

*Jesus is going away, but will come to us in a more perfect way. He returns to the glory of the Father in order that He may send us the Paraclete, the Spirit of Truth. The word “paraclete” means “defense attorney.” If we love Christ and keep His commands, the Holy Spirit will be our defense against the ridicule and lies and persecutions of this world. Let us be faithful to Christ and confident of the presence of the Spirit.*

### **Holy Hour today, 5:00—6:00 PM.**

#### **CATHOLIC HOME MISSION APPEAL**

This weekend, April 26-27, the bishops across the nation are inviting Catholics to contribute to the Catholic Home Missions Appeal. This appeal offers a wonderful opportunity to help fellow Catholics practice their faith in such rugged mission areas as Alaska, Appalachia, the deep south, and island dioceses in the Pacific and Caribbean.



#### **ASCENSION THURSDAY ~ May 1** **HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION**

*Ascension Thursday, a Holy Day of Obligation, is celebrated on May 1. Vigil Mass on Wednesday at 7:00 PM, and 7:30, 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM on the Holy Day.*

#### **PENTECOST SUNDAY**

*Pentecost Sunday is May 11. Wear a red shirt or sweater or jacket—or maybe a red tie? Let's celebrate PENTECOST SUNDAY.*

#### **PENTECOST ~ PETITIONS**

Gate of Heaven Church is looking for parishioners to read one petition in a different language on Pentecost Sunday, May 11. We would like to pray the Petitions in English and in another language. We will need your name, telephone number and language—examples, French, Spanish, German, Latin, Gaelic. Please call the office at 675-2121 for more details.

#### **PRAYER FOR PENTECOST, MAY 11, 2008**

*Breathe in me, O Holy Spirit,  
that my thoughts may all be holy.*

*Act in me, O Holy Spirit,  
that my work, too, may be holy.*

*Draw my heart, O Holy Spirit,  
that I love but what is holy.*

*Strengthen me, O Holy Spirit, to defend  
all that is holy. Guard me, O Holy Spirit,  
that I always may be holy.*

*St. Augustine*

#### **MISSION STATEMENT**

Gate of Heaven Parish is a faithful and holy community of Catholic believers who are baptized, and in union with the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church. We worship God — Father, Son and Holy Spirit — through the celebration of the Mass and reception of the Church's Sacraments. We serve our community and the risen Lord by living the Gospel message and being Christ to others. As a welcoming community, we invite all to come and share their gifts with us and receive God's blessings.

#### **CALLED TO HOLINESS & MISSION**

Our planning Cluster is composed of five Churches in the Back Mountain: Gate of Heaven, St. Therese's, Our Lady of Victory, St. Frances Cabrini and Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

The cluster met on April 8, 16, & 23 and will meet through May and early June. The cluster is responsible to submit a plan regarding the future of our Back Mountain Churches to the Diocesan Planning Commission on June 15.

Dan Gallagher from Gate of Heaven Parish is the Chairman of the cluster and Debbie Jorda from St. Frances Cabrini is the cluster Secretary. Cluster progress will be reported in a timely manner.

#### **MAY FRIENDSHIP DAY**

May Friendship Day is on Friday, May 2, at the West Pittston First United Methodist Church. Registration is at 11 AM; lunch at 12 (\$5.00). Reservations required by April 22. For more information, call Rita at 675-2075.

#### **MOTHER'S DAY ~ CARNATION SALE**

The Wyoming Valley Chapter Human Life Resource Center will be selling carnations on Mother's Day. All proceeds from this effort will support the Human Life Center in Wilkes-Barre.



#### **FLOWER/CANDLE DATES AVAILABLE**

If you would like to donate flowers for the altar or the candle in memory of someone, please call Linda at 674-5713. Available dates are 5/4, 5/11, 5/18, 5/25, 7/13, 7/20/ 7/27, 8/3, 8/17, 8/31, 9/7, 11/23 and 11/30.

### BAZAAR BOOTH SPONSORS

#### 25 Sponsors to date!

*An important way we raise start up money for the Bazaar is through Bazaar Sponsorship. If you or your workplace could donate \$100.00 we will prominently display your name or the name of your company logo so that all of our parishioners and everyone that comes to the Bazaar will recognize your support. Call Fran, 675-2121, for more information.*

### BOOK NOOK



*Got BOOKS? Decorated white bags will be available SOON! Please take home a bag and return it after you do your SPRING CLEANING. We are looking for children's books that are in good condition too.*

### "AUNT SALLY'S UNIQUE BOUTIQUE"

*We are in need of your vintage jewelry, scarves, small knick-knacks, and small unique items. You may drop your items off in the Church office.*

### SECURITY FOR OUR BAZAAR



We are looking for a few college-aged men who are willing to be our security for the Bazaar on Thursday, June 19, and Friday, June 20, from midnight until 7 AM. Call Fran in the office, 675-2121.

### A NOTE FROM THE BAZAAR PLANT BOOTH

*Local growers, nurseries and florists are trying to support our communities but because of the increasing costs of keeping greenhouses heated, equipment operating and the constant competition from Box Stores, they are all struggling. More and more of them are going out of business each year. If parishioners could buy ONE hanging basket from our LOCAL businesses and donate it to the plant booth, then everyone would WIN! Call us, we'll pick it up for you!*

### MARGARINE TIME!

*Margarine or butter can be dropped off at the Church office for our annual Bazaar's Haluski makin' time! We appreciate all your donations.*

### CAR WASH

Sponsored by Bk. Mt. Cath. Jr. High Youth Council

Proceeds from the car wash will go to the American Cancer Society in memory of Judy Panagakos. **SATURDAY, MAY 17, from 9 to noon at St. Therese's Parking Lot. Cost—A donation.**

### MOTHER'S DAY

In your May envelope packet, you will find an envelope for Mother's Day Intentions. If you would like your mother remembered in the Novena of Masses, write her name on the envelope and place it in the collection basket. The Masses will be said in May beginning on Mother's Day, May 11. If you prefer to give your mother a Card, they will be available also. Just write her name on the envelope and return in the collection basket.

### PARISH BASEBALL TRIP

Gate of Heaven Church is sponsoring a Baseball Trip on Wednesday, July 30th, to see the New York Yankees play the Baltimore Orioles at Yankee Stadium. The bus will leave Gate of Heaven at 8:30 AM. The cost is \$35.00 per person which includes bus transportation and your ticket to the game. Reservations must be paid in full to be confirmed. For reservations or for more information call Deacon Tom at 674-1654 or 675-4890.



### ALTAR & ROSARY SOCIETY BUS TRIPS

The Altar & Rosary Society will sponsor a bus trip to Atlantic City on Thursday, July 17. Cost-TBA. Please call Lucille Luksic, 675-2522, for more information.

The Altar & Rosary Society will sponsor a bus trip to see "Oklahoma", on Thursday, August 14, at the Pocono Play-House. Bus will leave G of H at noon. Cost-\$62.00 per person which includes round trip bus transportation, admission to the play and dinner at Crescent Lodge. Call Lucille at 675-2522 for more details.

### THE BACK MOUNTAIN FOOD PANTRY



The Back Mountain Food Pantry is located in the Trucksville United Methodist Church. The following is a list of items that the organization is in need of: Muffin and pancake mix, syrup, sugar, Jell-o pudding, coffee, tea, canned milk, mixed vegetables, tomato and V-8 juice, olives and pickles.

My name is AJ Limongelli and I am a volunteer for the Food Pantry. I am a member of Gate of Heaven Church and an altar server for the 5 PM Mass. As a freshman at Holy Redeemer High School, I am working with the Food Pantry for my service hours that I need for graduation. I hope this experience will continue long after I graduate in 2011. I will be placing a box in front of the Church for you to place your donations. I will deliver the food to the Food Pantry the end of this week. Thank you very much for your help. A monetary contribution is always appreciated to enable the Food Pantry to purchase cases of items that are needed. Please mail monetary contributions to Back Mountain Food Pantry, c/o Trucksville United Methodist Church, Church Rd., Trucksville, PA 18708.

## Remembering...

Monday	Apr. 28	7:30 AM 7:00 PM	Communion Service Matilda Konecke	Rose & Jerry Schmid
Tuesday	Apr. 29	7:30 AM	John Hourigan	Kevin/Val Smith
Wednesday	Apr. 30 (Vigil)	7:30 AM 7:00 PM	Vincent Sodrosky Bernard Purcell	Chmarney Family Mary Jule McCarthy
<b>Ascension</b>		7:30 AM	Rev. William F. Cusick	Fr. Kevin/Parishioners
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>May 1</b>	9:00 AM 5:00 PM	Evan Williams Priest's Intention	M/M Michael Ferko
Friday	May 2	7:30 AM	Joseph Rosen	Len/Lisa Valenti
Saturday	May 3	7:30 AM 5:00 PM	Communion Service Marcella Sobczak	Ed/Marianne Ostrowsky
Sunday	May 4	7:00 AM 9:00 AM 11:30 AM	Priest's Intention Emery Simkulak Bernadine Hines	Joan Keating/ Carolyn Sukocki Joan/Phil Ansilio



**Liturgical**  
**Ministers**  
**May 3-4**

**Altar**  
**Servers**

**Lectors**

**Ministers of Holy Communion**

<b>5:00 PM</b>	B. Leahigh C. Leahigh	Marilyn Baluh	Nancy Garvey, Tonya Gannon J. McAndrew, S. Regan, Ruth Farris
<b>7:00 AM</b>	A. Rismondo	Jerry Schmid	Jim/Kathy Barlow, Marcia Matthews Bette/Whitey Gillespie
<b>9:00 AM</b>	Matthew Ruch Stephen Ruch	Karen DeCesaris	Marie Belasco, Joan Gilbertson J. Keating, M.J. McCarthy, D. Ruch
<b>11:30 AM</b>	John Frederick Liam Frederick	Tony Manorek	Columba Bove, Mark/Debbie Belenski Rose Schmid, <i>Deacon Tom</i>

**The  
Altar Flowers  
this week were  
given in  
honor of the  
11th  
Wedding  
Anniversary of  
Karen &  
Anthony  
DeCesaris.**

### **COME AND HONOR OUR MOTHER THIS MAY! MAY CROWNING**

**May 4th– 10:15 AM.** 8th Grade Confirmation students and the 3rd grade students will be participating in the May Crowning.

**PRAYER:** *My Queen, my Mother, I give myself entirely to you and show my devotion to you. I consecrate to you this day, my eyes, my ears, my mouth, my heart, my whole being without reserve. I belong to you good Mother, as I am your own, keep me, guard me, as your property and possession. Amen.*

### **Last Sunday's Sacrificial Offering**

*312 families used their SUNDAY envelopes and offered \$6743.00 in last Sunday's Collection.  
Children's Sunday—\$32.35  
Please encourage your children to use their offertory envelopes. It is a wonderful way to teach stewardship to them. Thank you for your generosity.*

### **Who is a Christian Steward?**

*One who receives God's gifts gratefully, cherishes and tends them in a responsible and accountable manner, shares them in justice and love with others, and returns them with increase to the Lord.*

*Two percent of our Second Sunday of the month Collection is given to a charity.*