St. Pius X Parish



Visitation Parish

224 Summit Street

Mt. Pleasant, Pennsylvania 🛛 👌

740 West Walnut Street



Pennsylvania Charitable Trusts
 Parishes of the Diocese of Greensburg
 Office: 740 W. Walnut St. Mt. Pleasant, PA 15666
 Phone: 724-547-1911 Fax: 724-547-2630
 Visit us at: www.mpcatholicchurches.org
 Office Hours: Mon.-Thu.: 9:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.



February 18, 2024 - First Sunday of Lent



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

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

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

Mass Intentions

Mon.	2/19 Visitation 7:00 a.m. Nikki Tamblyn– Joanne Citro	
Tues.	2/20 Visitation 7:00 a.m. Stan Keto– Irene & family	
Wed.	2/21 Visitation 6:00 p.m. Agnes Smalkowski– Joe, Mitch & Ted Bielecki	
Thurs.	2/22 Visitation 7:00 a.m. Dorothy Shibilsky– M/M David Brooks	
Friday	2/23 Visitation 7:00 a.m. Anne M. Dolly Vanella– Sue & Paul Vanella Violet & Donato Callaro– Robert & Marsha Callaro	
Sat.	2/24 Visitation 4:00 p.m. Joan & Robert Soforic– Debra & Bob Manjerovic	
	St. Pius X 6:00 p.m. Pro populo	
Sun.	2/25 Visitation 8:30 a.m. Joseph & Mary Sosko– Arthur & Joann Kiliany	
	St. Pius X 10:30 a.m. Anthony & Georgetta Galloni– Marsha & Robert Callaro	



OUR STAFF

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

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

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Office Assistant: Theresa Turner *tdturner@dioceseofgreensburg.org*

Director of Religious Education: Mary Allison *mallison@dioceseofgreensburg.org*

Ministry of the Altar

Sat. 2/24 Visitation 4:00 p.m.

Greeters: volunteers Lector: Kate Bannon E.M.: Barb Sandzimier, Ray Gamrat, volunteer Servers: Colton Golobish, Owen & Lily Spires Cantor: Phil Brown

St. Pius X 6:00pm

Greeters: volunteers Lector: Lisa Sestak E.M.: Sandy C., Paul K., Hank R. & Cindy C. Servers: Emma Ersick, volunteers Cantor: Kristen Felentzer

Sun. 2/25 Visitation 8:30 a.m.

Greeters: volunteers Lector: Stanley Kapella E.M.: Marlene Cibulas, Joyce G. & Joann M. Servers: Sophie & Addison Grenda, Braxton P. Cantor: Chris DeFlitch

St. Pius X 10:30am Greeters: volunteers Lector: Becky Czekaj-Dengler E.M.: Audrey S., Pat G., Connie B. & volunteer Servers: Lucas Poole, Michael Hegyes, Jaxon F. Cantor: Pat Martinoski

Candles this Week



St. Pius X Sanctuary– Pete Ricotta– Marie

Blessed Mother- Agnes & Charles Wawrzyniak- John & Sandy DiPasquale and family

Our Lady of Czestochowa- Steve Melega- daughters

Visitation

Blessed Mother– Robert & Joan Soforic– Robert & Debra Manjerovic

St. Vincent de Paul, Mt. Pleasant: Please call 724-547-0413 for local assistance.

From the Desk of Fr. Dan

Put to death in the flesh, [Christ] was brought to life in the Spirit. In it he also went to preach to the spirits in prison, who had once been disobedient. – 1 Peter 3:18-20

He descended into Hell, and on the third day he rose again from the dead. – Apostles Creed

When we pray that "Jesus descended into hell", I don't know that we often think about what that really means. Did Jesus really go to hell? For three days? Why? Was that a part of his punishment for our sins?

Jesus did not really go to hell as we understand hell today. After all, one way of defining hell is "eternal separation from God". If Jesus goes there, it is no longer truly hell because Jesus is God. So, what do we mean?

The early Church understood it like this: Anyone who existed before Jesus who lived a good and holy life could not go to heaven. That was the result of the first sin of Adam and Eve – what we call original sin. No human being can make it to heaven his or herself. So, all of the great people in the Old Testament – Noah, Abraham, Moses, David, etc. - were not in heaven. But, neither were they in hell, exactly - not as we understand it. They were not in eternal damnation. They were in a place known in the Old Testament spoken of as Sheol – a place for the dead. In Dante's Divine Comedy, he speaks of the First Circle of Hell not as a place of punishment or torment, but as a place where souls who lived good lives but did not know Christ dwell.

We can imagine that this is the place spoken of by St. Peter and the Apostles Creed. This Sheol is where Jesus's spirit came after his death to rescue the souls of the just and invite the just souls into the pearly gates. He preaches to them the good news for which they awaited. Every one of them had sinned and been disobedient – even Moses – and because of this they could not enter the presence of God. Only by Jesus' passion, death, and resurrection are they able to be redeemed and be welcomed into heaven.

We ought to be mindful of this truth. On our own, the best we can ever do is make it to the First Circle of Hell. It is only through Jesus Christ that we will ever make it into the gates of heaven. Notes from our Administrator. Fr. Paul:

THE UNFOLDING MESSAGE: WHO ARE WE? WHAT ARE WE?

Early in His life, Jesus, like us, had a lot to learn. At the age of 12, His parents took Him to Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover. On the way home, after a day's journey, they discovered that Jesus was not with His kinfolk, as they had expected, but was still in Jerusalem. They went back and found Him in the temple. With remarkable wisdom, Jesus was talking with the teachers and asking them questions. Jesus explained His actions by telling His parents why it was essential for Him to do this. He needed to learn and know all that scripture and tradition had to tell Him.

What did Jesus learn, and what do we, today, need to learn? This is the message that Jesus gave to His disciples and that His whole life gives to us. It gradually unfolds through events and experiences. It is taught through parables and actions.

From the learned teachers, Jesus surely began to understand the nature and purpose of human life. From the story of the Garden of Eden, He learned that God wants for us a good and rewarding life. He learned that self seeking and jealousy like Cain's shuts us out of the good things life has to offer. From the ancient prophets, He learned more about how life should be lived. For example, from Micah he could have learned, "What does the Lord require of you, but to do justice and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"

Jesus not only learned, but He lived out what He had learned. That is why His whole life is an unfolding message of who we are and what we should be in God's plan for us. At the heart of His life and His message is the realization that He and we are called to mission. Our field of work is the whole human community. It is here that we are called to serve, and He shows us how this can be done. We do well to use the season of Lent as a time for learning how to fulfill both our mission and our human potential.

THE PARISH OFFICE will be closed this Monday, February 19, for the holiday of PRESIDENTS' DAY. The office will reopen at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 20.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS is a popular devotion in honor of the Passion and Death of Christ. It consists of meditating on 14 "stations" or "stages" in the Passion of Christ, such as His condemnation by Pilate and His scourging. Our Stations for the week will take place at Visitation at 12:05 p.m. and at St. Pius X at 6 p.m. on FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23.



PANCAKE BREAKFAST, St. Rita social hall, Sunday, FEBRUARY 18 from 7-11:30 a.m. Sponsored by the St. Rita Holy Name Society. \$7 adults, \$2 for kids 12 and under!

By planning with the Diocese, the Visitation Christian

Mothers are offering "The Last Supper Traveling

Exhibit" to all parishioners. The exhibit will be on display in the Visitation Community Center on the following dates: Sat., Feb. 17, after the 4 p.m. Mass; Sun., Feb. 18, after the 8:30 a.m. Mass; and Wed., Feb. 21, after the 6 p.m. Mass. The exhibit includes "a 16-foot mural of the Last Supper—its original was painted by Leonardo Da Vinci, along with six other versions for you to compare and contrast." Members of the Christian Mothers will be present to guide you through the exhibit. They will also provide light refreshments. The dates of the event were chosen by the Christian Mothers as a beginning to our Lenten journeys.

The Last Supper and the Gift of the Eucharist



Join us for a one-of-a-kind experience about The Last Supper mural painted by Leonardo da Vinci! Vatican Art Historian Dr. Elizabeth Lev recorded a captivating talk for you about the scriptural nuances of this historic piece of art. This is a wonderful opportunity to immerse yourself in the Eucharistic Revival!



Saint Vincent College cordially invites you to attend the 2024 Rabbi Edelstein lecture, "Lent and Easter Through Jewish Eyes: Liturgies of Purification, Both Catholic and Jewish", presented by Dr. Ruth Langer, professor of Jewish studies in the Theology Department at Boston College. The lecture will take

place at 7 p.m. in the Fred Rogers Center on Wednesday, February 28, and will be preceded by a reception, beginning at 6 p.m. Registration is appreciated, but not required: 724-805-2814.



WOMEN are needed to lead the Marian Stations of the Cross on March 1 & 22. Please call the office if you'd care to assist in this beautiful devotion.

> ST. PIUS X CHRISTIAN MOTHERS meeting on FEBRUARY 28 at 6 p.m. in the social hall.



REGIONAL FAITH FORMATION Listening Session: Sunday, Feb. 25 @ 1:30 p.m., St. Pius X social hall

PRAY THE ROSARY BEFORE MASS! Join the Knights of Columbus every third Sunday of the month at 9:45 a.m. to pray the rosary at St. Pius X.



ONCE AGAIN IT IS THE SEASON FOR FISH FRIES! Please patronize our very own St. Pius X Lenten dinner

this Friday, February 23, from 4-7 p.m. in the social hall. Fish sandwich and baked or fried fish dinner available weekly, and featured this Friday will be haluski with the fish dinner. Also, try our pasta dinner special this Friday: homemade gnocchi! 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.



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. The drinking of ordinary liquids does not break the fast. Note: Persons taking medication or with health concerns should follow their doctor's advice.

PRAYER / ALMSGIVING: Abstinence and fasting should lead Catholics to a deeper prayer life. Almsgiving provides an opportunity for a deeper understanding and response to the needs of the poor.

AREA PENANCE SERVICES, planned by our local priests for the Lenten season, are scheduled as below. Please make use of these times to gain the grace of the Sacrament and prepare yourself for the celebration of Easter. There will be a group of priests available to hear confession at each of these services.

THU, MAR 7, St. Raymond's, Donegal, @ 6 p.m. MON, MAR 11, St. Florian's, United, @ 6:30 p.m. THU, MAR 14, St. Pius X, Mt. Pleasant, @ 7 p.m. SAT, MAR 16, St. John's, Connellsville, @ 11 a.m. THU, MAR 21, St. Aloysius, Dunbar, @ 7 p.m. SAT, MAR 23, St. John's, Scottdale, @ 11 a.m.





Please pray for those actively serving in our armed forces:

Captain Jonathan Lang, USMC Stephen Shallenberger Jacob & Alex Shafley

May God guide & protect them always.



Please pray for the repose of the souls of Constance Steiner, Ann Petras and Loretta Stana. Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

> Join us every Wednesday to pray the rosary for peace: 11:30 a.m. at Visitation.

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, Lisa C., Terri Griffith, Mike Hauser, 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, Brenda, Paul, 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, 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., Dolores Solinski, 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, Ginny Grenda, Ray G., Nancy K., James P., R.J. Aggie Farcosky

FAITH FORMATION

FRASSATI FELLOWSHIP

There are still spots open for the Steubenville Conference June 21-23! Contact Mary ASAP to join!

COMPANIONS

We meet as normal on February 21. 8th Graders should consider the Steubenville Conference this summer.

IST COMMUNION

Our next	Our next	
workshop	workshop	CONFIRMATION
<mark>is</mark> Sunday,	is	Our next
March 3	Saturday,	workshop
at St.	February	is Sunday,
Aloysius	24 at St.	March 10
following	Pius from	at St. Pius
the 9am	1pm to	from 2pm
Mass.	3pm.	to 4pm. A
		parent or
CONNELLS-	MOUNT	sponsor
VILLE	PLEASANT	should
		join.

RCIA & ADULT CONFIRMATION

Please pray for our candidates and

catechumens.

Adult Confirmation classes will begin 3/11 at 6:30pm, location TBD. Contact Mary for more.

OTHER

We still need volunteers for youth group!

mallison@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Weekly Offering– February 4, 2024

Visitation Parish

Weekly	\$6,140
Capital Improvements	\$206
Growing/debt reduction	\$45
Catholic Accent	
Ash Wednesday	
Solemnity of Mary	
Central & Eastern Europe	
Home Missions	
Christmas	
Online giving	
Total envelopes: 255	φυσσ

St. Pius X Parish

Weekly	\$8,368
Capital improvements	
Accent	
Ash Wednesday	
Central & Eastern Europe	\$841
Home Missions	
Christmas	
Online giving	
Total envelopes: 253	

ONLINE GIVING AVAILABLE!

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

ST. PIUS X

VISITATION

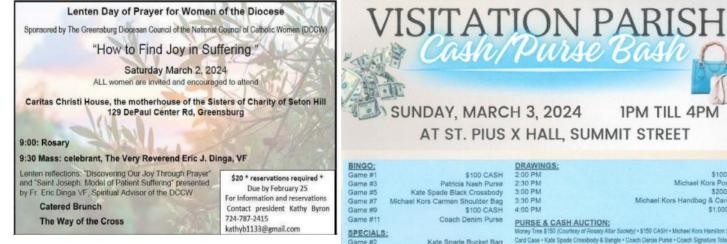






Please be as generous as possible in the second collection this weekend for the Catholic Home Missions Appeal. We are asked to provide material support and spiritual aid to Dioceses in the United States and its territories that are unable to

provide pastoral services without assistance from sources other than their own. We may be surprised to learn or to be reminded that 40% of the Dioceses in the United States are considered to be "home mission dioceses", that is, almost half of our Dioceses cannot support themselves without outside assistance. These Dioceses share several characteristics—small Catholic populations dispersed over a large geographical territory, economic challenges due to unemployment and migration, and diminishing populations due to members leaving for urban areas. God bless you for your generosity as we begin the Lenten season.



DIOCESAN LENTEN APPEAL We have begun the Diocesan Lenten Appeal in our parishes. You should have received your pledge card in the mail. If you did not receive a pledge card, please contact the parish office and let us know. Each of our parishes has a Diocesan assessment for the appeal, which we will share with you in the near future. This amount will go directly to the Diocese to help them with their expenses for all the services that they provide directly or indirectly to our parishes as a whole or to individual parishioners. Any amount collected above this number will remain here in our parishes. Each of our parishes has projects that we hope to undertake with our share of the DLA pledges. They are listed in the mailing you have received! Please be as generous as you can so that we meet our goal in the Diocesan Lenten Appeal. Thank you, and may God continue to bless you.

EUCHARISTIC ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES

SAT, FEB 17 @ 5:15 p.m.: Last Supper event in VIS comm. ctr.
SUN, FEB 18 @ 9:45 a.m.: Last Supper event in VIS comm. ctr.
MON, FEB 19 @ 5:30 p.m.: Adoration & reflection #1 @ VIS
WED, FEB 21 @ 7:00 p.m.: Last Supper event in VIS comm. ctr.
TUE, FEB 27 @ 6 p.m.: Bible study, Eucharist #2 in StPX hall
MON, FEB 26 @ 5:30 p.m.: Adoration & reflection #2 @ VIS



During the Lenten Season, seek out a forgotten friend; Dismiss suspicion, replace it with

trust; Write a love letter; Give a soft answer; Pray; Laugh a little more; Forgive all grievances; Earn confidence; Keep a promise; Appreciate everyone; Accept and love all God's children.







The Businesses listed above make this bulletin possible. Please support them when you can.

Sign up to get our bulletin in your email each week. Go to DiscoverMass.com/subscribe