



VISITATION PARISH

Pennsylvania Charitable Trusts
 Parishes of the Diocese of Greensburg
 Office: 740 W. Walnut St. Phone: 724-547-1911 Fax: 724-547-2630
 St. Pius X Parish Ctr.: 724-547-0950
 St. Vincent de Paul Society: 724-547-0413
 Visit us at: www.mpcatholicchurches.org
 Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9:30am - 11:30am & 12:30 pm - 3:00pm





224 Summit Street \diamond Mt. Pleasant, PA \diamond 740 W. Walnut Street

April 2, 2023 - Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord



Mass Schedule

Saturday: 4:30pm - Visitation Church; 6:00pm - St. Pius X Church Sunday: 9:15am - Visitation Church; 8:00am - St. Pius X Church; 10:30am - St. Pius X Church Sacrament of Baptism: Please call the parish office to begin preparation for this sacrament. Weekday Mass - 7:00am - Visitation Church Confessions - Saturday - 3:30pm - Visitation Church

Administrator - Rev. Paul A. Lisik - plisik@dioceseofgreensburg.org Parochial Vicar - Rev. Daniel E. Carr - dcarr@dioceseofgreensburg.org Facilities and Business Manager - Joy Wallace - jwallace@dioceseofgreensburg.org Director of Liturgical Music - Sheryl E. Nagy - snagy@dioceseofgreensburg.org Secretary: Linda A. Amdy - lamdy@dioceseofgreensburg.org Office Assistant: Erin Knizner - eknizner@dioceseofgreensburg.org Maintenance Supervisor: Joe Bauer - jbauer@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Mass Intentions

Mon.	4/3	Visitation 7:00am Parish Families	
Tues.	4/4	Visitation 7:00am Mary Jane Malego - Dennis, Joe, Jr. & Janice	
Wed.	4/5	Visitation - No Morning Mass 6:00pm John Rogacki - wife, Beverly Rogacki	
		Nellie Ann Costabile - Mike & Judy Kiral	
Thurs.	4/6 -	Holy Thursday	
H⊕l	_Y	St. Pius X Church - Mass of the Lord's Supper	
	DAY	7:00pm All living & deceased Priests	
 All Designs 	<u>e</u>	Greeters: Volunteers Lectors: John Zemba (First Reading), Acacia Houck (Second Reading & Intercessions)	
		Ministers: Patty Gaal, Andrea Poole Servers: Lucas Poole, Ty Whoric, Sophia	
		Smithnosky, Robert Smithnosky Cantor: Pat Martinoski/Choir	
Friday 4/7 - Good Friday St. Pius X Church - I:00pm - Liturgy of Good Friday Greeters: Volunteers			
Lectors: Colleen Pernelli (V), Stanley Kapella (N) Ministers: Chris DeFlitch, Paul Klaus Servers: Owen Spires, Lily Spires, Caleb Stewart, Clara Stewart Cantor: Phil Brown/Choir			
Leo Ser	tors: Ba	Tenebrae - 7:30pm - St. Pius X Church arbara Dropik, Tereasa Rerko <i>v</i> a Coppula, Sophia Coppula ic Harris/Choir	
Sat. 4/	8 St. 1	Pius X Church - 8:30pm - Easter Vigil Greeters: Volunteers Lectors: Connie Barnhart (First Reading), Kim Sirainna (Third Reading), Kate Bannon (Fifth Reading), Robert Davis (Epistle & Intercessions) Minister: Dan Copeland Servers: Cindy Copeland, Julia Davis, Nolan Davis, Colton Golobish, Michael Hegyes Cantors: Joanne Geckle, Kathy Demagall	
Sun. 4/9 Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord			
St. Pius X - 8:00am - Parish Families			
Leo Mir Ser	tor: Joh histers: I vers: C V	Volunteers n DiPasquale Paul Klaus, Hank Rose Owen Spires, Lily Spires, Volunteer aron Stewart	

Mass Intentions Continued

Easter Sunday continued: Visitation - 9:30am - Intentions of those who donated for Easter flowers Greeters: Volunteers Lector: Brian Hunter Minister: Yvonne Hunter Servers: Grant Zahrobsky, Ty Whoric, Anthony Grippo Cantor: Peggy Tepper/Choir St. Pius X - II:00am - Intentions of those who donated for Easter flowers Greeters: Knights of Columbus Lector: Michael Hricik Ministers: Patty Thomas. Ted Czekaj Servers: Amelia Thomas, Langdon Thomas, Ava Coppula, Sophia Coppula Cantor: Kristin Guynn

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Blessed Palms: Palm branches will be blessed and distributed at all Masses this weekend. It is custom to take palm branches home and adorn our crucifixes and holy pictures with them during this Holy Season.





Visitation Rosary-Altar Society will be having a Palm Sunday weekend bake sale after the 4:30pm Mass on SALE Saturday April 1 and from 8:30am until 11am

on Sunday April 2. Rosary Society dues will be collected during the bake sale. Dues are still just \$3.00. Please put dues money in an envelope marked Visitation Rosary Altar Society 2023. Include the names of all members whose dues you are paying. All checks should be made out to Visitation Rosary Altar Society.





Welcome to the parish family, Ada Rose Strickland, daughter of Aaron Strikland and Shelby Romanik, who received the Sacrament of Baptism on Saturday, March 25th at Visitation Church.

May God bless her.

Desk of Fr. Dan

This weekend we celebrate **From the** two separate liturgies that commemorate two very different events. The first is for Palm Sunday when we remember the triumphant entry of Jesus into

Jerusalem. We bless palms and process into the church singing "Hosanna". Then the tone shifts drastically from triumph to sorrow as we move from Palm Sunday in Passion Sunday. We will proclaim the story of Jesus' passion and death.

This shift represents quite a drastic turn of events. Within the span of 10 minutes, Jesus goes from being hailed and exalted to being scourged and mocked. The crowd's shouts of "Hosanna!" quickly make way for shouts of "Crucify Him!" How quickly Jesus' disciples flee from His side when their faith is tested too. "Even though I should have to die with you, I will not deny you" says Peter, only to say just hours later "I do not know the man.'

How quickly our hearts can turn away from God! How quickly we can be influenced by the crowd and public opinion! One moment, when it is convenient and popular, we are for God. But when it gets more difficult and we must suffer, we just as quickly turn against Him. The liturgy that we celebrate this weekend showcases this tendency of ours to be fickle – to go from being for God to being against God in the blink of an eye. We may commit ourselves to the fight against sin, we may feel strong in our convictions, but then we might turn a corner and BAM, sin is right there knocking at the door, seemingly impossible to resist.

One of our tasks in this life is to work toward being for God at every moment of every day, never turning away when it's hard or when suffering comes our way. This is a project that we will never fully accomplish until the next life, but we are to strive for it. With God's grace, we can stay true when the crowd could not and stand firm when the disciples fled.



Following the 7pm Mass on Holy Thursday there will be Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the classroom (upper level) in the school building. We will close the evening with special prayers at 11:45pm. Plan to spend some time with the Blessed Sacrament.

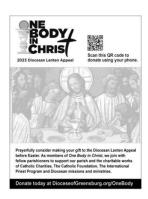
2023 Diocesan Lenten Appeal Update as of March 18, 2023

St. Pius X Parish

Diocesan target \$47,269 Parish target \$15,000 \$62,269 Total goal Pledges & gifts to date: \$25,580 54.1% of Diocesan goal

Visitation Parish

\$35,192 Diocesan target Parish target \$15,000 Total goal \$50,192 Pledges & gifts to date: \$18,975 53.9% of Diocesan goal



We have begun the Diocesan Lenten Appeal in our parishes. You should have received a pledge card in the mail. If you have not received a pledge card please call the office and let us know. A sincere thank you goes out to all who have responded to the DLA. Please remember dear parishioners, return

your pledge card at Mass next weekend or return it to the parish office this week. Please mark the outside of your envelope with your home church. In addition, you can pledge online at DioceseofGreensburg.org/OneBody. Our goal is to complete this appeal within the Lenten season, but we need your help and support to do so. Thank you.

Fr. Paul

Good Friday Collection: At the afternoon Liturgy on Good Friday, a special collection will be taken up for the upkeep of the Holy Land and to help impoverished people who inhabit this part of the world. You are asked to be generous to this particular cause.

Easter: Also, we encourage your continued generosity to your parish at Easter. An extra generous Easter collection will allow us to pay our taxes and Diocesan assessments in a timely manner. We really could use a particularly generous collection this Easter to help us with these bills.

Monday Evening Holy Hour with Benediction & Reflection



Join us Monday evenings, through April 3rd, from 5:30pm - 6:30pm at St. Pius X Church for Eucharistic Adoration followed by Benediction and a reflection with Fr. Dan.



The Knights of Columbus will begin praying The Divine Mercy Novena On Good Friday, April 7th at 6pm at Visitation Church and conclude on Saturday, April 15. All are invited!

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Holy Thursday, April 6 - No morning Mass

- 10:00am Chrism Mass at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral
- 7:00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper St. Pius X Church/Procession to altar of repose in classroom in school building
- 11:45pm Closing Adoration & Night Prayer in classroom in school building

<u>Good Friday, April 7 - No morning Mass</u> Celebration of the Lord's Passion

- 12:15pm Stations of the Cross St. Pius X Church
- 1:00pm The Liturgy of Good Friday (Passion) -St. Pius X Church
- 7:30pm Tenebrae St. Pius X Church

Holy Saturday, April 8 - Easter Vigil

- 11:00am Blessing Baskets St. Pius X Church 12:30pm Blessing Baskets Visitation Church
- 8:30pm Easter Vigil St. Pius X Church
- The only Vigil Mass on Saturday, April 8th, will begin at 8:30pm. There cannot be any earlier Masses for the Easter Vigil.

Easter Sunday, April 9 - Resurrection of the Lord

Please notice the changes in the Mass times8:00amSt. Pius X Church9:30amVisitation Church11:00amSt. Pius X ChurchGrotto Hours• Good Friday, April 7 - Noon - 6:00pm

• Holy Saturday, April 8 - Noon - 6:00pm

Weekly Offering - March 26, 2023 Visitation Parish

Weekly.....\$4,783.00 Easter Flowers.....\$368.00 Lenten Offering.....\$500.00 Total Envelopes: 192

St. Pius X Parish

Weekly	\$5,404.00
Capital Improvements	\$15.00
Easter Ash Wednesday	\$50.00
Ash Wednesday	\$5.00
Good Friday	\$5.00
Easter Flowers	\$411.00
Lenten Offering	\$610.00
Lenten Offering Total Envelopes: 221	

After the Services of Holy Thursday,

the eternal flame of the sanctuary lamp is extinguished. It remans dark until it is re-lit from the flame of the new Easter fire, which is kindled and blessed at the beginning of the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday night.

After the Good Friday Liturgy, the

tabernacle in church remains open and empty, signifying the death of Our Lord. It will not contain the Holy Eucharist again until after Holy Communion is consecrated during the celebration of the Mass during the Easter Vigil.

Tenebrae Service will be held at St. Pius X Church on Good Friday, April 7 at 7:30pm.

All are welcome to attend. Tenebrae is a Latin word which refers to "darkness." This was the name of an ancient ceremony originally celebrated during Holy Week. The service is quite simple, but beautiful. It consists of readings from Sacred Scripture and the gradual extinguishing of the lights in the Church leaving only one candle burning at the end of the service which is a symbol of the Risen Christ. The extinguishing of the light is meant to point to the Apostle's desertion of Christ before the crucifixion. A loud noise signals the end of the service symbolizing the closing of Christ's tomb. Thus, at the conclusion of the service all depart in darkness (Tenebrae) save the one candle which is our hope which will be fulfilled on Easter morning. Join us for this spiritually moving service in celebration of the Passion of Our Lord and anticipating the hope of Easter.

Please pray for the wholeness & healing of Lisa, Lucius, Stanley P., Patty Midden, Steven Kitko, Mary Jane Pawlikowski, Louann Y., Peggy, Sharon & Russ Gonda, Mike, Patty & Dan Gonos, Pat, Bill, Connie Zemba, Ray B., Andrew, Bob Sandzimier, Fetti Kramarski, Joann L., Candi T., Dave Nauman, Faye Hitlan, Knox, Phillip, Evelyn D., Baby Parker, Beverly Rogacki, Greg Pfeifer, Ken Keslar, Jen, Dwayne Thomas, Regis Melego, Mary Rose, Jeff Landy, David Gillott, Patricia Burke, Gina M., Carol K., Frank Chain, David, Jimmy Z., Gene, Edward P., Janet Pfeifer, Elizabeth E., Don Seder, Joan K., Colleen, Jeff, William Pakulski, Kathi Kappel, Danny & Elaine Kurpiel, Brenda, Dorinda O., Patty, Gary French & family, Paul, Mike Ruszkowski, Liz, Andy, Brenda, Paul, Bertie Zaucha, Barry Stanziana, David & Kitty Jensen, Donna Zemba, Ryan Snyder & family, Margie, Sue Ruszkowski, Jeff Kiral, Isaac Donaldson, Amber, Susan Shafley, Ken E., Jennie Ann Hurt, Julia, Beth, Margaret Fox, Corinne M., Laurie Deery, Susie Wiltrout, C. R., Nancy P., Brian McLaughlin, Arnold Donaldson, Mike H., Terri Ferko, Ron D., Eileen S., Bill Vance, Laurie, Jenny Batchko, Fr. Greg Premoshis, Fr. John Moineau, Janey, Linda G., Mary Keto, Susan, Jim G., Pam, Karen, Amanda Dennis, Jadon Michael Kalp, Denise Mastro, Rita, Kim, Mike Kristoff family, Natalie & family, James, Natalie W. & her father, Richard P. & family, Ray, Donald B., George Ozegovich, Lou Zaucha, Mark Sosko, Loretta Stana, Amber Harbak, MaryAnn, Isabel B., Elsie & Ed, Nicholas, Louise A., L.G., Thomas J., Doug P., Dolores Solinski, Faith P., Logan S., Rita, Ruth, CJ, Kim, Rita, Charles C., Richard & Sally B., Elizabeth & Edward Kendi, Remington Bazzar, Alvin Jaworski, Beth, Mark S., Carmelita, Mercedes Isola, Georgia & Adrian, Debbie Poklembo, Leo R. Rudnik, Sr., Gary Dorman, Carmen Tarasky, Louise A., Pat, Diane R., Patricia Skero, Michael Tarasky, Sr., Logan, Anna Marie Petras, Bill Rodgers, Special Intention, Angela Hurt, LeeEtta, Chuck, Christie, Malachi, Frank & Deb Plazza, Rob & family, Mary, Artie, Loretta & Alan Ambrosa.



Please keep in your prayers these active military personnel who continue to give so much to our country:

Jacob Ruben Johnson, Jacob Shafley, Alex Shafley, Jared Yester, Stephen Shallenberger, Drew Sheldon, Jim Dzurica and Jonathan Lang

Recent Deaths

Please pray for Dana Grzywinski and Paula Torcaso who have been laid to rest recently. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest forever in the peace of the Lord.



Wednesday Evening Mass Schedule 6:00pm at Visitation Church through April 5th (Please note: the 7:00am daily Mass is moved to 6:00pm on Wednesday during Lent)



Blessing of Easter Food and Baskets: One of the revered Lenten traditions is the blessing of the baskets with food on Holy Saturday. These baskets will be blessed at 11am at St. Pius X Church and at 12:30pm at Visitation Church.





Just a reminder that in your current Sunday envelope packet, there is an envelope for Easter flowers. A Mass will be offered on

Easter Sunday for the intention of those who donated for Easter flowers.

Candles this Week



St. Pius X

Sanctuary - In memory of the Spisak family - Karen Blessed Mother - In memory of Mary Surovchak - Mary Ann Arrigo

St. Joseph - In memory of Nellie Costabile - Joni Rozell **Our Lady of Czestochowa** - In memory of Jackie

Nalevanko - mother

Visitation

Sanctuary - In memory of Dorothy T. (Rudnik) Stazel -Mary Lou Kurimcak

Blessed Mother - For all living & deceased members of the Visitation Rosary Altar Society

St. Joseph - In memory of Jennie Maholtz - Joann & Andy

Madonna & Child - In memory of Raymond Douglas Janesko - wife, Loraine



On Holy Thursday, at 10am Bishop Kulick will celebrate the Chrism Mass at the Cathedral. At this Liturgy, the sacred oils used for the Sacraments of Baptism,

Confirmation, Holy Orders and Anointing of the Sick are blessed for the use of every parish in our Diocese. Many priests from throughout our diocese will be present, along with laity representing quite a few parishes in our diocese. This Mass is a visible sign that we are not only individual parishes, but all members of one diocesan family. This is a great opportunity for our parishioners to attend and experience our diocesan church at the 10am Mass.

As we complete the Lenten Season, this week and celebrate the Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday) and Easter, I thank all of you who made Lent a prayerful, spiritual time. Our Holy Week schedule is something to keep in a handy place in your home. We invite you to share with us the beauty of as many ceremonies, commemorating the last days of Jesus in this world, as you can. Make the Holy Eucharist the center of your preparation for Easter. Nothing will prepare you better than to share the happiness of another celebration of Jesus' resurrection. I hope you will make as much time as possible to be with Christ this week.

Fr. Paul



Divine Mercy Sunday, April 16

On the Sunday after Easter, people all over the world will gather to celebrate DIVINE MERCY the Feast of Divine Mercy. From Sister 5UNDAY Faustina's Diary, it is clear that this Octave Day of Easter is a day chosen

by Christ as a day of extraordinary graces, a complete outpouring of His mercy upon all who approach Him with great trust and expectant faith. Please Note: There will be pamphlets available in church that explain the Divine Mercy Novena and Chaplet. These pamphlets are made available free of charge. The Knights of Columbus will lead the novena beginning on Good Friday, April 7, and will be prayed daily for nine days straight, ending the day before the Feast of Divine Mercy, April **15th.** Please share them with family and friends.

Easter Devotional Candles are

still available. Please call the parish office by noon on Tuesday to reserve a candle, the cost is \$10 each.



Parish Office Closed

The parish Office will be closed on Thursday, April 6, Friday April 7, Monday, April 10. The office will re-open on Tuesday, April 11 at 9:30am.



Jesus as Teacher **Great Expectations**

Many of us live our lives amidst a confusion of high hopes and low expectations. We dare to dream, but are hesitant to expect too much and then be disappointed. Knowing that achievement is difficult, we feel a need to be careful and self protective. If we shoot to high, we will probably lose. Is it better to aim for less? Good archers know that an arrow will sink a bit along the arc where it flies, so they try to figure out just where to aim to allow for this. Palm Sunday was a time of high expectations. Jesus was nearing the completion of His mission and His followers sensed this fact. It was good to celebrate, to shout words of praise, because Jesus' message offered great promise for a new kind of life. Were they all merely dreaming? Jesus did not deliver the people from either Roman bondage nor from the hypocrisy of some of the religious leaders. However, those who heard Jesus gained new insights into life's possibilities. Seeking high standards for living is always worthwhile. It was important for Jesus to be a whistle blower and to denounce the corruption of money changers in the temple. It was inspiring to find One who had convictions worth dying for. In every time, God and humanity need to have people with high visions and standards. We become more God-like, as we follow in God's ways. Living has often been compared to a journey. Perhaps, the high life, the noble and expectant life, is more like a mountain climb. It has many challenges and points of risk, but the view from the top is beautiful and so is the sense of accomplishment. Jesus teaches us and calls us to seek fullness of life. He inspires us to work for it. In our times, as in His, we will not achieve all we seek. However, we will find life rewarding and will leave a heritage of both challenges and hope. So, dare to wave the palm branches and shout "Hosanna" to the One who comes in the name of the Lord!



NO Adoration: First Friday, April 7th No Confessions: Saturday, April 8th

This week is the one week in Jesus' life HOLY WEEK which we can follow daily.

It is a week in which we can walk along with Him in His footsteps. Holy Week can become a week of holiness for each of us. Our celebration during Holy Week offers us uncountable blessings. We can renew our lives reconciling ourselves walking in the footsteps of Christ. Above all, we can celebrate the Triduum on the last days of Holy Week by sharing in the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, by standing at the cross with Mary and John during the three hours of agony on Friday, and by welcoming the Risen Jesus into our lives at the Saturday Night Vigil of Resurrection. We can make the Gethsemane Pilgrimage by visiting our neighboring parishes on Holy Thursday night to spend time in prayer with our Lord. We can follow the Stations of Our Lord's last hours on Friday morning and His crucifixion at the Tenebrae Service. We can begin our home celebration of Easter by having our food baskets blessed in His name on Holy Saturday. All this we can do, as we welcome the Lord on Palm Sunday to the song of Hosanna. May we not abandon Him the rest of the week as the crowds did. May we walk with Christ through the Liturgies of Holy Week.

An Eastertime Table Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, risen from the dead: You were known to your disciples in the breaking of the bread.

Alleluia! Send your blessing as bread is broken here.

Lord Jesus Christ, risen from the dead:

Your friends came to believe in the resurrection as you ate with them.

Alleluia! Send your blessing, be present at this table.

Lord Jesus Christ, risen from the dead:

You sent your Holy Spirit to lead us to the eternal feast of heaven.

Alleluia! Send your blessing, send your Spirit again.

Give daily bread to your church through these days of Easter joy. We pray to you, source of all blessing.

Rosary for Peace

Everyone is invited to Visitation Church every Wednesday @ 11:30am to pray the Rosary.

LENTEN GUIDELINES

ABSTINENCE: Catholics in the U.S. age 14 and older are obliged to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, the Fridays of Lent and Good Friday. The Church law forbids use of meat, but does not prohibit eggs, milk products or condiments made with animal fat.

Fasting: Catholics in the U.S. from the day after their 18th birthday, until the day after their 59th birthday, are obliged to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. The Church Law allows for only one full meal a day, but does not prohibit the taking of some food in the morning and evening. The combined quantity of the two meals should not exceed the quantity eaten at the full meal.

Note: Persons taking medication or with health concerns should follow their doctor's advice.

The "Spring Return" meeting for the Visitation Christian Mothers is scheduled for **April 20th.** The meeting will begin at 6:00pm in the community center. The chairperson for the meeting is Mrs. Veronica Kubasky and the co-chair is Mrs. Mary Griffitt. Updates of where we left off in December and what we plan to do for 2023 will be discussed. The Library Director of the Mount Pleasant Free Public Library, Inc. will present a "Show and Tell" of all that our local library has to offer. All Ladies of our parish are welcome. Thanks, Jan.



All You Can Eat Omelet Breakfast Sunday, April 23rd Sponsored by St. Pius X Holy Name Society

8am - 12noon @ St. Pius X social hall Adults/\$10.00, children(3 - 12)/\$3.00, under 3/Free

St. Vincent de Paul

The local St. Pius X St. Vincent de Paul Society exists to assist those experiencing financial hardship due to illness, job loss or other unforeseen circumstances. Assistance is provided based on need, with no regard to religious affiliation. Confidentiality is strictly maintained. If you or someone you know needs a helping hand, please call 724-547-0413.

Cleaning Person - Fr. Dennis Bogusz is in need of a cleaning person, if interested please call the parish office for more details.



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