## ST. PIUS X PARISH

## VISITATION PARISH

$\diamond$ Pennsylvania Charitable Trusts $\diamond$
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.mpeatholicchurches.org
Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9:30am-11:30am \& 12:30 pm - 3:00pm


August 13, 2023 - Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time


Mass Schedule

Saturday: 4:00pm - Visitation Church; 6:00pm - St. Pius X Church Sunday: 8:30am - Visitation 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 - St. Pius X Church Confessions - Every Saturday - 3:15pm - Visitation Church - First Saturday - 12noon - St. Pius X 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




## Backpack Blessing

We will be having a backpack blessing on August 26-27 at all Masses where we'll bless students, teachers and school staff. Students are encouraged to bring their backpacks with their school supplies with them to Mass for the blessing.

Ministry of the Altar

| Sat. 8/I9 | Visitation 4:00pm <br> Greeters: Volunteers <br> Lector: Kate Bannon <br> Minister: Vincent Mascia <br> Servers: Owen Spires, Lily Spires, Clara <br> Stewart <br> Cantor: Pat Martinoski <br> St. Pius X 6:00pm <br> Greeters: Volunteers <br> Lector: Barbara Dropik <br> Ministers: Cindy Copeland, Dan Copeland <br> Servers: Emma Ersick, Volunteer, Volunteer <br> Cantor: Kathy Demagall |
| :---: | :---: |
| Sun. 8/20 | Visitation 8:30am <br> Greeters: Volunteers <br> Lector: John Zemba <br> Minister: Joyce Guthrie <br> Servers: Ty Whoric, Addison Grenda, Sophie Grenda <br> Cantor: Sharon Stewart <br> St. Pius X 10:30am <br> Greeters: Knights of Columbus <br> Lector: Robert Davis <br> Ministers: Carole Klocek, Raymond Gamrat <br> Servers: Jaxon Farino, Volunteer, Volunteer <br> Cantor: Chris DeFlitch |
|  |  |
|  | Rosary for Peace <br> Everyone is invited to St. Pius X Church every Wednesday@ 11:30am to pray the Rosary. |


| Assumption | The Assumption of the |
| :---: | :---: |
| Blessed Virgin Mary |  |
| Mass Schedule |  |

The Visitation Rosary Altar Society will recite the rosary Monday, August 14 @ 5:30pm at the Fatima Shrine located next to Visitation Church.
Please bring a chair with you if needed. In case of inclement weather the rosary will be held in

Visitation Church.
All are invited to come and pray the Rosary! The Parish Office will be closed August 15.

From the Our world no longer hears God
From the because it is constantly speaking, at a Desk of

> Fr. Dan devastating speed and volume, in order to say nothing." - Cardinal Robert Sarah, The Power of Silence: Against the Dictatorship of Noise
I don't spend enough time in silence. From the moment my alarm blares until the moment I put my phone down and my head hits the pillow, I am immersed in noise. I remember growing up without so much technology and silence was much more frequent (even though I had 4 siblings). Every year I like to go on a silent retreat where I spend five days nearly completely silent. That stillness is a wonderful break from my usual daily routine.

Of course, I can talk about the importance of silence all day. I should choose to enjoy more silence during my day. But I don't. My phone draws me far too easily and too often for me to choose silence. Technology is made to attract and hold our attention. I am guilty of spending way too much time on the internet. But as Cardinal Sarah points out, most of my time doing this means nothing at all in the end and does not help me or make me happy.

In our first reading this week, Elijah the prophet is taking shelter in a cave and is told that the Lord will be passing by. Elijah waits and watches as a strong wind, an earthquake, and a fire roll past. Yet, God was not present in them. God made Himself known to Elijah in the small, whispering sound - the kind of sound he might have missed if he had been "scrolling" at the time. How often is God trying to speak to us, but we aren't in a condition to hear Him?

How often would our lives be clearer and calmer if we spent more time in silence? The only way to know is to do it. Take a few minutes to turn off the radio and the TV and put the phone down.

This is a very difficult thing to do. When we aren't used to silence, it's uncomfortable. Being in silence forces us to hear what's going on within ourselves. Without distraction, our mind can dwell on things we don't want to think about. But these may just be the very things we need to think about and process because they are preventing us from finding joy and inner peace that we desire.

Cardinal Sarah points out in his book that Jesus lived for thirty years in silence before He entered His public life and ministry. After His baptism, He went into the desert for 40 days - more silence. And often in His ministry, He took time away from the crowds to speak with His Father. If Jesus needed silence during His days on this earth, how much more do we need it?

In honor of the Feast Day of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary the parish office will be closed on Tuesday, August 15. The office will re-open on Wednesday, August 16 at 9:30am.


This Tuesday, August 15, we celebrate the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
On November 1, 1950, Pope Pius XII defined as truth revealed by God that the Immaculate Mother of God, Mary, ever Virgin, when the course of her life on earth was finished, was taken up body and soul into heaven. May we continue to indicate to others by our prayers and actions, our devotion to our Blessed Mother, and may our devotion increase our faith, hope and love in her only Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ. From Pentecost to Epiphany, the Liturgy is particularly rich with the imagery of the gathering of the harvest. The Feast of the Assumption coincides with the gathering of several seasonal fruits and herbs. In many places on August 15, herbs and flowers are blessed. A venerable legend says that these were found filling Mary's tomb when she was raised to heaven. This can be an occasion to thank God for the abundance of produce with which nature nourishes us, and also for the beauty of creation so apparent in summer. Let us remember, likewise, that it is our mission to share the bounty and beauty of the earth with others. Since the Feast of the Assumption is a Holy Day of Obligation, the Mass schedule is as follows: Monday, August 14, 6 pm at Visitation Church and Tuesday, August, 15 at 7:30am and 6pm at St. Pius X Church. I invite everyone to please join with our Bishop for this special Mass on Tuesday evening.


Bishop Larry J. Kulick will host a special celebration of the Solemnity of the Assumption, the Patronal Feast of the Diocese, Tuesday, August 15, at Christ Our Shepherd Center, Greensburg, beginning with Mass at 7 pm in St. Joseph Chapel. An outdoor candlelight procession led by an image of Mary will follow. During the procession, the rosary will be prayed in a variety of languages, in the manner of the beautiful daily custom at Lourdes, France. Outdoor seating will be available for those unable to process.
acos

## Parish Registration

If you have completed high school, or are over 18 years old, you must register at your home parish as an adult. When you are asked to be a sponsor or Godparent, you must present proof of membership in a parish. Your membership in the parish will not be verified if you are still listed as a child on your parent's registration. You can pick up a registration form in the entrance of both churches.


## Just a Reminder to Parents of Our Second Graders

This coming school year will be the time your child will be preparing for the sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist. The first step in the process is ensuring your child is receiving regular religious education. Your 2nd grader should be in a Catholic school or parish program.


> This Wednesday, August 16th, we celebrate The Feast of St. Stephen of Hungary.

Stephen was a Magyar. The Magyars were a wondering tribe of fierce pagans from western Asia. In the ninth century they settled in central Europe in the land now called Hungary. Stephen's father, Geza, was their chief. He was baptized with his family when Stephen was ten years old. When Stephen was 22, his father died and Stephen became the new leader. But even at that young age he was well prepared for leadership. He set out to unite Hungary by making it Christian. Stephen was gentle and compassionate with the poor. He was tireless in his efforts to bring Christian civilization to the land. Most of his people couldn't read, so he built churches that were filled with statues and mosaics. People could study the art to learn the stories of their faith. Stephen established Sunday and religious holidays as days of worship. He also invited teachers from other countries to teach the people to read, to sew, to farm - even to cook. Under Stephen's leadership the Magyar people were united into a nation. Hungarians became enthusiastic Christians who adapted the Western alphabet and customs. The pope sent Stephen a crown, and it was placed on his head on Christmas Day. This "Crown of Stephen" is still treasured in Hungary.
Anco


## Reminder for all Ministers of the Altar

Please contact Linda at the parish office by August 15th, with your availability to minister so that the September schedules can be prepared. Beginning with the October schedule, please contact Erin @ eknizner@dioceseofgreensburg.org. Thank You!

Weekly Offering - August 6, 2023 Visitation Parish
Weekly............................. $\$ 5,383.00$
Capital Improvements........ $\$ 150.00$
Growing........................... $\$ 45.00$
Accent............................ $\$ 45.00$
Assumption...................... $\$ 90.00$
Catholic Univ/School........... $\$ 15.00$
Online June 25-July 16...... $\$ 360.00$
Total Envelopes: 209
St. Pius X Parish
Weekly............................... $\$ 8,028.00$
Capital Improvements.......... $\$ 285.00$
Accent.............................. $\$ 35.00$
Assumption...................... $\$ 70.00$
Catholic Univ./School........... $\$ 25.00$
Online June 25-July 16...... $\$ 755.00$
Total Envelopes: 232
Thank you for your generosity!

## End of Year Reports

We have recently concluded the fiscal year for our parishes on June 30. This means that our yearly expenses are all due to be paid. As we receive the year end financial reports from the Diocese and the Parish Finance Councils approve the year end report, I will share it with you. I thank you very much for your generosity to our parishes ands ask that you continue and hopefully increase it, as we begin another fiscal year. Please continue to make our parishes your favorite charity.

## Fr. Paul



Please pray for the wholeness \& healing of Irene, Stephen H., Blue, Tony P., Helen Miller, Faye C., Bryce, Lisa C., Terry Griffith, Mike Hauser, Pete Rerko, Bart Z., Sharon Golobish, Ronald Burke, Janet, John, Annette Phillips, Flo M., Lisa, Lucius, Stanley P., 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., Faye Hitlan, Knox, Phillip, Evelyn D., Baby Parker, Greg Pfeifer, Ken Keslar, Jen, Dwayne Thomas, Regis Melego, Mary Rose, David Gillott, Patricia Burke, Carol K., Frank Chain, David, Gene, Edward P., Janet Pfeifer, Elizabeth E., Don Seder, 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.
\(\left.\begin{array}{|c|}\hline Please keep in your <br>
prayers these active <br>
military personnel who <br>
continue to give so <br>

much to our country:\end{array}\right\}\)| Jacob Ruben Johnson, |
| :---: |
| Jacob Shafley, Alex Shafley, |
| Jared Yester, Stephen Shallenberger, |
| Drew Sheldon, Jim Dzurica and |
| Jonathan Lang |

## Recent Deaths

Please pray for Thomas Caletri who passed away recently. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest forever in the peace of the Lord.


As we hopefully all have our own personal gardens planted and are waiting for the warm nights to make them grow, maybe we can all start working and planting in our parish garden. Please help us our during this growing season.
First plant 5 rows of peas:

1. Prayer
2. Promptness
3. Politness
4. Purity
5. Perseverance

Next to these, plant 3 rows of squash:

1. Squash gossip
2. Squash criticism
3. Squash indifference

No garden is complete without turnips:

1. Turn up for church
2. Turn up with a smile to the meetings
3. Turn up with new ideas
4. Turn up with determination to make everything
count for something good and worthwhile
Don't forget Lettuce:
5. Let us find something good about everyone
6. Let us help one another when we need it the most
7. Let us be faithful
8. Let us follow Christ

## Candles this Week

St. Pius X
Sanctuary - In memory of Gene Wisnewski - wife, Carol
Blessed Mother - In memory of Mary Ricotta - daughter
St. Joseph - In memory of Joseph Arrigo - Arrigo family
Our Lady of Czestochowa - In memory of Philip \& Rose Valiante - daughter, Amy

## Visitation

Sanctuary - In memory of John Keto - Ruth Keto
Blessed Mother - In memory of Stephen Kubasky Veronica \& family
St. Joseph - In memory of Paul Kostyo - brother \& sisters
Madonna \& Child - In memory of Charles Zelenak, Sr. -
family

## Who is considered a parishioner?

We are often asked how we define who is a parishioner of either of our parishes. A parishioner is:

1) Baptized Catholic
2) Registered member of one of our parishes and
3) Participates in the faith community of our parish by regular attendance at Mass here.
If you are currently registered with your parents, but are 18 or older, independent and employed (not a student), you should register individually as a parishioner. Those who are not registered and who do not actively participate in the parish faith community are not considered members. Baptism at our parish, or any other area parish, does not mean you are automatically considered a lifelong member.

## What is a "Sponsor Certificate" and how is one obtained?

A sponsor certificate verifies that a person belongs to a particular parish and attends Sunday Mass regularly there. The certificate also verifies that someone fulfills all the Church requirements to be a sponsor for Baptism or Confirmation, including age, the completion of the Sacraments of Initiation, and if married, being in a valid marriage. A sponsor certificate can be obtained by calling the parish office. When a person is asked to be a sponsor, sometimes he or she is not sure of this role or the Church's expectations. This becomes an opportunity for us to learn once again the meaning behind some of the Church's practices. Those who are choosing sponsors are advised to choose carefully.

## Carrying the Gifts

One of the beautiful customs we have at our parishes is that the family of the person/persons for whom the particular weekend Mass is being offered may honor the memory of them by carrying the offertory gifts of bread and wine along with the free-will offering of our parishioners to the altar. This is an honor because it represents our parish family presenting to God the gifts necessary for not only the family celebration of the liturgy but the ongoing work of our parish family. Upon arriving for Mass, those wishing to accept this opportunity should notify the sacristan or ushers who are at the entrance of the church. If they are not notified before Mass, they are not sure if any of the family or friends are present. Please help us in this matter.


This Monday, August 14, is the Feast Day of St. Maximilian Mary Kolbe Presbyter, religious, martyr (1894-1941)
In the Nazi concentration camp called Auschwitz, Maximilian Kolbe was known by the number tattooed on his arm - 16670. During the Second World War, more than four million people died at this camp. Before they were killed, they were stripped of everything they owned, including their names.

Maximilian Kolbe was born near Lodz, Poland. He became a Franciscan priest. He decided that printing religious magazines and newspapers was a good way to spread God's word.

On September 1, 1939, Nazi Germany conquered Poland. The city of Warsaw was packed with refuges. Most of them were Jews, afraid for their lives because they were the targets of Nazi hatred. The friars in Warsaw were able to assist about 3000 of the escaping people with food and other supplies. Maximilian managed to print and distribute an issue of his magazine. The Knight that spoke out against the war. Soon afterword, the German secret police came for him. He was taken on a cattle truck to the Auschwitz labor camp, where so many others also would be sent before the war was over. For prisoners, a dreaded event in the camp was the escape of a fellow inmate. When this happened ten other prisoners were selected at random to die as punishment.

One day during the summer of 1941, a prisoner disappeared. (The guards assumed he had escaped, but later he was found dead on the prison grounds.) One of the ten men chosen to be killed cried out in despair, "I'll never see my wife and children again!" Maximilian stepped forward and asked to take the condemned man's place. His request was granted. He was herded into an underground cell with the other nine men to be starved to death. Over the next two weeks, all except three of them died. Those remaining, including Maximilian, were killed on August 1, the day before Assumption Day. St. Maximilian Kolbe is the patron saint of drug addicts.

\section*{RCIA

## Are you drawn to the Catholic Church and would like to learn would like to learn what Catholics what Catholics believe?

 believe?}Are you someone who was baptized Catholic, but not fully initiated? (Did not receive the sacraments of Eucharist and Confirmation.) Each of us is on a journey to deepen our relationship with Jesus Christ. The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the setting for individuals to learn what it means to be a Catholic Christian. This is an opportunity for you to discover what Catholics believe and discern if you are called to this journey of faith. Individuals from the parish walk with you, sharing their faith and allowing you to question and explore what it means to live as a Catholic Christian. We gather to pray, to read Scripture, to explore topics of our faith tradition and to support one another in this journey.

Our next gathering will be on Sunday, August 20 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ following the 10:30 Mass in the St. Pius school building (lower level) for a second inquiry meeting. This inquiry session will give you the opportunity to have a conversation with Fr. Dan and Cindy Copeland and others who support and guide the inquirers in the RCIA process. Refreshments will be available.

If you know of someone who is interested in learning about our faith, please share this invitation with them to "Come and See." If unable to attend on August $20^{\text {th }}$, individuals may inquire about RCIA by calling the parish office (724-547-1911) to speak with Fr. Dan Carr or Cindy Copeland.


The Knights of Columbus will pray the Rosary at $9: 45 \mathrm{am}$, on Sunday, August 20th at St. Pius X Church. Please join us in prayer!


## Mt. Pleasant Cruise Night

Friday, August 18 at Frick Park Gates Open to Cars: 6:00pm
Open to Public: 7:00pm - Driver admission: $\$ 5.00$ Public: $\$ 2.00$, children under 12 FREE

DJ Entertainment
Rain Date: August 25
For more info. call 724-216-7486 or 724-542-4711


There are times when the parish office is not open and the phone messages are transferred to voicemail. The office staff does its best to respond to all the messages as quickly as possible. I would ask you to make sure that the message you leave is precise and worded slowly so that one can understand it clearly. Please state your name clearly and your pone number just as clearly and twice to make sure we receive it correctly. There have been times when the message is not clearly received and we cannot return the call. If you have not heard back from us after a few days, please call again to make sure that it was received correctly. Thank you for understanding.


## August Faithful Challenge: Attend an Outdoor Mass This Summer

Outdoor Masses provide a relaxing, prayerful respite. Bishop Kulick's August Faithful Challenge is to attend an outdoor Mass this summer. Receiving the Eucharist nourishes the soul. The popularity of outdoor Masses soared during the pandemic, but many parishes still celebrate Mass outdoors during the summer months. You can find a list of outdoor Masses happening this summer
at www.theaccentonline.org.
Attending an outdoor Mass or outdoor
Eucharistic procession is an opportunity to get involved in the National Eucharistic Revival. So is attending KNOW HIM: Stunned Disciples, Thursday, September 21, 2023 at Christ Our Shepherd Center, Greensburg. Imagine their shock of Jesus' closest friends when they experienced his miracles, witnessed his crucifixion, and saw him alive again, resurrected from the dead. You will be transported back to Jesus' time and become a stunned disciple: experience Jesus' miracles, see the tools of the crucifixion, taste food from the Holy Land, and learn about other disciples like Blessed Carlo Acutis, a 15-year-old Italian website designer on the path to Sainthood. Register for this one-of-a-kind immersive experience at www.dioceseofgreensburg.org/ eucharisticrevival.

## Diocesan is proud to now be printing

## St Pius $\mathcal{X}$ \& Visitation Parish's Sunday Bulletin

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