parish, St. Paul's Catholic Church in Crownpoint, New Mexico, on the first Monday of each month.

PLEASE DO NOT USE STAPLES OR TAPE ON YOUR ENVELOPES. THANK YOU!

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Includes items like 'September 18, 2011 Wkly Offertory Rec'd' for \$7,453 and '2011/12 Fiscal Year Budget' for \$509,080.

CALENDAR LOTTERY WINNERS
St. Michael: J. Domnick #632, D. Pizzuto #617, L. Galia #903, V. Grogan #352, J. Fassano #777, K. Bealko #129.
NAM: M. Laughlin #777, J. Volker #352, W. Koch #617, S. Sonsini #632.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH



In need of prayer

Martha Smeltz, James Bauccio, Joe Condrasky, Andy DeBone, Theresa Ventresco, Enza Bauccio, Josie Fasano, Sophie Stahl, Homer Sheridan, Pat Emmick, Victor Caruso, Richard Colaric, Rachel Edwards, Jean Perazzelli, Tina Bianchi, Jamison Byrne, Andrea Rosso, Karen Gallagher, Gert Moadlo, Dean'Na Pizzuto, Cori Poole, Carmel Seibert, Jamie O'Grady, Florine Mikolaczyk, Nancy Yothers, Katie Rizzo, Beverly King, Charles Dial, Eileen Summers, Violet Palatas, Peggy McKenna & Barbara Busch.

THE SECOND COLLECTION AT ST. MICHAEL NEXT WEEK IS FOR THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN.

MEN'S RETREAT

Please join us for a prayerful and peaceful Men's Retreat weekend at St Paul of the Cross Retreat Center, a sacred place of rest and spiritual refreshment, October 14-16. Contact Dale Connelly at 412 607 4011. Come experience rest, relaxation, opportunity for prayer, quiet time, fellowship and a renewed awareness of Christ. This retreat may help you fulfill your spiritual quest in seeking and living the Gospel of Jesus in a deeper and more personal manner.

If you know someone who is ill and who would like their name published in the bulletin, please have them contact Linda Freytag at 412-856-7321 or at jimlyn2@verizon.net no later than Tuesday evening.

EMERGENCY FOOD, CLOTHING & MORE
IN MONROEVILLE, TURTLE CREEK & PITCAIRN
ST. VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY CAN HELP
CALL 412-372-8149

If you or someone you know would benefit from receiving a Prayer Shawl, please submit their name for consideration to Mary Harrill at 412-372-3181 or at meh227@aol.com.

WELCOME TO NORTH AMERICAN MARTYRS PARISH
In order that we may serve your needs better, please fill out this form, check any interests and drop it in the collection basket, mail or bring to the Rectory/Office. Thank you.
Name
Address
Phone (Home) () (Work) ()
New Parishioner
Moving out of Parish
Returning to Parish
Entering Hospital
Returning Catholic
Interest in Persons w/Disabilities
Interest in Holy Name Soc.
Interest in Altar Rosary Soc.
Interest in Jr High Youth Group
Interest in Respect Life
Interest in Senior Group
New Address or Phone
School information
Interest in Catholicism/RCIA
Shut in
Interest in Women's Guild
Interest in St. Vincent dePaul
Interest in Ladies of Charity
Interest in Stitching Angels
Interest in HS Youth Group
Interest in Choir
Interest in Funeral Choir