# St. Pius X Parish



# Visitation Parish

224 Summit Street 🛛 🛇

Mt. Pleasant, Pennsylvania

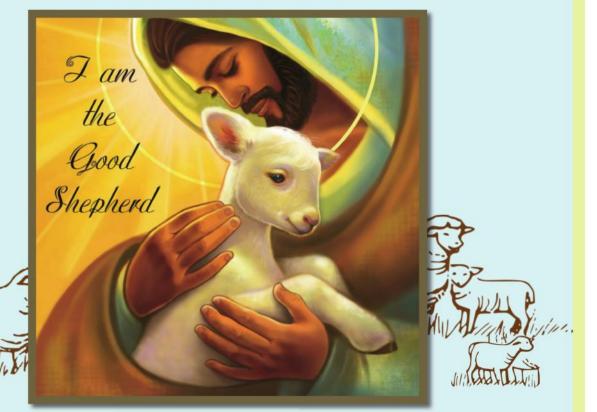
740 West Walnut Street



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## April 21, 2024 - Fourth Sunday of Easter



<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.	4/22 Visitation
	7:00 a.m. James Tylka– Eddie & Morgan Tylka and family
Tues.	4/23 Visitation
	7:00 a.m. Ann M. Brezinski– Barb Love Amy Kiral– Mom & Dad
Wed.	4/24 Visitation
	7:00 a.m. Josephine D'Amico– Carol Nedrow Joseph & Pauline Baluh– daughter, Denise Moyemont
Thurs.	4/25 Visitation
	7:00 a.m. Edward & Dorothy Gorecki-
	Edward, Jr. & Gary Gorecki and families
Fri.	4/26 Visitation
	7:00 a.m. John (Skip) Rubino– Mary L. Kurimcak
Sat.	4/27 Visitation
	4:00 p.m. Pro populo
	St. Pius X
	6:00 p.m. Ronald (Jake) Jakubovic– sister, Maureen & Hank
Sun.	4/28 Visitation

8:30 a.m. Paul Kostyo, Jr.– sister, Carol

#### St. Pius X

10:30 a.m. John & Joan Wawrzyniak and John & Louise DiPasquale- John & Sandy DiPasquale and family

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

## Ministry of the Altar

#### Sat. 4/27 Visitation 4 p.m.

Greeters: volunteers Lector: Brian Hunter E.M.: Ray Gamrat, Christa Askin, Marlene Cibulas Servers: Colton G., volunteers Cantor: Peggy Tepper

#### St. Pius X 6 p.m.

Greeters: volunteers Lector: Colleen Pernelli E.M.: Mary Ann Arrigo, Paul Klaus, Hank Rose, Annette Servers: Braxton P., Emma E., volunteer Cantor: Chris DeFlitch

#### Sun. 4/28 Visitation 8:30 a.m.

Greeters: volunteers Lector: Robert Manjerovic E.M.: Theresa Turner, Patty Thomas, Patty Gaal Servers: Sophie & Addison G., volunteer Cantor: Kathy Demagall

#### St. Pius X 10:30 a.m.

Greeters: volunteers Lector: Robert Davis E.M.: Andrea, Sr. Juliana, Audrey Soforic, Cindy Servers: Nolan D., Lucas P., Michael H. Cantor: Eric Harris/choir





St. Pius X Sanctuary- Ann Maroon Diotti- sister, Barbara Maroon

Blessed Mother- Jean Rodgers- Karen & Mark Marchewka

St. Joseph- Mary Surovchak- Mary Ann Arrigo

Our Lady of Czestochowa- Vera & Robert Jezowski- Mark & Debbie Potosky

Visitation

Sanctuary- Ronald Balcerek- Joe & Helen

Blessed Mother- Joe Baluh, Sr.- Joe & Theresa Baluh

St. Joseph- Joseph & Pauline Baluh- Denise Moyemont

Madonna & Child- Jean Rodgers- Karen & Mark Marchewka

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

# From the Desk of Fr. Dan

There is no salvation through anyone else, nor is there any other name under heaven given to the human race by which we are to be saved. –Acts 4:12

*Fr. Daw* This line is very contentious today. Christians have long believed that salva-

tion only comes through Jesus Christ and anyone who rejects Him rejects the salvation that comes through Him alone. But doesn't this seem cruel? After all, many people never got to know who Jesus is. What about the Native Americans and the many others who never had Jesus preached to them? What about the five billion people in the world right now who are not Christian? Will they all end up in hell?

Let's start with something that is clear from Scripture and from Catholic teaching. Jesus is the Redeemer of the whole human race. No other person, prophet or religious leader can save us from our sins. And without this salvation offered through Christ, we will end up in hell. Then, Jesus instructed His disciples to teach all nations and baptize. Since Jesus says, *no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and spirit. (John 3:5)* Jesus, effectively tells us that baptism is necessary for salvation. This is what we believe. And so far, this doesn't inspire much hope for the unbaptized.

However, we also know God desires all people to be saved (1 Timothy 2:4). So, there must be a way for those who never knew Jesus to be able to attain salvation. This has led the Church to say the following in the Catechism:

The Church does not know of any means other than Baptism that assures entry into eternal beatitude...God has bound salvation to the sacrament of baptism, but he himself is not bound by his sacraments. (CCC1257)

This means that, although only baptism has been revealed through Christ as a means of salvation, there may be other ways that have not been revealed. While baptism is the only certain way, there may be other uncertain ways. So, we can hope and pray that unbaptized people who did not know Christ will seek the truth and do the will of God as they understand it. These people can be saved. It is important to note that, even though they would not know Christ personally, their salvation would still depend on Christ and Christ alone.,

The moral of the story is that we as Christians can have a reason to hope for the unbaptized to get to heaven. But the certain way is to be baptized and then live out our baptismal promises. So, we cannot cease our efforts to evangelize and invite others to know Christ and be baptized into His Church. Notes from our Administrator, Fr. Paul:



## THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER IS GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY.

Psalm 23 begins: "The Lord is my shepherd." This psalm is much loved, especially by people who are grieving or in trouble. Most people have never met a shepherd, and they rarely see sheep. And yet the image of God as our shepherd is strong and

lasting. Springtime is the season lambs are born and grow strong. Perhaps that is why every Easter season brings us renewed acquaintance with our Good Shepherd.

The communion song for the Fourth Sunday of Easter gets right to the point: "The Good Shepherd is risen, alleluia!" The prophet Ezekiel said that bad shepherds let wolves catch the sheep. Jesus said that He is the Good Shepherd who lays down His life for the sheep.

#### THE VATICAN HAS SET WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR

VOCATIONS FOR TODAY, APRIL 21, the Fourth Sunday of Easter, commonly known as Good Shepherd Sunday. The theme for this year's celebration is "Vocations as a sign of hope founded in faith." The theme underscores the hope that vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life bring to the entire Church. Archbishop Robert J. Carlson of St. Louis, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) Committee on Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations, echoed the challenge: "The Church's basic mission is to preach the Gospel and help build a civilization of love in our world today. We need good holy priests and dedicated men and women committed to the consecrated life to help build the Kingdom of God here and now. Therefore, we want a stronger culture of vocations in our own nation to help each Catholic realize that we all have a responsibility to invite young people to consider if God is calling them to the priesthood or consecrated life."

The U.S. Bishops' website at www.usccb.org/vocations hosts resources to help laity and clergy build a culture of vocations in home and parishes. Elements include videos of priests and religious men and women giving witness to their vocations, videos of testimonies from parents whose children have answered a vocation to the priesthood and consecrated life, prayers and discernment resources for men and women, downloadable lesson plans for educators, and retreat resources for parishes. "We have seen a slight increase in religious vocations in the U.S. over the past few years. It is our hope to continue this development by helping each member of the Church to encourage and promote vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life," said Father John Guthrie, associate director of the secretariat for Clergy, Consecrated Life and Vocations. "The resources on the website are valuable tools in this effort."



ST. ANTHONY NOVENA which began on TUE, APR 16 @ 6:30 p.m., St. Rita's, Connellsville, will continue weekly on Tuesday for eight more weeks. All are welcome!

St. Pius X Holy Name Society OMELET

BREAKFAST, all-you-can-eat, SUNDAY, April 21 from 8 a.m.-12 p.m. in the St. Pius X social hall on Summit Street in Mt. Pleasant. Cost is \$10 for adults, \$3 for children 3-12, free for kids 3 & younger. A 50/50 drawing will also be available. Eat-in or take-out!



**OUR BIBLE STUDY CONTINUES.** Please join us for the upcoming gathering on Tuesday, April 23rd from 6-7:30 p.m. in the St. Pius X school hall. During our fifth session we will continue to study the Biblical

roots of the Mass from various passages of the Bible. For the session, please read the following passages: Mark 14: 22-26; John 19: 28-35; 1 Corinthians 11: 23-29.

First Communion dates are upon us for the second graders from our parishes. We are so excited to celebrate this occasion with them! Please see the dates/times below so you can plan



accordingly, especially because we will welcome family and friends to our parishes.

Visitation 4 p.m. Mass on Saturday, April 20 St. Pius X 10:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, April 28

Please keep our young boys & girls in your prayers as they prepare to receive Jesus for the first time and welcome Him into their hearts as they make their First Communion.



**OLDIES DANCE** The St. Pius X Holy Name Society will sponsor an oldies dance on FRIDAY, April 26 in the St. Pius X social hall from 6-10 p.m. Cost is \$5 per person. Snacks, soft drinks, beer and wine will be included. BYOB. 50/50 drawing as well!



ACCORDING TO CHURCH LAW, Trinity Sunday, May 26, is the last Sunday you can make your Easter duty. The confession of sin cleanses us. Christ in communion is our strength. Please do not deprive yourself of such gifts of healing, strength and love. Just for clarification, the precept of the Church is as follows: To lead a sacramental life, to receive the Sacrament of Penance regularly, and Holy Communion frequently-minimally, at least once a year, between the first Sunday of Lent and Trinity Sunday.

It is hard to believe that it is already four weeks since we completed our Lenten Fish Fries for 2024. I hope our dedicated workers and volunteers have been able to find some other activities to fill the void that is left in the Friday mornings, afternoons and evenings. We have paid all the bills from the fish fry and I would like to share with you the financial numbers.

The total income for this year was \$55.582.03 and the total expenses were \$14,281.12. Thus, St. Pius X parish made a profit of \$41,300.91. I thank our chairpersons, workers and volunteers who helped make these Fridays a success for our parish. May God bless you for your gifts of time and talent to our parish of St. Pius X. ~ Fr. Paul

> **USED BOOK SALE IN THE SOCIAL HALL OF** ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST 416 S. Broadway, Scottdale, PA

> > Saturday. April 27, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday, April 28, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

OVER 1,000 BOOKS AVAILABLE!!! Novels, Cookbooks, Children's books & More! **Bargain prices!** (benefits St. John the Baptist Cemetery)

#### WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS is

celebrated today, April 21. Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI said, *"Vocations are a sign of hope founded in faith."* Whenever a disciple of Jesus accepts the divine call to dedicate himself to the priestly ministry or to the consecrated life, we witness one of the most mature fruits of the Christian community, which helps us to look with particular trust and hope to the future of the Church and to her commitment to evangelization. I hope that young people, who are presented with so many superficial and ephemeral options, will be able to cultivate a desire for what is truly worthy, for lofty objectives, radical choices, service to others in imitation of Jesus. Dear young people, do not be afraid to follow Him and to walk the demanding and courageous paths of charity and generous commitment!

What is a votive candle? The act of lighting a candle when offering a special prayer has long been a cherished tradition. And, as a way to help advance the works of the Church and to offer a sacrifice to Christ, it has become customary to give an offering for the candle. Thus, the term *votive candle*. The

word votive comes from the Latin verb *voveo*, meaning "I desire". It signifies an offering in which a *gift is linked with a prayer intention as a sacrificial dedication of oneself to God, submission to His will, and reliance on His mercy and providence.* Essentially, a votive candle is a sentinel that we leave burning heavenward at a sacred place as a visual sign of our prayer of thanks or request. We are fortunate votive candles are available at each of our worship sites. The donation is \$3 for each large candle.



This Thursday, April 25, is the FEAST OF ST. MARK, Evangelist. The Gospel of Mark records a strange detail not told in the other three gospels. In the garden of Gethsemane, when the crowd arrested Jesus, an unnamed young man followed at a distance. The crowd tried to catch the man, but all they could grab was his clothing. He ran away naked. Some people think the man was Mark. He was not an apostle. He was

probably a member of one of the first Christian communities, and his mother's house in Jerusalem is mentioned in the Acts of the Apostles as a center where Christians gathered. Mark was baptized by Peter. Then they both moved to Rome, where Mark served as

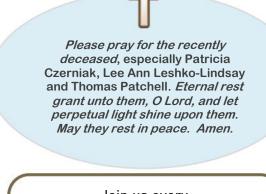
Peter's secretary. Mark also traveled with Paul and Barnabas on their first missionary journey.

Mark's gospel is simple and direct. It challenges the reader to share in Jesus' sufferings and understand His humanity. Mark's symbol is a winged lion. The lion is a desert animal, and Mark's gospel begins with the story of John the Baptist in the desert. Traditions say that Mark went to Alexandria in Egypt. He worked there for ten years before he was martyred. Mark's bones are said to rest in a great cathedral in Venice, Italy, where he is the patron saint.



Please pray for those actively serving in our armed forces: Captain Jonathan Lang, USMC Stephen Shallenberger Jacob & Alex Shafley Drew Sheldon James Dzurica Jared Yester





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

## OUR PRAYER LIST:

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, 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 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, 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., James P., R.J., Aggie Farcosky, Dorothy Curci, Judy F., Mike M., 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.

# FAITH FORMATION UPDATES

Text 'yough' to 84576 to get Faith Formation texts and emails!

# 1st Communion

# Congratulations to the children to received their First Communion at Visitation this Saturday!

Please pray for our candidates who will be confirmed this Thursday, April 25 at St. Pius X at 7pm!

Confirmation

Rehearsal is the night before!

Companions

# Frassati Fellowship

Our next meeting is May 1!

Our next meeting is May 8!

# Thank you!

Thank you to our catechists and parents who have given input for Faith Formation next year! Keep an ear and eye out for the announcement at the end of May!

# Weekly Offering– April 7, 2024

Visitation Parish	
Weekly	\$5,309
Capital improvements	
Debt reduction	\$50
Accent	\$55
Lenten offering	
Holy Thursday	
Good Friday (Holy Land)	\$68
Easter	
Online giving	\$1,090
Total envelopes: -	

## St. Pius X Parish

57,122
\$191
\$55
\$170
\$20
\$25
\$280
.\$345

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### ST. PIUS X

VISITATION







DLA Updates: Our goal this year is printed below, along with our totals at this time. If you missed receiving a pledge card, they are available at the office. If you have already made a gift or pledge to the DLA, it has been duly recorded here and forwarded to the diocesan office, and we thank you for your contribution! If you have not yet made a pledge, please prayerfully consider doing so.

> VISITATION: \$29,960 pledged/\$36,773 Diocesan goal ST. PIUS X: \$42,033 pledged/\$48,807 Diocesan goal (as of 4-10-24)



A very happy, special day in the life of any parish is the day of First Holy Communion for its children. This Saturday, April 20th, at the 4:00 p.m. Mass at Visitation, we will administer First Communion to our second graders. We as a parish celebrate this day and special liturgy. We congratulate all the beautiful children listed here, and thank their

families and teachers, and all who helped them come to this special day. God keep you, dear children, always in His care, as you receive Jesus for the first time, and then very often in your life. And may the Holy Spirit descend upon you and remain with you and guide you in your life as you mature in the Catholic faith.

Blake Caletri	Lauren Golobish	Mason Perks	Nora Skovira
Charlotte Cook	Parker Klosky	Thea Record	Jake Vesco

### FOOD FOR THOUGHT ON THIS FIRST COMMUNION DAY

Mei was a little Chinese girl whose mother was put in prison for refusing to surrender her Catholic faith. This was in the 1950s. Since Mei was only three and had nowhere else to go, she stayed with her mother. The prisoners were all guarded carefully, but Mei was allowed to run about everywhere.

Among the prisoners was a bishop and some priests. They couldn't say Mass, but there were still priests outside the prison who secretly sent in consecrated hosts hidden in loaves of bread that were sent to the prisoners. In that way the prisoners were able to receive Communion.

Once a Chinese woman was in solitary confinement and nobody was allowed to visit her, but the guards did not count Mei as somebody. So the little girl took the Blessed Sacrament to her. The host was hidden in her closed fist, demurely held in her sleeves.

When Mei's mother was released, they returned to their village. There was still a missionary priest there, and Mei kept asking him to allow her to receive Communion. She was only four, but she knew all about

it and how precious it was. The priest let her make her First Communion and a month later Mei was confirmed. Hopefully, every parent, grandparent, Godparent and sponsor will try to make our faith as precious for the children in their care as Mei's mother did for her.



It is a joyous event in the life of a parish or in our case parishes, when the Bishop visits to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation. This Thursday, April 25th, Bishop Kulick will be coming to St. Pius X Church to celebrate a Confirmation Mass for the eighth graders of Visitation and St. Pius X, Mt. Pleasant; St. John, Scottdale; St. Joseph, Everson; St. Aloysius, Dunbar; St. John, St. Rita & Immaculate Conception, Connellsville. The Mass will begin at 7:00 p.m. and everyone is invited. We welcome Bishop Kulick to our parishes as he anoints our students with the oil of Sacred Chrism and prays that each student will receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit. We thank Bishop Kulick for visiting our parishes this Thursday as our chief shepherd of the Diocese of Greensburg.

Confirmation: One of the Sacraments of Christian Initiation; those baptized receive this sacrament ordinarily from a bishop, by the laying on of hands and anointing with chrism with a specific formula: N., be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit. Baptism incorporates people into Christ, to the dignity of adopted children of God. Strengthened by the Holy Spirit in Confirmation, they become a more perfect image of the Lord, profess the Faith perseveringly, and bear

witness to the Lord in the world, while working for growth of the Body of Christ. Eventually they receive the Eucharist, whereby they may attain eternal life and aver unity in God's people. Coming to the full stature of Christ through these Sacraments of Christian Initiation, they carry out the mission of the People of God in the Church.

**Distinct ritually from Baptism, Confirmation is** the complement to Baptism that perfects it and orientates the confirmed toward the Eucharist. This anointing consecrates the person in a twofold manner: (a) priestly, allowing the person to be brought more deeply into the Eucharistic worship to take part more intensely in the Paschal Mystery; (b) *prophetic*, fortifying the Christian to bear witness before the world to Christ, his or her Savior and the Founder of the Church. Thus one encounters Christ in a mature manner to adhere to Christian commitment and community. The Baptismal promises are renewed, and the imposition of hands by the bishop and the priests who assist follows. Then each candidate is anointed with chrism during the recitation of the formula, and the Sign of Peace is given to each individual.





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