ST. PIUS X PARISH



VISITATION PARISH

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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

Mt. Pleasant, PA

740 W. Walnut Street

August 27, 2023 - Twenty-First 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

	1on.	8/28	St. Pius X
			7:00am Thelma Porterfield - Connie & Charley
			Richard A. Farcosky - Agnes C. Farcosky
٦	ues.	8/29	St. Pius X
			7:00am John Wawrzyniak - Joan Wawrzyniak & family
			Maryann C. Minick - Steve King
l٧	Ved.	8/30	St. Pius X
			7:00am E. William Cronin - Paul & Peggy Tepper
l			Dorothy Shibilsky - Loretta
			(Rysz) Gelet
T	Thurs.	8/31	St. Pius X 7:00am Parish Families
F	riday	9/1	St. Pius X 7:00am Walt Hudock - wife, Rosemary
			Bernice Melega - daughters
s	at.	9/2	Visitation
			4:00pm Sophie & Walter Shutty, Sr Sandy & Steve
			St. Pius X
			6:00pm Amelia Forys - husband, Bob Forys
			James Tylka - family
s	Sun.	9/3	Visitation
l			8:30am James Kocis - Roy & Cathy
			Edward Kendi - George & Paula Kapr
			St. Pius X
			10:30am Carl & Jane Schroll - Bo & Bev
			Margaret Maricondia - Sister Edie

Adoration: First Friday, September 1st St. Pius X Church

Adoration is on the first Friday of each month following morning Mass. Adoration closes at noon.

Confessions: First Saturday, September 2nd 12noon at St. Pius X Church 3:15pm at Visitation Church

(Each Saturday, 3:15pm @ Visitation Church)

Reminder for all Ministers of the Altar

Beginning with the October minister schedule, please contact Erin @ eknizner@dioceseofgreensburg.org with your availability to minister. Thank You!

Ministry of the Altar

Sat. 9/2 Visitation 4:00pm **Greeters: Volunteers** Lector: Brian Hunter Minister: Yvonne Hunter Servers: Owen Spires, Lily Spires. Volunteer Cantor: Kathy Demagall St. Pius X 6:00pm **Greeters: Volunteers** Lector: Joe Klocek Ministers: Mary Ann Arrigo, Sandy Coppula Servers: Jaxon Farino, Ava Coppula, Sophia Coppula Cantor: Peggy Tepper Sun. 9/3 Visitation 8:30am Greeters: Volunteers Lector: Stanley Kapella Minister: Patricia Thomas Servers: Amelia Thomas, Langdon Thomas, Grant Zahrobsky Cantor: Sharon Stewart St. Pius X 10:30am Greeters: Knights of Columbus Lector: Robert Davis Ministers: Madonna Mullin, Connie Barnhart Servers: Nolan Davis, Volunteer, Volunteer Cantor: Pat Martinoski



Labor Day Mass Schedule

Monday, September 4th 9am at St. Pius X Church. Following Mass a Patriotic Rosary will be led by the Knights of Columbus. All are welcome!









New Office Hours

Beginning on Friday, September 1st, the parish office will be closed on Fridays. Normal office CHURCH hours will be Monday thru

Thursday from 9:30am -3:00pm. I ask you to please be mindful of this as the end of August approaches. Just a reminder that Linda's last day at work for us is Thursday. August 31st. Erin will start her new position as Administrative Assistant on Tuesday, September 5th. Thank you for your attention to these items.

Fr. Paul

Desk of Fr. Dan

A little while ago I received an From the anonymous letter from a "Concerned Older Parishioner" that included the following question:

> The older a person becomes the more the thought process becomes

difficult to fathom.... Why do thoughts of wonderment develop? Is it because of indoctrination of religion?

In 2004, geneticist Dean Hamer wrote a book called The God Gene: How Faith is Hardwired into our Genes. This would suggest that our faithfulness is at least in part a genetic behavior and we might be predisposed toward certain kinds of religious experiences depending on our genes.

Before I give my own thoughts, I'll give you the Catholic answer first (which is connected to my thoughts). built us to be like Him – capable of higher thinking, experiences of wonder, and of making choices freely. The Catechism tells us that, outside of our religious upbringing, we can come to know God both by looking out at the world around us and by looking within at the depth of the human person. If you look at the history of peoples, everyone has believed in a higher power. All of this seems to suggest that we carry "religion" in our hearts, even if it's not around us. For us as Catholics, we know that this comes from a good, loving God.

As for my own thoughts, I have seen many people come to believe in God for a variety of reasons. Some found God with their mind and intellect; others through a powerful experience; still others from a profound relationship. What happens to us are often called "religious experiences" or "God moments" – when something happens, we can't put our finger on but mean something big. Yet in these moments, some people have not found God. How can one person go through something and come away with a sense of God while another finds nothing?

There's no easy answer for that. To me, explaining it away with the God Gene or indoctrination misses the point. In the end, there is no getting around what Pope Benedict XVI called the "terrible perhaps" of being human. We cannot know for certain. We all have what are called "religious experiences". Are they authentic or not? Is there someone behind them or not? Do I believe because my parents made me? These are questions to which we can never truly have the answers. We must choose to believe or not.

The good news is that our Catholic faith is a strong faith. It is a reasonable faith – it is not blind to deep intellectual thought. It has stood the test of time. And many have been willing to lose their lives for it. That's a faith in which I'm willing to believe.



Congratulations to Mason Robert Hisker, son of Thomas & Katie Crawford Hisker, who received the Sacrament of Baptism on Saturday, August 19th at Visitation Church. May God bless him.





School Bells are Ringing!

Once again summer is winding down, which signals that it is time for schools to open their doors. As our youth go off to college, high school, grade school, kindergarten or

even pre-school, we want to wish them well. Hopefully summer has been relaxing and refreshing, and they are ready to begin the education that will be important in their lives. We know that they have new clothes, backpacks and lunchboxes, notebooks and pens, fridges and debit cards, but may they remember that the most important thing to take with them is an open mind, so that it may become filled by every class and subject. Be assured of our continued prayers for a good year, and may God bless you throughout the 2023-2024 school year.

School is open. Please drive with care!

Let's remind ourselves that our children are now waiting alongside our roadways to be picked up for classes, or being dropped off at the end of the school day. They do not always exercise caution as they should while at the bus sop. It is our responsibility as adults to be extra careful and responsible at all times.

Back to School Prayer

Father of all mercies, we ask that you would bless the youngest and littlest of learners, the most helpless and powerless of persons, with Your infinite and loving mercy, granting them the strength to learn, concentrate and act appropriately towards their teachers and fellow students. We ask that You would watch over them, at home and at school, and grant them proper direction so that they may learn of Your wonderful virtues. We ask this in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Let us pray for the students, parents, instructors, and all involved in our young people's education be it elementary, high school or college - that they always be open to the Holy Spirit.



Faith Formation

2023-2024 Faith Formation

Faith Formation takes place on Tuesday nights, 6pm - 7:30pm in the school building at St. Pius X.

This year we are pleased to introduce faith formation opportunities for every age group.

- Program for God's youngest (PK)
- ♦ Elementary faith formation (K-5)
- Middle youth formation (6-8)
- High school youth group (9-12)
- Adult Bible study all are welcome

Annual Program Cost

\$20 for first child \$15 for second child \$10 for third child

Cost of bible study TBD



Registration forms are in the entrance of church or register online by Wednesday, August 30th.

Weekly Offering - August 20, 2023

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Visitation Parish

Weekly	\$3,861.00
Capital Improvements	\$10.00
Growing	\$10.00
Accent	
Assumption	\$872.00
Catholic Univ/School	
Total Envelopes: 229	*

St. Pius X Parish

Weekly	\$5,794.00
Capital Improvements	\$10.00
Accent	
Assumption	\$1,343.00
Catholic Univ./School	\$113.00
Initial \$10.00	

Initial.\$10.00 Total Envelopes: 295

Thank you for your generosity!



Rosary for Peace Everyone is invited to St. Pius X Church every Wednesday @ 11:30am to pray the Rosary.



St. Pius X & Visitation Parish Picnic Sunday, September 10 1pm - 4pm at Frick Park



Hamburgers, Hotdogs & Beverages provided - Games for all ages!

Those attending are asked to bring one or more of the following items based on the first letter of your last name.

Please register by August 30th with the registration form below or use the QR code to register online.

Parish Picnic

Name		Phone	
	Email		
#Adults	#Children	Ages of Children	

Circle items you plan to bring:

A-G: Salad or Fruit, H-O: Dessert, P-Z: Potato vegetable or other side dish Please return to the parish office.

Please pray for the wholeness & healing of

Tom OBrocto, Sr., Irene, Stephen H., Blue, 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.





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

Word Among Us Daily Meditations for Catholics

You may notice in the back of our Churches, a new Catholic periodical entitled the *Word Among Us*. This little magazine has daily meditations for Catholics. It is published on a monthly basis and contains Catholic Mass readings. These are furnished on a trial basis, free of charge, to see if there is an interest in this booklet. You can always make a free will offering if you would like. I hope this periodical will help you spend some time with our Lord. They are available beginning this weekend in the back of both churches.

Fr. Paul



Walking with Moms-In-Need Group

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, September

6th, 6:30pm in the Visitation Community Center. New members are welcome.



St. Pius X Parish Festival Follow-up Meeting on Tuesday, September 12 at 7pm in St. Pius social hall. All are welcome to attend and

discuss our recent festival, what worked and where we can improve for next year. Hope to see you there!

Candles this Week



St. Pius X

Sanctuary - In memory of John Wawrzyniak - Sandy & John DiPasquale & family

Blessed Mother - In memory of Thelma Porterfield - Connie & Charley

St. Joseph - In memory of Charles Dublinsky - daughter,
Diana Lucia

Our Lady of Czestochowa - In memory of Walt Hudock - wife, Rosemary

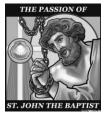
Visitation

Sanctuary - In memory of Paula Torcaso - Barbara Niezgoda

Blessed Mother - In memory of John E. Rerko - Agnes Rerko & family

St. Joseph - In memory of Richard Sofranko - family **Madonna & Child** - In memory of all the faithful departed





This Tuesday, August 29 is the Feast of the Martyrdom of St. John the Baptist

Herod Antipas was a weak and immoral king who had married Herodias, the wife of his own brother. John the Baptist was a prophet

and a person of integrity, so he spoke out against this wrong. Herod was awed and puzzled by John, but Herodias was furious. John was a threat to her power. She had Herod thrown him in prison. At Herod's birthday celebration, Herodias saw her chance to get John out of the way for good. Her young daughter Salome danced at the party, and Herod was so delighted that he foolishly promised her anything she wished as a reward, even half his kingdom. The daughter consulted her mother - and then she asked for the head of John the Baptist on a platter!

Herod had been outsmarted. He was afraid to kill John but saw no way out. So, for the sake of a dance at a birthday party, the great prophet John was murdered. (This story is told in the sixth chapter of the Gospel of Mark and the eleventh chapter of the Gospel of Matthew.) Some of John's disciples buried his body at Sebaste, a town some miles from Jerusalem.

Unlike the luxury-loving king who had him killed, John owned nothing. He ate only the simplest food and wore the skins of wild animals he caught in the desert. His one concern was to do the will of God. He devoted his time to prayer and the service of others. When people thought that he might be the Messiah, he quickly explained to them that one greater than he was coming. And when Jesus began his public ministry, John quietly stepped aside. "He must increase," John said of Jesus, "but I must decrease." John's mission from the time he was born had been to prepare the way for the Lord. He had done so all his life, calling people to repent of their sins and to await the good news. Now he led the way in death as well - his martyrdom showed what lay ahead for Jesus. No wonder Jesus praised John as "a burning and shining lamp!"

We celebrate St. John the Baptist on June 24, the solemnity of his birth. Today we mourn for him. In the Eastern Church, today is a strict fast day, like Good Friday.

Parish Picnic Planning Meeting

Those who would like to help in the planning of our parish picnic are asked to attend a meeting on Wednesday, August 30th at 7pm in Visitation community center.



The Visitation Christian Mothers invite any/all ladies, young and/or older, of the parish to join their membership on Thursday, September 28th at 6pm; a

rosary will begin at 5:30pm in the church. (Note: This date has been changed from the 21st to the 28th due to Glass Festival schedule conflicts.) Christian Mothers Organizations began in Lille, France in 1850. The cultural challenges at that time, prompted ladies to gather to pray with and for one another and their children, to discuss their problems, and to advise one another under the patronage of Our Lady of Sorrows. Presently, there are six Archconfraternity of Christian Mothers in the world. They are located in Paris, Rome, Regensburg (Ratisbon), Cracow, Einsiedeln, and Pittsburgh. The society founded its way to America on January 16, 1881 at St. Augustine's Church, now known as Our Lady of the Angels Parish, 220-37th St., Pittsburgh, PA. Our local parish membership meets the 3rd Thursday of the month in April, May, September-December. We share prayer, fellowship and support to our parish. If interested in becoming a member please call Jan Brooks at 724-547-5356 by Monday, September 25th. To our Current Members: This September meeting is our Annual Covered Dish. (I'm always amazed at the variety of foods displayed! It is a beautiful sight!) Please remember to add your name to your dish, so we can share recipes. Following the 5:30pm rosary, we will induct any new members, and then proceed to the community center. Thanks in Advance, Jan.



Are you drawn to the Catholic Church and would like to learn what Catholics 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. Individuals may inquire about RCIA by calling the parish office (724-547-1911) to speak with Fr. Dan Carr or Cindy Copeland.

Position at Verna Montessori School

Verna Montessori School in Mt. Pleasant, a private Montessori education for children ages 3-14 in the Fayette and Westmoreland Counties is seeking an individual to fill the role of a part-time secretary. VMS is looking for an individual who would work 4 or 5 mornings a week from mid-August until mid-June. Additional summer hours would be as needed. The successful candidate will maintain a high level of confidentiality and discretion. The individual will undertake duties and have responsibilities pertaining to the role as decided by the principal and/or Sisters of Ivrea of the Immaculate Conception which include but are not limited to:

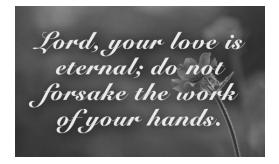
— Acting as the first point of contact for visitors to

- Acting as the first point of contact for visitors the school;
 Managing school communications: phone,
- email, mailings;

 Updating, managing and storing school records/
- Updating, managing and storing school records/ database and
- General office management.

The successful applicant must provide the following background clearances: PA Criminal Record Check and Child Abuse History Clearance as well as a Federal Criminal History Record Check. Please contact Sr. Juliana Tengia, SCIS by phone (724-887-8810) or email

<u>sr.juliana@vernamontessorischool.org</u>, if you are interested in applying for this position..



St. Rita Christian Mothers will host an Italian Day Sale on Friday, September 1, from 11am - 5:30pm in St. Rita's social hall in Connellsville.

Featured will be 3 Italian dinners: spaghetti and 2 meatballs, manicotti and 2 meatballs and eggplant parm with a side of spaghetti and 1 meatball. All dinners include salad, roll and cake. A box of 4 slices of pizza will also be sold. Eat-in or take-out orders will be available.



The recent "Clothing Sale" held by the Visitation Christian Mothers was a huge success!

The profit gained exceeded last year's amount by over a thousand dollars! The final deposit from the sale was \$2,829.44. This success is due to the many clothing donations from our fellow parishioners and community members. Our members are in awe at the support shown to them; so much so, they are thinking of extending the hours of the sale. It seems as if each year we receive more and more donations. We are grateful and appreciative to all! Also, I need to extend a heartfelt thanks to all of my fellow members and friends that helped with the organization of the sale and the "tear down." The amount of help received makes our sale very prosperous. A special thanks to Paul Baird who delivered the remaining Men's Clothing to "Union Mission" in Latrobe, and Joe Bauer who arranged for St. Vincent De-Paul to collect the clothing that wasn't sold. Finally, a special thanks to Brendan Baird who has helped us clean our community center for many years. Brendan does impeccable work. Thanks to all, Sincerely Jan.



JA Note from the Music Director

Adult Choir Rehearsal will begin again on Thursday, September 7 that 7pm in St. Pius X church. The Adult Choir consists of high school youth and adults. We rehearse from September to the Feast of Pentecost (late May/early June.) The Adult Choir sings at Sunday Mass, alternating between 8:30am at Visitation and 10:30am at St. Pius X, as well as important feast days and celebrations throughout the year.

<u>Cantor Rehearsal</u> will also begin on <u>Thursday</u>, <u>September 7th at 6pm in St. Pius X Church</u>.

The role of the cantor is to lead the assembly in prayerful song during the liturgy. They are also called to share their gift of music by proclaiming the word of God as psalmist and sometimes teaching the assembly new hymns and acclamations.

<u>Instrumentalists</u> who are willing to share their gifts are welcome! Please contact Sheryl @ snagy@dioceseofgreensburg.org.

New members are always welcome!
Come and be a part of our Music Ministry!

St Pius X & Visitation Parish's Sunday Bulletin









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For further information, please call the parish office.

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