St. Pius X Parish



Visitation Parish

224 Summit Street

Mt. Pleasant, Pennsylvania 🛛 🗘

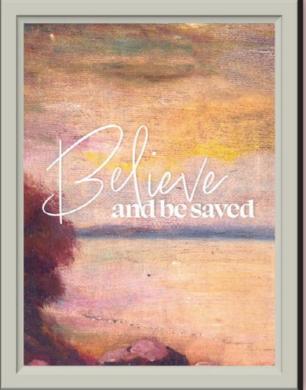
740 West Walnut Street



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.







<u>Mass Schedule</u> 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.	3/11 Visitation 7:00 a.m. Andy & Julia Kostyo– family
Tues.	3/12 Visitation 7:00 a.m. Doug Francken– Irene & family Leo & Pauline Balcerek– Joe & Helen
Wed.	3/13 Visitation 6:00 p.m. Mary Jane Jaworski– Melanie, PJ, Owen & Lily Spires Thomas Kozar– family
Thurs.	3/14 Visitation 7:00 a.m. Dennis Baluh– John & Isabel Brodak
Friday	3/15 Visitation 7:00 a.m. parents of Eugene & Nancy Sosko- Eugene & Nancy Sosko
Sat.	3/16 Visitation 4:00 p.m. James & Dorothy (Rudnik) Staszel- Gertrude Klocek
	St. Pius X 6:00 p.m. Pro populo
Sun.	3/17 Visitation 8:30 a.m. Harry Carr– James & Sheryl Nagy
	St. Pius X 10:30 a.m. Aunt Josephine Misiewicz– Karen 8 John McCune

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.

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*

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

Sat. 3/16 Visitation 4:00 p.m.

Greeters: volunteers Lector: Joe Klocek E.M.: Vince Mascia, Yvonne H., Sr. Anna Maria Servers: Clara & Caleb Stewart, volunteer Cantor: Kathy Demagall

St. Pius X 6:00p.m.

Greeters: volunteers Lector: Barb Dropik E.M.: Cindy & Dan C., Mary Ann A., volunteer Servers: Sophia & Ava Coppula., Braxton P. Cantor: Eric Harris

Sun. 3/17 Visitation 8:30 a.m.

Greeters: volunteers Lector: John Zemba E.M.: Joann Maholtz, Patty Thomas, Kim S. Servers: Sophie & Addison G., Grant Z. Cantor: Kristen Felentzer/choir

St. Pius X 10:30am

Greeters: volunteers Lector: Eric Poole E.M.: Kristen Rega, Ted C., Sr. Juliana, Ray G. Servers: Camden S., Lucas P., volunteer Cantor: Chris DeFlitch





St. Pius X Sanctuary– Rosemary Klaus– Paul

Blessed Mother- Nellie Costabile- Joni Rozell

Visitation

Sanctuary-John Keto-Ruth Keto

Blessed Mother- Leo & Pauline Balcerek- grandchildren

St. Joseph- Thomas Barrick- family

Madonna & Child– Douglas Francken– daughter, Connie & family

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



Lately, there has been a lot of news about the issue of in-vitro fertilization (IVF). The Supreme Court in Alabama has declared that frozen embryos created through IVF can be considered children under state law, which has caused a heated discussion and debate on the issue. It could seem

that for all our anti-abortion beliefs, we as Catholics should have no problems with those who want to have children. The trouble is that children are not a commodity. Children deserve to be brought into this world as the result of an expression of love between a husband and wife that is blessed by God and made fruitful. Donum Vitae (1987) explains:

If the technical means facilitates the conjugal act or helps it to reach its natural objectives, it can be morally acceptable. If, on the other hand, the procedure were to replace the conjugal act, it is morally illicit.

Not only does IVF replace the intimate act of husband and wife, but it completely removes the process of conception from the body of the woman. Therefore, it is morally wrong in every instance.

The greatest evil of IVF is not merely this. Because IVF is so expensive (~\$15,000-\$30,000 for one cycle), they will conceive more than one embryo at once. Then, they will choose which embryo seems most likely to survive implantation. If one doesn't survive, they will try another. If the couple conceives with the first embryo, the others are kept frozen in case they want more children in the future. If they do not want more children, the embryos are discarded.

There are a few injustices happening here. First, the child is basically purchased at a steep cost. No one should put a price on having a child. They are gifts and IVF threatens that outlook. Second, with IVF you can choose the gender and potentially other desirable characteristics. No parent can say to his or her child "I made you." God made them. With IVF, the creation process gets twisted. We are supposed to accept our children as they are, not choose how we want them to be. Finally, the embryos not chosen to be implanted are discarded, unwanted by their parents. This is a grave injustice in the same way that abortion is.

I want to end with a couple of things. First, I am grievously sad for couples who cannot conceive children. It is a great sadness, and the Church offers to help in whatever way we can. If any parishioner struggles with this, please reach out. We have resources that can help. Second, a child conceived through IVF or other morally illicit means is no less a child of God than anyone else, even if the conditions of their conception went against their dignity. Third, regardless of political affiliations, we all need to strive to build a culture of life where every human person, from conception to natural death, is given the dignity they deserve as children of God.

Notes from our Administrator, Fr. Paul:

THE UNFOLDING MESSAGE: THE POWER TO HEAL

There is a lot of brokenness in our world. People and structures need healing. We need it ourselves. Healing was an important part of Jesus' mission and also of our own, if we are responsive and faithful followers. Sharing with Jesus day after day, His disciples came to understand this.

Jesus, Himself, was a "whole" person. He had "gotten it all together." He knew who He was and what He wanted to accomplish. Some of His healing power came from His own wellness. The woman, who was healed just by touching the edge of Jesus' robe, sensed this inner power. Few, if any, of us today would claim to have this ability. Yet, many of us can remember times, when someone's presence with us made a difference that was almost miraculous. Warm, loving people often have a healing presence.

Amidst the variety of callings that life presents to us, this one comes to everyone. Whether we are a business magnate or a school custodian, secretary or homemaker, we are surrounded by men, women and children who need healing. The disciples watched Jesus heal and restore a variety of people. They, themselves, did so at times. Jesus looks to all of us to find wholeness for ourselves and let it flow over to others. Although we may not have the power to touch them and have them suddenly be well, we can be with them. We can touch their spirits with caring and love. We can listen and psychologically wipe away their tears.

One effective remedy we can offer is a spirit of acceptance. We need to remember that, under God, whatever a person's weaknesses or problems may be, all of us are of value-precious. The old recommendation of feeling "I'm ok, you're ok" is bolstered by realization that God makes us ok people, and seeks to bring us back, if we wander. Healers: Jesus, disciples, you and me! All of us, even in the midst of our own needs, can help to heal others. Giving aid to them, often we find our own pain relieved.

TODAY WE CELEBRATE Girl Scout Sunday. We recognize all the Brownies, Juniors, Cadets & Senior Scouts and their leaders from our parishes. Girl Scouting is a program that helps girls grow spiritually, morally, emotionally and physically. I congratulate each and every girl who has made a commitment to this program. I thank all of the girls for taking the road less travelled. I also thank the adults who help with the local troops. Some have not had a child in the program for years, but have stayed active because of their love of scouting. This is a tribute to the goals and precepts of the Girl Scouts of America. I thank all the Scouts for all they do for our parishes, our parishioners and our communities. I ask that you continue to be fine examples to those around you.



Masses March 16 & 17 "Chance Of A Lifetime" All Cash Prizes \$15,000 to \$1,000

Benefits The Knights Of Columbus Scholarship Fund

DIOCESE OF GREENSBURG St. Joseph Pilgrimage, March 18 & 19, 2024

Bishop Kulick will lead a pilgrimage to the four St. Joseph parishes & Blessed Sacrament Cathedral to dedicate the Diocese to the guardianship and protection of St. Joseph. MON, MAR 18 @ 6 p.m.: SJ, New Kensington TUE, MAR 19 @ 9 a.m.: SJ, Derry TUE, MAR 19 @ 11:45 a.m.: Mass @ Blessed Sacrament TUE, MAR 19 @ 2:30 p.m.: SJ, Everson TUE, MAR 19 @ 6 p.m.: SJ, Uniontown

A limited number of **EASTER DEVOTIONAL CANDLES** are now available, just as they were at Christmas, for both churches! Please call the office to reserve: \$10 each, first come, first served.

ST. ANTHONY NOVENA beginning on TUE, APR 16 @ 6:30 p.m., St. Rita's Church, Connellsville, and continuing for nine weeks. All are welcome!

ONCE AGAIN, IT'S FISH FRY SEASON, and we hope you will patronize these events at our parishes and our neighbors' on Lenten Fridays:

- St. Pius X, 4-7 p.m.
- St. John/St. Joseph, Scottdale, 11 a.m.-6 p.m., in St. John's school building
- Also, our local fire departments also host fish fries, and most are dine-in OR take-out.

PALM SUNDAY WEEKEND BAKE SALE



by the Visitation Rosary-Altar Society, Saturday, March 23 after the 4 p.m. Mass and Sunday, March 24 from 8:30-11 a.m. in the Visitation community center. Members may deliver baked goods to the center on Saturday after 1:30 p.m. The sale will be co-sponsored by FCSLA Life. If you're able to help on either day, call Cathy at 724-547-9629. *Rosary Society dues will be collected during the bake sale. Dues are still just \$3! Please put money in an envelope marked "Visitation Rosary -Altar Society 2024". Include the names of all members whose dues you are paying. All checks should be made out to Visitation Rosary -Altar Society.

LENTEN DAY OF RECOLLECTION for all women of the area, on Sunday, March 17, beginning at 1:30 p.m. in St. Rita Church in Connellsville. The retreat master for the day will be Fr. John Bednarik, OFM, Cap. The day will include time for reflection, Stations of the Cross, Rosary and benediction (no Mass), and a catered dinner in St. Rita's social hall. Fee for the day is \$20, payable in advance to St. Rita Christian Mothers, and includes the program, a coffee/ cinnamon roll break and dinner. For reservations, please call Mary at 724-628-6832 by March 11.

CONTINUING BIBLE STUDY Our third session will take place on March 12 from 6-7:30 p.m. in the St. Pius X social hall. Even if you missed the first two, please join us and prepare by reading the following Bible passages: *Isaiah* 25:6-10b; *Isaiah* 55:1-5; *Isaiah* 54:4-8, 62:5.

YOUNGWOOD'S 125 ANNIVERSARY Crafts & vendor show on Sunday, March 17 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. in the Youngwood Fire Dept. social hall. Ladies Auxiliary Kitchen will be open! For info, please call Mary Ann @ 724-925-2480.



THE ALTAR ROSARY SOCIETY of St. Aloysius, Dunbar, invites all of the children from our area parishes to and Easter egg hunt on Saturday, March 30 at 1 p.m. on the parish grounds, 459 Ranch

Road. Mark your calendars now and plan on bringing your Easter baskets or a bag to fill with goodies.



REGIONAL PENANCE SERVICES DURING LENT Please make use of the times below to gain the grace of the Sacrament of Penance and prepare yourself for the celebration of Easter. There will be groups of priests available to hear confession at each of these services:

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.

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

RCIA: THE SCRUTINIES

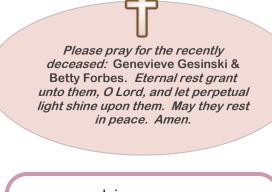
We, as a Church community, have the members of the "elect" Jacob Armel, Jason Besterci, Tammy **DeFlorio, John Ersick and Casie Overly (those** preparing for Baptism). The Scrutinies are celebrated at Mass. They are meant to drive from the elect all that threatens to keep them from Christ in Baptism. The texts that are used to pray over the elect are in fact called "exorcisms." In these rites, the exorcisms address the reality that sin and evil have in our lives that keep us from Christ. They are meant to reveal to the elect the goodness they possess in God, which is strengthened through these rites. The Scrutinies are celebrated after the homily. They include the calling forward of the elect who are then invited to kneel or bow their heads. This is followed by silent prayer, intercessions and prayers of exorcism. Finally, they are welcomed by the community for further reflection on God's Word. Please keep them in your prayers as they journey toward the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil.



Please pray for those actively serving in our armed forces:

Captain Jonathan Lang, USMC Stephen Shallenberger Jacob & Alex Shafley Drew Sheldon

May God guide & protect them always.



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, 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, 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, Dorothy Curci, Judy F., Mike M., Jonathan, Mallory, Norah, Elle, Isaac, Jianna, Gia, Gianna, Joe, Mary, Mia, Theresa, Mary Lou L.

PRIOR TO MASS AT ST. PIUS X: Every third Sunday of the month, join the Knights of Columbus at 9:45 a.m. to pray the rosary.

FAITH FORMATION UPDATES

First Communion

Don't forget to turn in baptismal certificates!



MP next workshop is 3/23 at 1pm at St. Pius.



Confirmation

Our final workshop is March 10 at *2pm* at St. Pius.

Paperwork is DUE!

Companions

Our virtue this month is *humility*. Our next meeting is 3/20 at 6pm.



Frassati Fellowship Our next meeting is 3/13 at 6pm!

SURVEY!

If you missed the Listening Sessions, but have ideas about the future of Faith Formation take this survey via OR code:



Mary Allison Regional Director of Faith Formation

mallison@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Weekly Offering– February 25, 2024

Visitation Parish

Weekly	\$4,882
Capital Improvements	\$10
Growing/debt reduction	\$10
Ash Wednesday	
Easter	
Lenten offering	
Holy Thursday	
Home Missions	
Good Friday/Holy Land	·
Easter flowers	
Online giving	
Total envelopes: 201	
Total envelopes. 201	

St. Pius X Parish

Weekly	\$6,917
Capital improvements	
Ash Wednesday	\$85
Lenten offering	
Home Missions	
Online giving	
Total envelopes: 210	

Thank you for your generosity!

ONLINE GIVING AVAILABLE!

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

ST. PIUS X

VISITATION







Contact Mary ASAP!

View this bulletin online at www.DiscoverMass.com

Share

2024 Diocesan Lenten Appeal

Enhance the Diaconate Program

More than a dozen Permanent Deacons have been ordained in the Diocese of Greensburg since the inception of the program in 2005. They assist pastors in the liturgical and pastoral care of the faithful. Your support assists in their education and formation.

Diocese ^{of} Greensburg

Donate today at DioceseofGreensburg.org/DLA2024

VISITATION: \$4,680 pledged ST. PIUS X: \$3,675 pledged (as of 2-21-24)



JUST A REMINDER that in your current Sunday envelope packet there is an envelope for Easter flowers and decorations. A

Mass will be offered on Easter Sunday for the intentions of those who donated for the Easter flowers.

ST. VINCENT COLLEGE CONCERT SERIES presents *Melodies of the Sheng and Guanzi:* music from China featuring Jianbing Hu and Jian Bao. Friday, March 15 at 7 p.m. in the St. Vincent College Performing Arts Center. Free admission!



The Connellsville Ministerium is once again hosting a

series of Lenten Lunches on the Tuesdays of Lent. The luncheon begins at noon and concludes at 1 p.m. The afternoon will include a light lunch and a reflection by one of the clergy from the area. There is no charge for the luncheon, but a free will offering will be taken. All the lunches will be held in St. John Catholic Church's social hall. 908 West **Crawford Avenue in Connells**ville. All are invited to attend for a time of fellowship and reflection during the season of Lent. I hope to see you at the remaining luncheons. Please mark your calendars now to attend: MAR 12 & MAR 19.

∼Fr. Paul

We are called to Love our Neighbor Vincentians offer tangible assistance to those in need on a person-to-person basis. Volunteers Needed

- Council Treasurer
- Case Workers
- Associate Members

Meetings just once a month. Grow in holiness together. Experience not needed.



724-547-0413

the church

office

Immaculate Conception is hosting a bus trip to see "Daniel" at Sight & Sound Theatres in Lancaster on Sat. AUG 10. Cost is \$180/person, \$25

deposit required, balance due JUN 1. Call Guy @ 724-880-5885 or Pat @ 724-880-4919 for info.

Please plan to celebrate the liturgies of the Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday & Holy Saturday) at our parishes: Immaculate Conception in Connellsville, Visitation in Mt. Pleasant & St. Joseph in Everson. Specific schedules coming soon!



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

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