

# PARISH UPDATE

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## NEWS & NOTES

### June Birthdays

- 3..... Joseph Martin
- 6..... Pat Adams
- 6..... Stacey Jay
- 9..... Laurie Klym
- 20..... David Young
- 26..... Brenda Cischke
- 26..... John Dancek
- 28..... Barbara Lintelman

### June Anniversaries

- 3..... Michael and Amy Klym
- 19..... Warren and Doris Neiger
- 20..... Paul and Dorothy Solyan

### Congratulations & Best Wishes

To Jason and Brenda Cischke on their marriage.

### Congratulations

To Stacey and Kevin Jay on the birth of their son Noah Ryan born on May 17, weighing 6lbs 10ozs and 19 inches long.

### Our Deepest Sympathy

To Walt Perry and family on the recent death of his step father Tom Mack.

### Our Deepest Sympathy

To Bob Schoyer and family on the recent death of wife, mother, and friend Joanne. She will be dearly missed.

Arrangements for visitation and memorial service for Joanne Schoyer: Visitation: Thursday, June 8, from 7-9 p.m. and Friday, June 9, from 2-4 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. at Brandt Funeral Home, 1032 Perry Hwy. Memorial Service on Saturday, June 10 at 10:00 a.m. at The Church of Our Saviour.

### Golf Outing

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Church of Our Saviour golf outing will be held (rain or shine) at 1 PM at Pheasant Ridge on June 4. All golfers and friends are welcome. Dinner afterward is open to anyone who wants to hear the stories. Contact Jim Wiggins for info.

### DaVinci and Dessert

On June 14, 2006 you are invited to come and discuss the key issues raised by best-selling book The DaVinci Code and the recently released movie based on the book. Dessert served at 7:00 p.m. Come and bring your questions!

### Parish Update

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### Message From the Rector:

## Lord, Make Me Grateful (but don't make it hurt)

Dear Friends,

Recently I used a line on my son Wesley that I thought I'd never use. Maybe you remember similar lines from your parents: "Eat those peas, there are starving children in Africa." My line, in response to his complaint about his awful life was, "Do you realize you have a better life than 99 percent of the kids in the world?" Statistically that's true, of course, of all suburban American kids that eat three meals a day, wear nice clothes, ride around in cars, take vacations, and watch (too much) TV. But as the words came out of my mouth I realized they probably sounded as dumb as the "eat your peas" argument. Until the grateful logic moves from the mind to the heart it's just words, it doesn't register. But when gratitude settles in the heart, mundane things take on a whole new meaning; getting it there, though, like all true changes of the heart, is often painful, and only comes about by the grace of God.

Let's face it, most of us, as the song says, "don't know what we've got 'till it's gone." For instance, how many of us as young kids woke up on a bright summer day and thought about how grateful we were for our peppy bodies and carefree days? Actually, most of us probably complained that we were bored. Now that we're weak, flabby, and have jobs we're much more

grateful for times of recreation or just pain free walks around the block. "Oh," we say, "how grateful I would be to have that body and free time again." But why weren't we grateful then? Mainly for two reasons: One, we didn't know the alternative (ie. life without all we had); and two, our hearts, like all human hearts were (and are) basically self-seeking and helplessly unsatisfied. We need a change.

When Wes and Maddie were infants so many parents would say, "Love them now because before you know it they'll be all grown up." To be honest, for years it didn't sink in.

Life was stressful, personal time was rare, and the selfish heart wanted its own way. In recent years, though, as God has revealed the true depravity of my heart and allowed me the grace to acknowledge the truth and receive his forgiveness, something amazing has happened. Love for our children has increased more than I ever thought possible. I want to savor every moment I can.

The other day I was riding the Harley (yes I am in a mid-life crisis) back from the driver's test that I had just failed due to a technicality (I moved the bike from the testing center parking space without my helmet on). Ok, it was stupid. The guy wouldn't even give me the test. I had broken the law. On the way home on a nice summer day as I grumbled and beat

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## Calendar of Events

### WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

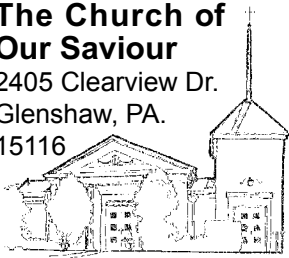
- Sunday** ..... 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I  
9:15 a.m. Adult Education  
10:00 a.m. Contemporary Music Practice  
10:30 a.m. Family Service & Children's Ministries
- Monday** ..... 2:00 p. m. Bereavement Group the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday
- Tuesday** ..... 6:00 p.m. Intercessory Prayer Time
- Wednesdays** ..... 12:00 noon Healing Service and Lunch
- Saturdays** ..... 7:30 a.m. Men's Group the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>

### SCHEDULE FOR JUNE

- Sunday, June 4 ..... Golf Outing at Pheasant Ridge 1:00 p.m.
- Saturday, June 10 ..... Tim Ernst's graduation party
- Monday, June 12 ..... Vestry meeting 7:00 p.m.
- Saturday, June 24 ..... Relay for Life
- Sunday, June 25 ..... Bishop's visit

## The Church of Our Saviour

2405 Clearview Dr.  
Glenshaw, PA.  
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### For More Information:

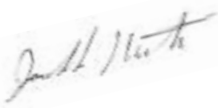
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## Rector's Message (continued)

myself up, I noticed a new "Steak n Shake" hamburger place that I didn't know even existed in Pittsburgh. Steak n Shake was my favorite lunch spot growing up in Tampa where my dad and I ate regularly. It was lunch time so I decided to pull in.

Everything was the same: The black and white floor tile, the red and black upholstery, and the thick white plates. I ordered what I always ordered: the single platter with French fries and the little brown jar of baked beans. Just like the old days. The only difference was I wasn't twenty years old and dad wasn't there. I reminisced, and cried right there in the restaurant. Why wasn't I more grateful then? Simple, because I didn't know the alternative and I needed a change of heart. This summer, when we vacation in Tampa and visit mom and dad we're all going to Steak n Shake; and I guarantee you there will be at least one person who by the grace of God will be more grateful for the single platter than ever before. May we all acknowledge our self-seeking hearts and by God's grace be grateful for his many blessings, especially for the gift of his Son, Jesus Christ.

In Christ alone,  
Joseph



## Bike Blessing a Great Ride

The first ever Church of Our Saviour Bike Blessing and Ride to Moraine State Park was a blast. Seven bikes got blessed and motored by back roads to the park to join the rest of the crowd for a sunny picnic. Riders included: Dave and Janice Ernst, Joseph and Heidi Martin, Scott Ross, Bob and Lynn Bouterse, Tom Carter, Doug Carter, and their friend AJ. Many thanks to officer Carl Funtal who escorted the riders safely out of town.



## Summer at Our Saviour

*Summer slow-down is not our style at the Church of Our Saviour. We are continuing the great neighborhood and community family events from last year:*

**Relay for Life** – On June 24, 2006, we will once again be fielding a team at the Shaler Area Middle School on Mt. Royal Blvd. for the American Cancer Society's annual Relay for Life. Besides raising money to help those in our area who are battling cancer, we will also be offering our prayers and presence to stand with the people of our community in their suffering.

**Bishop's Visit** – Bishop Henry Scriven will be with us on Sunday, June 25 at our 10:00 a.m. service. Any who wish to be confirmed or received into the Church at that time should speak to Fr. Joseph. Classes will be held on June 11 and 18.

**ENK (Every Neighborhood Kid)** – On July 24-28, we will once again have a team from Christ Church, Grove Farm present with us to conduct the ENK vacation Bible school. This event was a big hit with parents and kids in the neighborhood last year and we are praying for even more success this year.

**Family Fun Fest** – August 12, 2006 is the date for this year's community fest with food, crafts, and games and prizes for kids and adults. Once again we will hold a flea market in conjunction with the festival. Rumor has it that the popular dunk tank will be back! Who will be the first to get the rector soaked this year?



Your help will be appreciated where possible with any of these events. It is your generous, servant hearts that made for a successful summer last year. The community has been very appreciative of all that we do. May God grant us another successful summer as we continue our mission to "serve people in Jesus' name." Amen.

## Spotlight on Missions

*This will be the first of a series of articles to highlight for you the work of our mission partners (those we support financially and with our prayers).*

Margarita Grachen should be familiar to all of you from the Prayers of the People each Sunday, even if you did not get a chance to meet her on one of her visits here with us in 2003 and 2004. She is a missionary with the South American Missionary Society (SAMS) which is based in Ambridge.

Margarita and her two adopted children Hannah and Gabriella having been living in Honduras for the past 3 years and are coming back to the states this summer for Margarita to be on educational furlough, taking mission-related classes at Trinity Episcopal School for Ministry in Ambridge.

Margarita is a native of Puerto Rico who came to the US to attend college and pursue her dream of becoming a prima ballerina. After college she got married and instead of becoming a ballerina, she became a banker, ending up as an Assistant Vice President in PNC's Treasury Management Department. After the break up of her marriage, she began attending the Alpha course at St. Stephen's Church in Sewickley. There she accepted Christ as her Lord and Savior and continued in the discipleship program of adult ed at St. Stephen's.

During one of her courses, she and the others in the class were asked to go off and reflect on the question, "If there were no restrictions or barriers, what would you most like to do for God?" She found herself, to her own amazement, answering that she would like to start an orphanage in Central

America! Her rector's wife put her in touch with SAMS and she began to explore the possibility of doing just that.

She accepted a call to go to Honduras, even though the bishop there told her that his first priority for her would be to help with the administrative affairs of the diocese to get them on a solid base of financial practices. Secondly, he wanted her to use her financial acumen to begin a micro-enterprise development program to help poor women start small businesses.

Beginning an orphanage was to be her third priority. However, once she got to Honduras, the bishop changed his mind! So for most of the last three years she has been working on purchasing land and building a day-care center and orphanage in a



The day-care center is about to open just as Margarita finishes her first missionary term. With further training in missions, we can only imagine what she will accomplish on her next missionary tour of duty! One thing is certain; God knows what he has in