St. Pius X Parish



Visitation Parish

224 Summit Street

Mt. Pleasant, Pennsylvania

740 West Walnut Street





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.



March 24, 2024 - Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord



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. 3/25 Visitation

7:00 a.m. Harry Carr- James & Sheryl Nagy

Tues. 3/26 **Visitation**

7:00 a.m. the Gregory Harmening family— wife and sons

Kevin Kean- Mom & Dad

Wed. 3/27 Visitation

6:00 p.m. Charles Zelenak, Sr.– Dorothy & family the Bielecki family– Jamie & Rich Quinn

Thurs. 3/28 HOLY THURSDAY

10:00 a.m. Chrism Mass at Blessed Sacrament
Cathedral in Greensburg
7:00 p.m. Mass of the Lord's Supper at **VISITATION**For an increase in vocations to the priesthood

Friday 3/29 **GOOD FRIDAY** (no Masses today)

12:15 p.m. Stations of the Cross at **VISITATION** 1:00 p.m. Liturgy of Good Friday at **VISITATION** 7:30 p.m. Tenebrae at **ST. PIUS X**

Sat. 3/30 HOLY SATURDAY

11:00 a.m. Blessing of baskets at ST. PIUS X
12:30 p.m. Blessing of baskets at VISITATION
8:15 p.m. Easter Vigil at VISITATION— for all parishioners

Sun. 3/31 EASTER SUNDAY

7:30 a.m. at **ST. PIUS X** intention of the celebrant 9:30 a.m. at **VISITATION** intentions of all those who gave for Easter flowers

11:30 a.m. at ST. PIUS X intention of all those who gave for Easter flowers

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

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Office Assistant: Theresa Turner tdturner@dioceseofgreensburg.org

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

Ministry of the Altar

Sun. 3/31 St. Pius X 7:30 a.m.

Greeters: volunteers Lector: Ray Gamrat

E.M.: Patty G., Sr. Anna Maria, Joann M., Audrey S.

Audrey S.

Servers: Sophie & Addison G., Owen & Lily S.

Cantor: Sharon Stewart

Visitation 9:30 a.m.

Greeters: volunteers Lector: Brian Hunter

E.M.: Yvonne H., Vince M., Donna Z. Servers: Colton G., Ty W., Anthony G.

Cantor: Jaime Golobish

St. Pius X II:30 a.m.

Greeters: volunteers Lector: Becky Czekaj-Dengler

E.M.: Kristen R., Sr. Juliana, Andrea P., Ted C. Servers: Braxton P., Lucas P., Michael H.

Cantor: Kristen Felentzer

Candles this Week



St. Pius X

Blessed Mother- Dorothy & Dan Koval- Marcy

St. Joseph – Joseph Brezinski, Jr. – Tom Brezinski

Visitation

Sanctuary- Terry Laick- Kim

Blessed Mother- Charles Zelenak, Sr.- family

St. Joseph- Kramarski, Pytlak & Vella families- family

Madonna & Child— Nicholas & Helen Manjerovic— Robert & Debra Manjerovic

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

From the Desk of Fr. Dan

When we think about Christ's Passion and pray the Stations of the Cross, it can very much feel like Jesus is not in charge. It can seem like Jesus is merely a victim of the lies of Jewish authorities, the roar of the crowd, and the cruelty of the Romans. It can seem that Jesus merely lets it happen

because He must. This is not how Scripture portrays the Passion narrative. Jesus is the protagonist. He is the one who makes it happen.

Although this is most clear in the Passion in Gospel of John, it is also clear in Mark's Passion that we heard this weekend. Consider the scene where the Sanhedrin brings Jesus to court. It is a complete and utter farse of a trial. They bring all kinds of false witnesses in to lie in testimony against Jesus. In Jewish law, a man could only be put to death if two people witnessed something and testified. All they needed to do is bring in two men whose lies about Jesus agreed. Incredibly, we are told that their testimony did not agree. Many witnesses were brought forward, but none of them could agree. What a debacle! On their own power, the Sanhedrin couldn't even successfully prosecute Jesus.

It wasn't until Jesus Himself spoke up that they could do anything. The high priest asked him if he was the Christ, the son of the Blessed One. Jesus could have remained silent, as he did many times throughout His Passion. He did not here. He speaks up. "I am; and you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power and coming with the clouds of heaven." The Sanhedrin recognizes this as blasphemy and has the evidence they need to bring Jesus to the Romans to be crucified.

In Mark's account, Jesus says very little, and if Jesus doesn't speak up in that moment, the Passion doesn't happen. By including this detail in the story, Mark shows that Jesus is in complete control of the situation. He is not a mere victim of circumstance. He actively chose to suffer for our sake. The Passion does not happen to Christ; Christ chooses and enters into His Passion and makes it a complete self-offering to the Father for us sinners.

Sometimes we can feel like God is not in control. The disciples scattered in the garden because they thought that Jesus had lost control of the situation. It seems at times that worldly powers, evil forces, and the shadow of death can prevent God from doing what He wants to do. Never forget that at the worst moment of human history, God was still in control. And he is still in control today.

Notes from our Administrator, Fr. Paul:

THE UNFOLDING MESSAGE: SOMETHING TO CELEBRATE

Was it appropriate to celebrate Palm Sunday the way it was done by Jesus and His disciples? Raising the question is not merely recognition of the fickleness of the crowd, who switched from "Hosanna" to "Crucify Him" within a few days' time. It is a matter of "When is the right time to celebrate?" or "Do we really have something worth celebrating?"

Palm Sunday did not celebrate what Jesus had accomplished as much as it extolled who Jesus was. The Hosannas were followed by "Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord." God had come to earth in a new way. God was acting to restore some righteousness, some rightness, to the world. The prophets had taught people, using powerful words to challenge and guide them. Jesus came, filled with God's own power to give people something new. Contrary to the pessimistic words of Ecclesiastes, there is something new under the sun. There is hope. God is with us. God is here! The celebration of this day is not a coronation. It is the establishment of a new sense of God's presence. The disciples knew that the Romans still had military control of the land. They knew that some of the religious leaders were still corrupt. But they also knew that God was on their side. Are you and I big enough, mature enough, to celebrate the joy of sharing the work of building a new kind of kingdom, the life that God has planned for us together and independently?

The triumphal entry into Jerusalem was pure joy. It was appropriate to celebrate, celebrate the reality of God's presence! In doing so, we affirm life's goodness. We are still traveling. We do not yet have the fullness of God's rule among us. The Kingdom of God, the reign of God, is always in process, both here and coming. We are called to help bring it into full reality. Enjoy the journey and celebrate!

LENTEN GUIDELINES Abstinence: Catholics in the U.S. age 14 & older are obliged to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, the Fridays of Lent & 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 & 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.

In & Around Our Neighborhood...





The Divine Mercy Novena & Chaplet

Join The Knights of Columbus Mt. Pleasant Council 3334

Come & Pray for the 9 Nights
Before "Divine Mercy Sunday"
The "Divine Mercy Novena & Chaplet"
begins on:

"Good Friday" March 29 at 6pm
At Visitation Church
We Will Pray Every Night for 9 Nights
Concluding on Saturday April 6

www.thedivinemercy.org/message



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

Ranch Rd. This event will be held whatever the weather!

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

The Lay Apostles group will meet on Monday, April 1 at 2 p.m. at St. Pius X.

ST. PIUS X CHRISTIAN MOTHERS will meet on Wednesday, April 3 in the St. Pius X social hall at 6 p.m.



ON HOLY THURSDAY at 10 a.m., Bishop Kulick will celebrate the Chrism Mass at the Cathedral. At this liturgy, the sacred oils used for the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Orders & Anointing of the Sick are blessed for use by every parish in our diocese. Many priests from throughout our diocese will be present, along with laity. This Mass is a visible sign that we are not only individual parishes, but

all members of one diocesan family. This is a great chance for our parishioners to experience our diocesan church!

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.

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

Because there are four gospels, there are four accounts of the passion of the Lord. John's account is proclaimed every year on Good Friday. Today, the final Sunday of Lent, we hear one of the other three accounts. The vestments this day are red, just as they are on Good Friday. Most people call today Palm Sunday. It is a day for marching in processions. The gospels tell us that the people waved branches to welcome Jesus into Jerusalem. So today we too wave branches. The 40 days of Lent have been a time to travel in spirit to the holy city of Jerusalem. Today we enter the city. Any kind of branch can be used in the processions today. Olive branches are traditional because, ever since Noah's flood, they have been symbols of peace and forgiveness. In cooler climates, forsythia bushes, which are related to olives, come into bloom during this season. In most churches, palm branches are blessed and waved today. The Gospel of John mentions them specifically. In the Middle East, date palm trees grow in the incredible heat. In fact, they need several months of very high temperatures (100 degrees or more) to produce their sweet fruit. In warm climates people plant palms in cemeteries as a sign that life is stronger than death. For the same reason, people in northern countries plant pussy willows and evergreens. Then they cut branches from these plants for the Palm Sunday procession. In our country, most churches buy palms from florists. But there are places where people gather their own home-grown branches to bring to church. No matter where the palms and branches come from, they are all signs of life and

resurrection.



BLESSED PALMS: Palm branches will be blessed and distributed at all Masses this weekend. It is a custom to take palm branches and adorn our crucifixes and holy pictures with them during this season.

There will be **ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT** in the Visitation grotto following the 7 p.m. Mass on Holy Thursday, March 28, until Night Prayer at 11:45 p.m. Please plan to spend some time before the Blessed Sacrament.



BLESSING OF EASTER FOOD & BASKETS One of the revered Lenten traditions is the blessing of food baskets on Holy Saturday. Baskets will be blessed at 11 a.m. at St. Pius X and at 12:30 p.m. at Visitation.

Since the Easter Vigil can begin no earlier than 8 p.m. in our diocese, there will be no other Mass on Holy Saturday, March 30. Mass will be at 8:15 p.m. at Visitation.



GOOD FRIDAY COLLECTION At the afternoon liturgy on Friday, a special collection will be taken for the upkeep of the Holy Land and to help impoverished people who inhabit this

part of the world. You are asked to be generous to this particular cause. Also, we encourage your continued generosity to your parish at Easter. An extra-generous Easter collection will allow us to pay our taxes and diocesan assessments in a timely manner.

THIS WEEK IS THE ONE WEEK IN JESUS' LIFE which we can follow daily. It is a week in which we can walk along with Him in His footsteps. Holy Week can become a week of holiness for each of us. Our celebration during Holy Week offers us uncountable blessings. We can renew our lives reconciling ourselves in confession. Above all, we can celebrate the Triduum on the last days of Holy Week by sharing in the Lord's Supper on Thursday, by standing at the cross with Mary & John during three hours of agony on Friday, & by welcoming the risen Jesus into our lives on Saturday's Light-Vigil of Resurrection. We can make the Gethsemane Pilgrimage by visiting our neighboring parishes on Holy Thursday night to spend time in prayer with our Lord. We can follow the Stations of Our Lord's last hours on Friday afternoon & evening. We can begin our home celebration of Easter by having our food baskets blessed in His name on Saturday. All this we can do, as we welcome the Lord on Palm Sunday to the song of Hosanna.



Please pray for those actively serving in our armed forces:

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

May God guide & protect them always.



Please pray for the recently deceased, especially John Depto. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.

Amen.

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, 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., Dolores O'Brocto

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.





1ST COMMUNION

Keep practicing how to receive at home!

CONFIRMATION

Don't forget to register for the retreat!



COMPANIONS

Our next meeting is 4/17! Thank you to all the teens who helped with the Fish Fry!

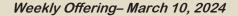
FRASSATI FELLOWSHIP

Our next meeting is 4/10!
Thank you to all the teens who helped with the Fish Fry!



MAY YOU HAVE A BLESSED HOLY WEEK.

mallison@dioceseofgreensburg.org



Visitation Parish	
Weekly	\$5,197.50
Capital Improvements	
Growing/debt reduction	
Ash Wednesday	
Easter	
Lenten offering	\$510
Holy Thursday	
Good Friday (Holy Land)	
Online giving	\$575
Total envelopes: 257	
•	
St. Pius X Parish	
Weekly	\$6,417
Capital improvements	\$20
Ash Wednesday	
Easter	\$220
Lenten offering	\$1,295
Holy Thursday	\$23

ONLINE GIVING AVAILABLE!

 Good Friday (Holy Land)
 \$23

 Easter
 \$220

 Mission appeal
 \$15

Online giving......\$240

Easter flowers......\$695

Please scan the appropriate QR code below or go

ST. PIUS X

Total envelopes: -

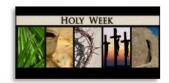












ALL HOLY WEEK SERVICES WILL BE AT VISITATION.

Holy Thursday, March 28, Mass of the Lord's Supper, 7 p.m.; adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until closing prayer at 11:45 p.m.

Good Friday, March 29, Stations of the Cross at 12:15 p.m.; Liturgy of Good Friday, 1 p.m.; Tenebrae @ St. Pius X, 7:30 p.m.

Holy Saturday, March 30, Blessing of baskets 11 a.m. @ StPX, 12:30 p.m. @ VISI; Easter Vigil 8:15 p.m.

COOKBOOKS AVAILABLE

The Carpathian Cookery cookbook has entered its 22nd printing! Cost is \$20. To order, please send a check or money order to: Ethnic Craft Club, St. John Byzantine Catholic Church, 201 E. Main St., Uniontown, PA 15401, or call 724-438-1382. You may also contact us at carpathiancookery@gmail.com.

The Diocesan Lenten Appeal has begun!

VISITATION: \$\$14,155/\$36,773 Diocesan goal **ST. PIUS X:** \$15,337 pledged/\$48,807 Diocesan goal (as of March 12, 2024)

If every one of our parish families would respond, our goals are within reach. If you haven't already done so, please take time to make your pledge. Return your pledge card at Mass or return it to the parish office. Please mark the envelope with your parish name, as it helps us in the office. Thank you for your gift to God's Church and your parish.

TENEBRAE SERVICE will be held at St. Pius X on Good Friday, March 29, at 7:30 p.m. All are welcome to attend. Tenebrae is from the Latin and refers to "darkness". This was the name of an ancient ceremony originally celebrated during Holy Week. The service is quite simple, but beautiful. It consists of readings from Sacred Scripture and the gradual extinguishing of the lights in the Church leaving only one candle burning at the end.



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.

The Parish Office will be closed Holy Thursday, Good Friday & Easter Monday. The office will reopen on Tuesday, April 2 at 9:30 a.m.



St Pius X & Visitation Parish's Sunday Bulletin





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