### St. Pius X Parish



## Visitation Parish

224 Summit Street  $\Diamond$ 

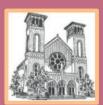
Mt. Pleasant, Pennsylvania

740 West Walnut Street

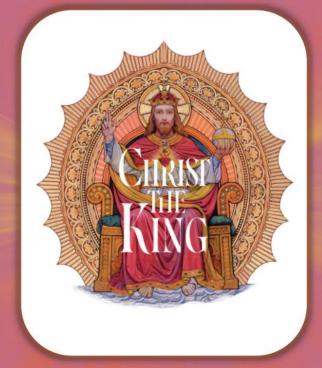


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November 26, 2023 - Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe



### Mass Schedule

Saturday: 4:00p.m. at Visitation; 6:00 p.m. at St. Pius X Sunday: 8:30a.m. at Visitation; 10:30 a.m. at St. Pius X Weekday Mass: 7:00 a.m. at Visitation

Administrator: Very Rev. Paul A. Lisik, V.F. plisik@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Parochial Vicar: Rev. Daniel E. Carr dcarr@dioceseofgreensburg.org

### **Mass Intentions**

11/27 **Visitation** Mon. 7:00 a.m. - Sarah Smetak- Jane Zajdel 11/28 **Visitation** Tues. 7:00 a.m. Greg Pfeifer-mom, Pauline & family Wed. 11/29 **Visitation** 7:00 a.m. Vincent & Charlene Prosnik-Loretta Gelet & family 11/30 **Visitation** Thurs. 7:00 a.m. Frances Secorie- Tim, Desiree & Andy 12/1 **Visitation** Friday 7:00 a.m. Helen Miller- Gary & Mary Halula 12/2 **Visitation** Sat. 4:00 p.m. Maryann C. Minick-brother, Joseph St. Pius X 6:00 p.m. Bernard Atz- Scott & LuAnn Waters John & Jennie Rozell- daughter, Joni Rozell Sun. 12/3 **Visitation** 8:30 a.m. Felix & Frances Zaffina- family St. Pius X 10:30 a.m. Robert Alfery-Ben & Amy



Alfery

### **OUR STAFF**

Facilities and Business Manager: Joy Wallace jwallace@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Director of Liturgical Music: Sheryl E. Nagy snagy@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Administrative Assistant: Erin Knizner eknizner@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Maintenance Supervisor: Joe Bauer jbauer@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Office Assistant: Theresa Turner tdturner@dioceseofgreensburg.org

### Ministry of the Altar

Sat. 12/2 Visitation 4:00pm

Greeters: volunteers Lector: Brian Hunter

Eucharistic Minister: Yvonne Hunter Servers: Lily & Owen Spires, vol.

Cantor: Joanne Geckle

St. Pius X 6:00pm

Greeters: volunteers Lector: Connie Barnhart

Eucharistic Ministers: Chris DeFlitch & Mary

Ann Arrigo

Servers: Braxton Pastore, Ava & Sophia Coppula

Cantor: Kristin Guynn

Sun. 12/3 Visitation 8:30am

Greeters: volunteers Lector: Colleen Pernelli

Eucharistic Minister: Sr. Anna Maria

Servers: Ty Whoric, Addison & Sophie Grenda

Cantor: Sharon Stewart

St. Pius X 10:30am

Greeters: volunteers Lector: Eric Poole

Eucharistic Ministers: Kristen Rega, Pat Gaal Servers: Jaxon Farino, Lucas Poole, Camden Stouffer

. . . .

Cantor: Eric Harris/choir

### Candles this Week



### St. Pius X

Sanctuary- John L. Lee, Sr.- John L. Lee, Jr.

Blessed Mother- Patty & Regis Lipyance- sister, Mary Ann

St. Joseph- Karen Y. Rega- Edith Rega & family

Our Lady of Czestochowa – Louise DiPasquale – Sandy & John DiPasquale & family

### **Visitation**

Sanctuary - James & Letty Vella - family

Blessed Mother- Brady Hunker- Grammy

St. Joseph- John Kalinay- sister, Libby Catalano

St. Vincent de Paul can be reached locally for assistance at 724-547-0413.

From the Desk of Fr. Dan

The lost I will seek out, the strayed I will bring back, the injured I will bind up, the sick I will heal, but the sleek and the strong I will destroy, shepherding them rightly. — Ezekiel 34:16

When we think of the Good Shepherd, I imagine that most of us think about

Psalm 23. In that psalm, we hear about how the Lord is our Shepherd who will lead us to flowing waters and green, verdant pastures. It sounds wonderful.

Then it tells us, your rod and your staff comfort me. How are the rod and staff a comfort? Let's start with the meaning of the staff. We often think of shepherds and sheep being out in green fields, but In Israel, shepherds had their flocks out in the desert. The weather was blazing hot. So, they took the sheep out to pasture during the night when it was still dark and not as hot. The shepherd would lead his flocks through the dark night by tapping his staff on the rocky ground. Even though it was difficult for the sheep to see, they could follow the shepherd by hearing the tapping sounds of the staff. The staff was also used as a weapon to defend the flock against predators.

If the staff was used to guide and protect, the rod served a very different purpose. It was used to smack animals who were misbehaving. The sheep who were wandering off or getting off course got a chastisement from the rod to usher them back onto the right path.

God shepherds us rightly using both a rod and a staff. Sometimes, he can be gentle – tapping the ground with the staff and encouraging us to follow Him. At other times, he is not so gentle. He needs to yank us back on course when he wishes to take us somewhere we do not want to go. Every parent of children has been here. It's much more pleasant to guide with a staff. No one wants to use the figurative rod – chastising or punishing people we love is not fun. But it is a necessary tool over the course of our lifetime.

This should bring us comfort, as the psalmist says. If the shepherd doesn't nudge us in the right direction, we could end up wandering around in the dark and falling off a cliff. The Shepherd, in using the rod, is keeping us from the danger of falling off course and getting totally lost.

We always want our Shepherd to bind up our injuries and heal us when we're sick. But if we're getting too big for our britches, think we know better than God, and start to go our own way, He will use the rod. If in your relationship with God or in your prayer God never tells you "No", it's possible that you're missing something crucial. We are not allowing him to shepherd us if we ignore anything and everything that challenges us and chastises us. We should be grateful for the rod and comforted by it, even though it's not always pleasant.

### Notes from our Administrator, Fr. Paul:

TODAY, NOVEMBER 26, we celebrate the Feast of Christ the King. This was instituted by Pope Pius XI and was celebrated on the last Sunday in October to foster awareness of Christ's dominion over all people and to establish peace among nations. After Vatican Council II, the feast was transferred to the last Sunday of the Liturgical Year, the Sunday before Advent. This feast celebrates Christ's Kingship in an altogether non-worldly way. Jesus was anointed by the Father with the oil of gladness as the Eternal Priest and Universal King. As Priest, He offered His life on the altar of the cross and redeemed the human race by this one perfect sacrifice of peace. As King, He claims dominion over all creation, that He may present to the almighty Father, a Kingdom of truth and life, a Kingdom of holiness and grace. a Kingdom of justice, love and peace. May we present ourselves to Christ, our King as we prepare for the upcoming new liturgical year as an example to our families and friends of what it means to have Christ as the center of our daily lives.

**ADVENT,** which begins next Sunday, is a season in which you and I prepare our hearts for the coming of the Christ Child. Hopefully, this translates into a generosity to Christ and His Church. As we enter the Advent season, hopefully we are making plans not only to decorate our homes but also our hearts early. This can be accomplished by using the four weeks of Advent this year to prepare for the birth of our Savior. Please make an attempt to add prayers and works of charity and kind words and a cheery disposition to all that you do in this upcoming Advent season. We will then have a special gift to present to the Christ child on Christmas.

DECEMBER 8 is the feast of the Immaculate Conception of Our Blessed Mother, which is a holy day of obligation. All Catholics are obliged to attend Mass on that day. Our Mass schedule for the Immaculate Conception is as follows: THURSDAY, Dec. 7, 6 p.m. at Visitation; FRIDAY, Dec. 8, 7 a.m. at Visitation; 6 p.m. at St. Pius X.

# In & Around Our Neighborhood...

### It's time to ring the bell!

If you have an hour or two on Saturday, Dec. 2 and would like to make a difference in your community, please sign up to ring the bell at Walmart for the Salvation Army. It is a great way to begin the holiday season. We start at 9 a.m. at the Market Door and continue until we have no more volunteers. If willing to help, call Pat Martinoski at 724-547-4655. Call early because time slots fill up quickly. God bless you for your time.

GIFTS OF HOPE: A Fair Trade Shopping Event
Sponsored by the Mt. Pleasant Church of God
Every gift you purchase helps to lift families in
developing countries out of poverty! Friday, Dec. 1,
6:00-8:00 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 2, 10:00 a.m.-2:00
p.m. Mt. Pleasant Church of God, 936 West Main St.
FREE ADMISSION/20+ VENDORS/LIVE MUSIC!



The parish office will be closed on Monday the 27th and will reopen on Tuesday, Nov. 28th at 9:30 a.m.



Attention all Eucharistic Ministers who take communion to shut-ins: Pat would like you to please pick up a small gift that has been donated by the St. Vincent de Paul Society to be taken to your shut-ins for Christmas. They are at the rectory now and can be picked up at any time. Thank you.





### St. Pius X Holy Name Society Oldies Dance

St. Pius X social hall, Friday,
December 1 from 6:00-10:00 p.m.
Cost is \$5 per person and includes
soft drinks, adult beverages &
snacks. Guests are welcome to
bring their own food. There will also
be a 50/50 drawing!

### WALKING WITH MOTHERS MEETING AND SERVICE PROJECT

The next meeting of Walking with Mothers will be Monday, Dec. 4 at 6:30 p.m. in the Visitation community center. Members should bring a box/pack of diapers and canned goods for the Blessing Boxes service project. New members welcome.

THE ST. PIUS X CHRISTIAN MOTHERS will have their next meeting on Wednesday, November 29 at 6:00 p.m. in the social hall. Also, the Pleasant Valley Golf Club has been reserved for their Christmas holiday brunch: mark your calendars for noon on Sunday, January 7!

### SCOTTDALE AREA CHORAL SOCIETY

Christmas Concert Series: **SUN. Dec. 3** at Perryopolis UMC, Perryopolis, PA

MON. Dec. 4 at Philip Cochran UMC, Dawson, PA

SUN. Dec. 10 at St. Pius X RC Church, Mt. Pleasant, PA

MON. Dec. 11 at Grace Fellowship Church, Everson, PA

All concerts begin at 7 p.m. & admission is free.

#### Advent Day of Prayer for Women of the Diocese

With The Very Reverend Eric J. Dinga, Spiritual Advisor of the DCCW

Sponsored by The Greensburg Diocesan Council of the National Council of Catholic Women (DCCW)

Saturday December 2, 2023

ALL women are invited and encouraged to attend

St Rose Parish, Latrobe, PA

8:30: Registration

9:00: Rosary for Priests

9:30: Mass (homily / Advent reflection)

**Catered Brunch** 

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Second reflection on Advent

Stations of the Cross for Advent

The day should conclude by 1:00

\$15 \* reservations required \* by 11/25 for more information and reservations

President: Kathy Byron 724-787-2415 kathyb1133@gmail.com

Payment accepted at the door

Confessions heard at Visitation every Saturday, beginning at 3:15 p.m. and the first Saturday of the month at St. Pius X, beginning at 12:00 p.m.



THIS WEEKEND is the beginning of hunting season. As some of our parishioners begin a sojourn into the fields and forests of the region, we pray for their safety and entrust them to the patron saint of hunters, St. Hubert. "God called St. Hubert from a worldly life to his service in an extraordinary manner: though the circumstances of this event are so obscured by popular inconsistent relations that we have no authentic account of his actions before he was engaged

in the service of the church under the discipline of St. Lambert, Bishop of Maestricht." The "extraordinary manner" referred to in Alban Butler's commendably guarded statement is related to have been as follows: Hubert was very fond of hunting and one Good Friday went out after a stag when everybody else was going to church. In a clearing of the woods, the beast turned, displaying a crucifix between his antlers. Hubert stopped in astonishment, and a voice came from the stag, saying, "Unless you turn to the Lord, Hubert, you shall fall into Hell." He cast himself on his knees, asking what he should do, and the voice told him to seek out Lambert, the bishop of Maestricht, who would guide him.

However the retirement of Hubert from the world came about, he entered the service of St. Lambert and was ordained a priest. When the bishop was murdered at Liege about the year 705, Hubert was selected to govern the See in his place. Some years later, he transported Lambert's bones from Maestricht to Liege, then only a village upon the banks of the Meuse, which from this grew into a flourishing city. In those days, the forest of Ardenne stretched from the Meuse to the Rhine and in several parts, the gospel of Christ had not yet taken root. St. Hubert penetrated into the most remote places of the this country and abolished the worship of idols. The author of his life relates as an eyewitness that on the rogation days the holy bishop went out of Maestricht in procession through the fields and villages, with his clergy and people according to custom, following the cross and the relics of the saints, and singing the litany. This procession was disturbed by a woman possessed by an evil spirit; but St. Hubert silenced her and restored her to health by signing her with the cross. Before his death, he is said to have been warned of it in a vision and given as it were a sight of the place prepared for him in glory. Twelve months later, he went into Barbant to consecrate a new church. He was taken ill immediately after at Tervueran, near Brussels. On the sixth day of his sickness he quietly died, on May 30, in 727.

May St. Hubert guide and protect the hunters of our parishes during this hunting season and always.

Please let us know who to include in or remove from our list of those ACTIVELY serving in the military, so that we may pray for them. We are trying our best to keep rosters current, and we'd appreciate your help with this!

Please pray for our departed loved ones: Jean Rodgers & Joan Wawrzyniak.

**Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord.** 



Please pray for the wholeness and healing of:

Zippy, Robert Atz, Mike Curci, Arthur & Joann Kiliany, Liam R., Luca I., Tom O'Brocto, Sr., Irene, Stephen H., Blue, 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., Knox, Phillip, 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, 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., Mercedes Isola, Georgia, 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, Betty Mencer, Bridget Nitkiewicz, Dorothy **Nitkiewicz** 

### Visitation Christian Mothers News

The Visitation Christian Mothers will celebrate their Christmas meal at Bell's Banquet, "The Barn". The date and time for the event is Thursday, December 14, at 6:00 p.m. Members may sign up at the November meeting or by calling Angela Overly at 724-344-0188 by Sunday, December 3. The fee for the dinner is \$15. Members will be asked to choose a main entrée of either Parmesan-crusted Chicken or Baked Cod. Hope to see all of you there! Thanks, Jan.

The Visitation Christian Mothers were permitted to sell Colebrook Chocolates this holiday season. Order forms are located at the back of the churches. Orders will be accepted until Sunday, November 26. Orders may be dropped off in the collection basket, at the parish office, or to any member of the organization. Checks for candy purchases should be made out to the "Visitation Christian Mothers". The pick-up date for the candy will be Saturday, December 16, at the Visitation community center from 10:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. The ongoing support from fellow parishioners and community members is greatly appreciated. Thanks in advance, Jau.

**UPCOMING BULLETIN TIDBITS:** Due to the approaching Advent & Christmas season, please be aware that submissions for bulletins will be due as listed below:

- for the December 10 bulletin, please submit no later than SATURDAY, DEC. 2
- for the December 17 bulletin, please submit no later than SATURDAY, DEC. 9
- for the December 24 bulletin, please submit no later than WEDNESDAY, DEC. 13
- ♦ for the December 31 bulletin, please submit no later than WEDNESDAY, DEC. 20

Space is at a premium at this time of year, and we'll do our best to accommodate requests. Thank you for your understanding!



**DUE TO THE QUICK TURNAROUND FOR PRINTING OF THIS BULLETIN,** the weekly offertory report from November 19 will be added as soon as applicable.











JUST A REMINDER that there is an envelope in your packet for Christmas flowers. Donations may be given in memory of a deceased loved one, the sick, or your own intentions. A special Mass will be celebrated on Christmas Day for all who gave to the Christmas flower fund.

Also, if you are out of town for the holidays, one suggestion is to keep your unused envelopes and bring your contributions up to date when you return. Your help will still be needed to meet current expenses. May God bless you and keep you safe throughout your holiday travels. God bless you for your generosity.



NEW LECTOR WORKBOOKS may now be picked up in the sacristies of both churches!

### ONLINE GIVING NOW AVAILABLE!

Please scan the appropriate QR code below or go to www.mpcatholicchurches.org to begin giving online.

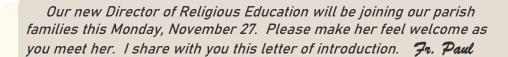
ST. PIUS X











To the Mt. Pleasant Parishes and Parishioners,

Hello! My name is Mary Allison and I'm your new Regional Director of Religious Education. I'm so excited to meet you, get to know you, and work with you. I'm particularly excited because this will be a homecoming for me in a lot of ways. I know this will be a new experience for us all, and I look forward to learning and growing with you.

I'm moving from Midland, TX. Previously, I lived in Anchorage, AK, Durham, NC, Auckland, NZ, and Northern Virginia; but, I said a homecoming! My father is from Perryopolis, PA and so (so, so, so) many members of my family live in the area and in the Connellsville region (as I type this, I'm texting my cousin who is friends with a catechist at Visitation in Mt. Pleasant...) I've spent most summers and Christmases in the area, and am looking forward to being with my people. And yes, I do mean Steelers fans when I say that! I'm looking forward to four distinct seasons, holidays with family, hills, trees, and snow again.

So, who am I? I grew up just outside Washington DC in Northern Virginia and went to college at The College of William and Mary (I studied history and religion). After that, I worked for the Department of Defense for some time before moving to New Zealand to work as a nanny. My host mother, and dear friend, encouraged me to go back to school and do what I love. After backpacking around the world, I went to Duke University to get my Master's in Religious Studies. While in North Carolina, a local Catholic Church hired me as an assistant Youth Minister.

Faith Formation allowed me to combine my education, my passions, and my talents. Throughout my career, I've found that Religious Education for all ages is where my heart lies: the joy of a little kid learning about Jesus, the peace of a teenager having their multitude of questions answered, the pride of an adult who understood a complicated theological statement.

You all have been in my prayers as I go through the process of moving back East. I ask that you keep me in your prayers at the same time as well. I can't wait to meet you all!

God bless, Mary Allison

### St Pius X & Visitation Parish's Sunday Bulletin









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