

Saint Nicholas Parish Newsletter

5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FEBRUARY 5, 2012

CONFIRMATION: PARENTS & STUDENTS "NIGHT OF REFLECTION" There will be a **MANDATORY** Meeting/Night of Reflection for all **parents & students** of the Confirmation Class **next Sunday, February 12 at 6:00 p.m.** in the Church & Community Room. Both parents are asked to please attend. **Please remember that the Confirmation name, sponsor cards and service papers are due at this meeting.**

CCD RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES Classes will resume this **Sunday, February 5** for our Pre-School through 8th Grade students.

SPONSORS FOR THE SACRAMENTS One of the very important traditions and practices of the Catholic faith is the role of Godparents at Baptism & Sponsors for Confirmation. It is an honor to be asked to accept this role to be a very special example for the child or young person. To serve as a sponsor it is required that a person be at least 16 years of age, have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Holy Eucharist, Confirmation and if married, be married according to the regulations for marriage as provided by the Roman Catholic Church. Also, the sponsor is to be a weekly participant in the Sunday Eucharist & actively strive to live out their own baptismal commitment to Christ. (cf. Code of Canon Law, c. 874). Each sponsor is required to obtain a "sponsor letter" from their parish indicating that they fulfill the above requirements.

BLESSING OF THROATS A general blessing of throats will be given at the end of all Liturgies this weekend (February 4-5). Individual Blessing of Throats will be offered for those who wish to remain after Mass.

CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT Thank you for your generous donations of \$1,130.70 to help fight poverty through last weekend's CCHD Collection.

RCIA: The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults is intended for those who wish to become Catholic and for baptized adult Catholics who have not received the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist. If you have any questions or for information about this process, please call our RCIA coordinator, Sr. Daria Bisulca, RSM, or one of the priests at the Rectory (823-7736).

ANNUAL "GERMAN NITE" The Saint Nicholas Holy Name Society will hold its 47th Annual "German Nite" (*Deutsche Nacht*) celebration on **Saturday, February 18, 2012.** Music will be provided from 7:30 to 10:30 by the very popular "**Walt Groller Orchestra**", from the Lehigh Valley. **Tickets are \$25.00 per person in advance and \$30.00 at the door and can be purchased at the rectory office or from active members of the Holy Name Society.** The doors will open at 6:00 p.m. The price of the ticket includes a German Style Buffet meal to be served from 6:15-7:15 p.m. and beverages throughout the evening. This is a non-smoking event. Make plans to join us for a great celebration!



SCOUT SUNDAY CELEBRATION

The annual Boy Scout Sunday celebration will be held **Sunday, February 5**, beginning with a Liturgy at 9:00 a.m. The Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts will fulfill the ministries for the Mass.



BAKE SALE Cub Scout Pack 43 is conducting a bake sale in the Church Community Room from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon this **Sunday, February 5.** Cookies, cakes and pies will be available for take-out or you can sit down and enjoy cake and coffee with your friends after Mass.

"ROAD TO EMMAUS" **DON'T MISS A WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY** to better understand how the Parables offer a Gospel in miniature, while at the same time they give shape, direction, and meaning to the Gospels in which they are found. As we live out the challenges of our everyday life, understanding the Parables helps us to deepen our relationship to God, remembering that the Parables were Jesus' favorite form of teaching. **EVERYONE IS INVITED** to come to the Rectory either **Wednesday, February 8** from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. OR **Thursday, February 9** from 10:45 to 11:45 a.m. Please don't hesitate to come even if this is the first time you attend the "Road to Emmaus." The facilitator is Judy Plummer, King's College faculty & member of our parish.

ALTAR & ROSARY SOCIETY The parish women's society will meet on **Monday, February 6** at 1:30 p.m. in the Community Room. All women of the parish are invited to become involved in our women's society.

HEAT COLLECTION The February envelope packet has an envelope to help with the Heating Expenses - any support you can give the parish for this expense will be appreciated.

HOSPITAL PATIENTS If someone in your family is hospitalized and you wish us to visit them, please give the hospital staff the name of the parish to which you belong when you register or please inform the rectory office at 823-7736.

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE Thank you to all who supported our Blood Collection last Sunday. 48 donors registered and we received 45 whole units of blood and 3 donors produced 6 double red cell donations.

2011 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS are available. Please call the rectory office at 823-7736 if you wish to have your statement sent to you.

NEW MINISTRY SCHEDULES, for February 4 through June 3, are available this weekend sacristy. Please pick up your copy.


NOMINATIONS for the PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL Forms to nominate parishioners for membership on the Council may be found near the Church entrances. We encourage all parishioners to help us select new candidates for our Pastoral Council. The Diocesan & Church regulations require that each parish have a Council. Please return Nominations Forms by February 26.

Eucharistic Celebrations

MONDAY FEBRUARY 6	6:30 For the Living & Deceased of the Altar & Rosary Society 8:00 Joseph L. Conrad, 30 th Day <i>Req. by Family</i>
TUESDAY FEBRUARY 7	6:30 Stephanie L. Ruminski <i>Req. by Bob Bevan</i> 8:00 Mr. & Mrs. Carl N. Frank & Rev. Richard Frank <i>Req. by Carl</i>
WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 8	6:30 Mary Zavaskas <i>Req. by Mr. & Mrs. Donald Bachman</i> 8:00 Deceased Members of the Stoiber Family <i>Req. by Family</i>
THURSDAY FEBRUARY 9	6:30 Palma Gagliarda <i>Req. by Dolores & John Corbino</i> 8:00 School Mass: Martin Anstett <i>Req. by John Durkes</i>
FRIDAY FEBRUARY 10	6:30 Jennie Hoffman <i>Req. by Mary Burkhardt</i> 8:00 James White, Anniversary <i>Req. by Regina White</i>
SATURDAY FEBRUARY 11	5:00 Donna Blaum, Anniversary <i>Req. by Mom & Dad</i>
SUNDAY FEBRUARY 12	7:30 For the Living & Deceased of the Parish 9:00 Anthony Cibello, Birthday <i>Req. by Patty, Anthony, Chris & Katie Cibello</i> 10:30 Peter Chupka, Anniversary <i>Req. by Family</i> 12:00 David Perdomo, Anniversary <i>Req. by Family</i>



ST. NICHOLAS - ST. MARY'S SCHOOL BAZAAR

 The Parent/Teachers Guild of our school will sponsor its annual Winter Bazaar on **Friday, February 10** in the school gym & cafeteria. The Bazaar is open to the public from **3:00-9:00 p.m.** Plan to join us for a great day featuring games, basket raffles, a tuition raffle, a gourmet bake sale and much, much more. Try our delicious food at the Bazaar for your supper!

Sanctuary Candle

February 4-10

CHURCH In Memory of Don Ruddy
Req. by Dorothy Ruddy



CONVENT CHAPEL In Memory of Donna Blaum, Anniv.
Req. by Mom & Dad

If you wish to request a Sanctuary Candle or the Bread and Wine Memorial, please call the Rectory Office - 823-7736.

“THE SPIRIT OF SAINT NICHOLAS” Thank you to all who helped us surpass our **Capital Funds Campaign** goal of \$750,000. I encourage those who have not yet made a pledge and friends of the parish to please prayerfully consider offering a pledge in the New Year. The needs continue to grow. **Pledges are payable over a fifty month period.**

PARISH FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP The weekend collection for January 28-29 was \$12,353.90.

REMEMBERING OUR PARISH We are very grateful to parish families who have designated St. Nicholas as a recipient of Memorial Donations for their deceased loved ones and to those who remembered the parish in their wills. Please consider remembering St. Nicholas Church when preparing your will. Thank You!

CHILDREN'S BULLETINS for our young members, ages 3-6 & 7-12, are available near the church entrances.

MOVING? If you have plans to move to a new address, please inform the rectory so that we can keep our computer files updated.

CONGRATULATIONS! THANK YOU! On behalf of St. Nicholas Parish and the Diocese of Scranton we thank our parishioners who enabled us to surpass our goal of \$50,583. The parish pledges amounted to \$50,692 which is \$109 over the goal. We are very grateful to the 336 families who made the Appeal a success. Pledges may still be made to the Appeal. Thank you for all you do for St. Nicholas Parish & the Diocese.

SECOND COLLECTION The Diocese's monthly collection for the **Care and Education of Priests** will be taken up this weekend, February 4-5.

BLESSED CANDLES for use in homes are available at the Church entrances. Donation is \$2.50 per box.

REMEMBERING OUR DECEASED Each week, in the Prayer of the Faithful, we pray for those of our parish, their relatives and friends who have died in the previous week. Please call the rectory if you have someone to be remembered.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION & PLANNING

Prior to setting a date for the wedding, couples are asked to contact the church. Couples planning to marry are asked to attend one of the Diocesan Marriage Preparation Programs (Pre-Canas) at least six to nine months before the intended date. *For info & an up-to-date schedule, go to: www.dioceseofscranton.org/marriagepreparation.*

REMINDERS OF PARISH ETIQUETTE: CELL PHONES, TEXTING & VIDEO GAMES

We encourage our adults and young people to refrain from using them in Church. In particular, we ask the help of the parents in monitoring this usage.

PLEASE BE CAREFUL & REMEMBER TO accompany your children to the rest rooms downstairs as a safety precaution and to lock your car doors and do not leave any valuables in your vehicle.

ST. NICHOLAS BINGO is held on Tuesday at 5:45 p.m. with over \$4,700 being offered in prizes. Magic # - \$336+; Bonanza - \$300/56.



PLEASE accompany your children to the rest rooms downstairs as a safety precaution; **turn off cell phones, video games and avoid texting during Mass.**

SECOND COLLECTION The monthly Diocesan collection for the Care and Education of Priests is taken up on the first Sunday of each month.

STUDENTS ENVELOPES Offertory Envelopes for our young people were distributed. If you wish to receive envelopes for your children, please call the rectory office at 823-7736.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for the W-B Free Medical Clinic. The Clinic is open on Tuesdays from 4:30-7:00 p.m. and on the 1st Wednesday from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Needed are – Doctors, Nurses, Nurse Practitioners, Physicians Assistants, Dentists & people to help do intakes & general duties at the Clinic. If you can help us, please call 825-8721 after 2:00 p.m. on Tuesdays or call 793-4361 and leave a message.

SENIOR SERVERS NEEDED A faithful band of adult women and men are prepared to serve parishioners' funeral masses as needed. New servers are always welcome. Training is provided (no experience necessary!) If you are interested in helping provide this satisfying Corporal Work of Mercy, please contact the rectory (823-7736) or call Pat McCormick at 655-6917.

WANTED Clean-used, and new, useable rosaries are needed. Requests for rosaries have increased over the past few months. It would be helpful if you could send in the rosaries you receive in the mail or ones you no longer use. Please send in **ONLY** rosaries. Take them to the rectory or leave them in the box near the elevator.

FOOD PANTRY Items needed are soups, meat in a can, sauce, tuna, peanut butter, jelly, mac & cheese. We appreciate all you do for the food pantry. **PLEASE NOTE:** When you donate food, please check the expiration dates, so we don't inadvertently pass along contaminated food.

ROSARY MAKERS *St. Michael the Archangel Rosary Makers* will meet at 6:00 p.m. in St. Nicholas Community Room on **Fridays**. All are welcome. For information, call Joan Ott at 822-6211.

**NOTICE REGARDING SEXUAL ABUSE
OF PERSON UNDER EIGHTEEN YEARS
OF AGE BY ORDAINED OR LAY
PERSONNEL OF THE DIOCESE OF
SCRANTON**

Such an act should be reported to the Diocese by calling the Victim Assistance Coordinator (570-344-5216) or the Chancellor (570-207-2216) or the Vicar for Priests (570-207-2269). Upon receiving a report of this kind, the Diocese of Scranton is committed to assisting victims or survivors of sexual abuse in their pursuit of emotional and spiritual well-being.


MASS ON CAMPUS The Office of Campus Interfaith at Wilkes University announced that Mass is celebrated on Sundays at 8 p.m. when school is in session. Questions? Call Caitlin Czeh at 408-5904 or e-mail caitlin.czeh@wilkes.edu.

PARKING LOT To help protect your vehicle, please lock your car doors and do not leave anything of value visible in your car.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION is held every Tuesday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in St. Nicholas Chapel on the lower level of our church. Come and let us adore our Eucharistic Lord and Savior. Help us keep the tradition **ALIVE!!!** Miraculous Medal Novena is at 4:30 p.m.

PARISH BINGO VOLUNTEERS Individuals interest in helping out, please call Msgr. Rauscher or Fr. John at 823-7736. The Bingo provides very important help to fund our parish programs.

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 5
5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Eucharistic Liturgies: 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 (Eng.), 12:00 (Spanish)
 Blessing of Throats after all Weekend Masses
 Scout Sunday Mass 9:00 Church
 Cub Scout Bake Sale 9:00-12:00 Comm. Room
 CCD Religious Education Classes 10:15-11:35 School



MONDAY FEBRUARY 6
 Altar & Rosary Meeting 1:30 Community Room
 Prayer Shawl Ministry 6:00 Community Room
 St. Nicholas Federal Credit Union 6:00-8:30 Convent

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 7
 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 8:30-4:30 Chapel
 Miraculous Medal Novena 4:30 Chapel
 Free Health Clinic 4:30-7:00 St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
 Bingo 5:45 Cafeteria
 Spanish Language Charismatic Prayer Group 7:00 Chapel

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 8
 District Commissioners Service Mtg. 5:45-7:15 Community Room
 District Committee Meeting 7:15-9:00 Community Room
 "Road to Emmaus" Reflection & Prayer 7:00-8:00 Rectory
 Choir Rehearsal 7:00 Choir Loft

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 9
 "Road to Emmaus" Reflection & Prayer 10:45-11:45 Rectory
 Cub Scouts Pack 43 Meeting 6:30 Cafeteria
 Scouts District Ecumenical Service 7:00 Church

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 10
 School Winter Bazaar 3:00-9:00 Auditorium & Cafeteria

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 11
 Confessions 4:00-4:45 Church
 Vigil Mass for Sunday 5:00 Church



SUNDAY FEBRUARY 12
6TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Eucharistic Liturgies: 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 (Eng.), 12:00 (Spanish)
 CCD Religious Education Classes 10:15-11:35 School
 Youth Meeting 7th & 8th Grade 2:30-3:30 Community Room
 Youth Meeting 9th-12th Grade 3:30-4:30 Community Room
 Confirmation Students Meeting 6:00 Community Room
 Confirmation Parents Meeting 6:00 Church

WORD OF LIFE Our society, which all too often questions the inestimable value of life, every life, needs you [young people with disabilities]: in a decisive way you help build the civilization of love. What is more, you play a leading role in that civilization. As sons and daughters of the Church, you offer the Lord your lives, with all their ups and downs, cooperating with him and somehow becoming "part of the treasury of compassion so greatly needed by the human race." (*Spe Salvi, 40*) *Pope Benedict XVI, Remarks at the San Jose Foundation for Disabled Youth, Madrid, August 20, 2011*

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE We are reminded today of the importance of prayer and reflection. Just as Jesus "went off to a lonely place in the desert" to be absorbed in prayer, we too, are invited to spend time with the Lord. We are invited to spiritually refresh ourselves in the way Jesus taught us.

YOUR CREDIT UNION NEWS Come to the credit union for your DEBT MANAGEMENT loan. Why pay higher interest on your credit cards? Pay one payment to your credit union instead; consolidate those bills! Call Cathy Rose at 825-2640.

NEPA YOUNG CATHOLICS (the Young Adult Group) future gatherings will be Theology on Tap at Rodano's on *Tuesdays, February 7, 14, 21, 28* from 7-9 p.m. There is a \$5 cover which includes pizza, wings & soda. Anyone 18-40 is welcome. For further information, e-mail NEPAYoungCatholics@gmail.com.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
TUESDAY ~ 8:30 A.M.-4:30 P.M.

HIGH SCHOOL REGISTRATION Holy Redeemer H. S. will be scheduling appointments for incoming 9th graders for the 2012-2013 school year. Appointments may be scheduled for **February 6, 7, 8 or 9** from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. by calling the Guidance Office at 829-2424, ext 337. The deadline for all registration materials is March 2, 2012. Tuition assistance applications are available online at www.dioceseofscranton.org or can be obtained at the Holy Redeemer High School finance office.

25TH & 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS
 His Excellency The Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, D.D., J.C.L., Bishop of Scranton and the Office for Parish Life & Evangelization/Family Life wish to invite couples celebrating their 25th or 50th wedding anniversary in 2012 to a diocesan Wedding Anniversary Mass on **Sun., June 3**. The event includes a 2:30 p.m. Mass at St. Peter's Cathedral followed by a reception. *Requests for an invitation, with a mailing address that will be accurate in March, can be made through your pastor before March 1.*

NIGHT AT THE RACES at Holy Redeemer H.S. on **Saturday, February 11**. Doors open at 6:00 p.m., dinner begins at 6:30 with post time at 7:15 in the Holy Redeemer gym. Please email Arden Fahey, rescoach@aol.com or Joyce Vrabec, jvrabec@ptd.net (event chairpersons) or call the Main Office at 829-2424 to reserve a table for 8-10 people, sponsor a horse (\$10) or purchase an admission ticket (\$10). NO admission at the door. Ticket includes dinner and night-long refreshments. Must be 21 years old. Come enjoy family, friends and fun.

ROCK-A-THON The Little Sisters of the Poor will have their annual Rock-A-Thon **Sunday, March 4** from 12-4 p.m. in the auditorium of Holy Family Residence, 2500 Adams Ave., Scranton, adjacent to Marywood University. Individuals, youth groups, and other organizations are invited to form teams and garner sponsors to join in the fun and rock the afternoon away with the residents. In addition to rocking, participants will enjoy food, music, dancing, and karaoke. There will also be additional food and homemade baked goods for sale for a nominal fee as well as a gift basket and gift card raffle. The Little Sisters will award prizes to the top three teams which raise the most funds as well as to the team with the best decorated rocking chair. Anyone who would like to participate should contact Jackie Galvin at scdevelopment@littlesistersofthepoor.org or 343-4065 by Friday, February 24. All proceeds will benefit the Little Sisters in their work with the elderly poor.

ALTAR SERVERS	
FOR THE WEEKEND OF FEBRUARY 11-12	
5:00	Zachary Naperkowski, David & Robert Bertram
7:30	Jarrell & Jordan Hagler
9:00	Dalton, Greta & Tucker Ell
10:30	Tim Lettier, Sarah Suchoski, Julia Wignot

FINANCES	
FOR THE WEEKEND OF JANUARY 28-29	
Adult Offering	\$9,792.15
Children's Offering	77.40
Loose	1,350.35
Total	\$11,219.90
Dues (900) & Heat (80)	980.00
St. Vincent de Paul	1,165.00
Holydays (62) & Initial (32) & CCD (5)	99.00
Day's Wage (20) & Christmas (35)	55.00
Care & Education of Priests	85.00
Campaign for Human Development	1,130.70
Total Offering	THANK YOU!
	\$14,734.60

MONTHLY GATHERING OF THE SECULAR DISCALCED CARMELITES, a canonically established group of the Diocese of Scranton, will meet on **Sunday, February 19** at 12:00 Noon at Holy Annunciation Monastery in Sugarloaf, Luzerne County. All are welcome, especially those who feel called to a deeper consecration in life and wish to experience Carmelite spirituality and community. Call Carol Wojewodski (342-7448) for info.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AT CEO For information, call Maura at 826-0510 ext. 215.

PARKING When attending events at St. Nicholas Church, St. Nicholas-St. Mary's School or Holy Redeemer High School please remember that parking across the street from Holy Redeemer H. S. is not allowed - cars will be towed. In addition to our lot behind the church, we have a parking lot on S. Washington Street (directly across from the Convent). **REMEMBER** to lock your car doors & **do not leave any valuables in your cars.**

PLEASE REMEMBER to lock your car doors **and** do not leave any valuables (in plain sight) in your vehicle in our parking lots when attending Mass, meetings or other events.

VOCATION DISCERNMENT WEEKEND The Diocese of Scranton Vocation Office will host a weekend of discernment for young men in high school and beyond, ages 16-30, to assist them in recognizing whether God is inviting them to step forward to offer their lives as diocesan priests. The weekend will be held **February 10-12** at Fatima Center in Dalton. For further information, contact Father Rafferty at 207-1452 or Rev-James-Rafferty@dioceseofscranton.org.

FREE ADULT FAITH RESOURCES The January edition of the monthly adult faith formation (AFF) resource, *Disciple*, is now available. This month's issue features commentary on the Sunday Gospel readings, a look at Catholic belief about the liturgy, a look at adult faith formation opportunities around the Diocese. As always, past issues of these newsletters can be found on the Adult Faith Formation and Family Life pages of the diocesan website, www.dioceseofscranton.org.

NITE AT THE RACES will be held at St. Leo's/Holy Rosary Church, 33 Manhattan St., Ashley on **Saturday, February 25**. Doors open at 6 - post time is 7 p.m. Admission-\$5, includes food & beverage. Call 825-6669 to reserve a table for 8 or more - buy a horse for \$10!

A SOUP, BAKE & BOOK SALE will be held at Exaltation of the Holy Cross Church, Buttonwood on **Thursday, March ????** from 8 a.m.-6 p.m. Soup of the month is ??????. Cost is \$7.00 per quart. Take outs only! Call Judi at 825-6914 or Barry at 831-5593.

THE GUILD STORE has launched a website to offer patrons a convenient way to shop online. The website address is www.shoptheguild.org. It features many of the Catholic books, religious articles and Church goods which are available at 400 Wyoming Ave., Scranton. The website can also be accessed from www.dioceseofscranton.org under "Diocesan Offices."

TRAVELING? Need Mass times & locations - call 1-734-794-2100 or on line at www.MassTimes.org.

FURRY TAILS READING PARTNERS Furry Tails Reading Partners pairs children with therapy dog teams to encourage children to improve their reading skills. For info, call Helene Skopek at 814-6078.

A MONTHLY HOLY HOUR (for priestly & religious vocations) will be held every **first Thursday** at 7 p.m. at the Oblates of St. Joseph Seminary Chapel, Route 315, Laflin.

SUPPORT GROUP Divorced, widowed or separated individuals trying to cope with sorrow, doubt, anxiety or loneliness, can come to **The Beginning Experience monthly session** on the **third Friday** from 7-9 p.m. at St. Ann's Parish Center, Scranton. For information, call 489-7769.

VETERANS ASSISTANCE Luzerne County Veteran Affairs is a fully accredited Veteran Service Organization available to assist veterans and their spouses in applying for Veteran Benefits. If you served during any period and were injured, we can assist you in applying for V.A. Compensation. If you are a veteran of any war, or the surviving spouse of a wartime veteran, & you need assistance to help pay for in-home health care, assisted living, or other medical expense, we can help. Call 706-3960 for more info.

CALLING ALL YOUNG ADULTS!!! Are you a young adult aged 18-40? Then we want you! St. Nicholas, in conjunction with other area churches and local universities is putting together a Young Adult Ministry. If you are interested, please contact Caitlin Czeh at 408-5904 or NEPAYoungCatholics@gmail.com.

APPEAL FOR VOLUNTEERS The Catherine McAuley House is in need of volunteers. We are open around the clock so we need someone on duty at all times. For the most part it simply means answering the door and the phone, taking messages and passing them on to the staff. It is usually for a period of 3 hours. Some volunteers come once a month others once a week. Some do weekends others can only come during the week. Some like to do the overnight others like to do early mornings. All hours are available and needed. We have a wonderful team of volunteers but at the moment they are overstretched. If you think you can help please call Sister Marie Larkin at 779-2801 or Geri Melovitz at 288-4669.

MONTHLY GATHERING OF THE SECULAR DISCALCED CARMELITES, a canonically established group of the Diocese of Scranton, will meet on the **third Sunday** at 12:00 Noon at Holy Annunciation Monastery in Sugarloaf, Luzerne County. All are welcome, especially those who feel called to a deeper consecration in life and wish to experience Carmelite spirituality and community. Call Carol Wojewodski (342-7448) for info.

FREE EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES Available For Children Birth Through Two Are you concerned about your child's ability to move, see or hear? To talk or express needs? To relate to others? To think and learn? If you answered "YES" to any of the above, call now for a free screening and/or evaluation. Your child, ages birth through two, may be eligible for free early intervention services. No income guidelines. No insurance necessary. All information is confidential. Phone 826-3030 or 1-800-816-1880.

A TELEVISED SUNDAY MASS is now airing on ABC Family from 6:30 to 7:00 a.m. each Sunday morning. ***THE SUNDAY MASS*** is produced by the Passionist Fathers and Brothers out of New York City and is available nationally on local affiliates. Too early for you? Tape it, Tivo it, or watch it online. For more info consult the website at www.TheSundayMass.org.

TRANSPORTATION FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES For questions/information on the Luzerne/Wyoming Counties Transportation Program call 288-8420 or 800-679-4135 or Hearing Impaired 825-1860. The program is funded, made available & regulated through the PA Dept. of Transportation.

THERE'S GOOD NEWS IN THE AIR! Hear it on Catholic Radio JMJ 750-AM. Listen to local and national programs to inform and inspire your faith. Local programs include St. Ann's Novena, Sunday 1:30 p.m. & Monday 10 a.m.; St. Joseph Novena, Wednesday 10 a.m. & 2 p.m.; "In Love of Christ" hosted by Jerome Gilmartin, Tuesday 10 a.m., Wednesday 7:30 a.m., Thursday & Saturday 4:30 p.m. A wide variety of EWTN programs are also aired. JMJ is operated by volunteers and the station is totally listener supported. For information, call 287-4670.