MARCH 14-16, 2010 – LENTEN MISSIONS

Our Lenten Missionary will be Fr. Hieromonk Reginald Russo, OFM-Capuchin. As was done last year, we will again share our Lenten Missions with St. George's (Northside) and St John's (McKees Rocks). However, this year the lessons will not be stretched out between all three parishes. Rather one and the same chief lesson (message) will be given in each parish. Before we look into the schedule of our Lenten Mission and who our missionary father will be, let us answer a simple question: What is a parish mission? A parish mission is a preaching event conducted on consecutive evenings. This preaching centers on the Word of God as well as doctrine and practice of the Church. The preaching emphasizes on an individual's personal relationship with the Lord, a deeper sense of the parish community, and a greater consciousness of service within this community. A parish mission allows you to take some time to look at your life, values, and direction. It encourages you to ask: "What is really important to me? What am I doing with my life? What values do I have? Where does God fit into my life? What does my faith, my Church, mean to me?" To accomplish this task we are truly blessed this year to welcome into our community of faithful the Hieromonk Fr. Reginald Russo, OFM-Capuchin. Father was ordained October 21, 1967 in Pittsburgh. His Education includes: three Masters Degrees: Theology, Library Science and Franciscan Studies. He has ministered in the following areas: Faculty in R.C. Pittsburgh Seminary; Spiritual Director for Seminarians; Chaplain for the Poor Clares; Pastor and Associate Pastor and Retreat Director. His currect ministries are Chaplain for the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth (North Hills), Chaplain at Vincentian Home, Confessor at St. Mary Mercy (Downtown) and Spiritual Assistant for the Secular Franciscans (our parishioner, Steve Sawczak, is in training with the Secular Franciscans and this is how and why Fr. Reggie came to know about our church and parish and to pray with us on Sunday, August 16, 2009, see picture to the left). **As a parish family let us begin to pray for a successful Lenten Mission that will be a time of physical and spiritual**

renewal for us all. Fr. Reggie will be at St. George's on March 17-18 and at St. John's in McKees Rocks on March 19.

At our parish, Fr Reggie will attend Vespers at 3:00 pm on Sunday, March 14, and then Akathist Hymn to Christ in His Passion on March 15 at 7:00 pm and Akathist Hymn to Christ the Light in the Darkness on March 16 at 7:00 pm. There will be time for Confession on Monday and Tuesday at 6:30 pm and again after the services.