St. Pius X Parish



Visitation Parish

224 Summit Street 🛛 👌

Mt. Pleasant, Pennsylvania 👌

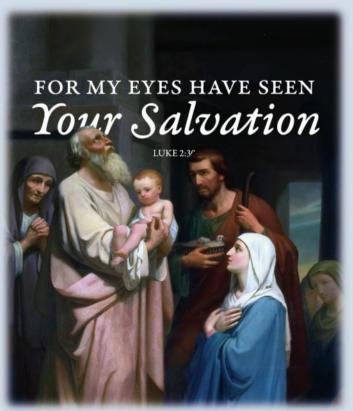
740 West Walnut Street



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 2, 2025 - The Presentation of the Lord



<u>Mass Schedule</u> Saturday: Visitation at 4:00 p.m.; St. Pius X at 6:00 p.m. Sunday: Visitation at 8:30 a.m.; St. Pius X at 10:30 a.m. Daily (weekday) Mass: Visitation at 7:00 a.m.

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

Parochial Vicars: Rev. Peter Guardiano, Rev. Edwin Rubido, Rev. Craig Alexander, Rev. John Torres pguardiano..., erubido..., calexander...jtorres...@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Mass Intentions

- Mon. 2/3 Visitation 7:00 a.m. Dorothy Staszel- Leo & Barb Rudnik
- Tues. 2/4 **Visitation** 7:00 a.m. Joseph M. Shibilsky- Joan & Bob Krempasky
- Wed. 2/5 Visitation 7:00 a.m. Jerry Lucia- Mary Ann Arrigo
- Thu. 2/6 **Visitation** 7:00 a.m. Loretta Stana- Visitation Christian Mothers
- Fri. 2/7 Visitation 7:00 a.m. James M. Gyurke, Sr.- wife, Rita
- Sat. 2/8 **Visitation** 4:00 p.m. Robert & Joan Soforic- Robert & Debra Manjerovic

St. Pius X

6:00 p.m. Pro populo

Sun. 2/9 Visitation

8:30 a.m. Mary Martha Toczek- Dr. & Mrs. Joseph Slezak

St. Pius X 10:30 a.m. Wally & Ann Cable- Lou & Judy Bell

Ministry of the Altar

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2025

Visitation 4 p.m. Lector: Brian Hunter E.M.: Donna Zemba, Marlene Cibulas, Barb S. Servers: Colton & Lauren G., volunteer Cantor: Kristen Felentzer

St. Pius X 6 p.m.

Lector: Kim Sirianna E.M.: Sue Covalesky, Barbara D., Emily S. Claudia E. Servers: Ella B., Emma E., Braxton P. Cantor: Joanne Geckle

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2025

Visitation 8:30 a.m. Lector: Tereasa Rerko E.M.: Joann Maholtz, Patricia Thomas, volunteer Servers: Ty W., Langdon & Amelia T. Cantor: Phil Brown

St. Pius X 10:30 a.m.

Lector: Connie Barnhart E.M.: Kristen Rega, Sr. Juliana, Audrey S., Theresa S. Servers: Michael H., Lucas P., volunteer Cantor: Eric Harris/choir

Candles this Week



<u>St. Pius X</u> St. Joseph- Ronald Secorie- Tim Secorie

Our Lady of Czestochowa- John & Mary Potosky- Mark & Debbie Potosky

<u>Visitation</u>

Sanctuary- John Brodak family- John & Isabel

Blessed Mother- living & deceased members of the Visitation Rosary Altar Society

St. Joseph- Wally & Ann Cable- Lou & Judy Bell

Madonna & Child- Bill Potoka, Sr.- family

Better to be kind at home than to burn incense in a distant place. Chinese proverb



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

Saturday of the month at St. Pius X, beginning at 12:00 p.m.

Confessions heard at Visitation every

Saturday, beginning at 3:15 p.m. and the first

OUR STAFF

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

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Regional Director of Faith Formation: Mary Allison mallison@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Office Assistant: Theresa Turner tdturner@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Cleaning Specialist/Janitor: Rich Kujawa *rkujawa@dioceseofgreensburg.org* Notes from our Pastor, Fr. Paul:



TODAY, FEBRUARY 2, IS THE FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD OR CANDLEMAS DAY as it also known. It is 40 days after

Christmas. In many places, the nativity scene is left up until then. On this day, it is decorated with the first flowers of spring before it is taken down and put away. We celebrate a joyful event told in the second chapter of the Gospel of Luke. When Jesus was 40 days old, Mary and Joseph brought Him to the Temple of Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord. In the Temple, Jesus was recognized by Anna and Simeon, two elderly people of great holiness. They were filled with joy. Simeon took Jesus in his arms. Old age embraced youth.

Simeon spoke of a beautiful prayer. Now that he saw the Messiah, he could die in peace. Simeon also spoke of the sadness to come, which would pierce the heart of Mary. Someone called Jesus "a light to the nations." The light of Jesus' presence in the world has been celebrated on this day for many centuries. On this feast, traditionally enough candles were blessed to last the whole year. That's why it is commonly called "Candlemas." It is a feast of light. At church, everyone joins in singing Simeon's song. In some parishes, the people light the candles and carry them all around the church, and even out into the streets. We can carry the light of Christ to every corner of the world. We will also bless candles at our Masses and anyone wishing to have blessed candles for home may purchase these candles after Mass. The donation is \$3. If you like to use blessed candles for household prayers throughout the year, here is your chance to get them. Blessed candles in our churches and homes signify the living presence of Christ in our community. With Christ as our light, we warm a lost and wintry world.

ATTENTION all lectors, Eucharistic ministers and altar servers: Please know that if you attend a Mass for which you are not on the schedule and your ministry is not covered, you may volunteer to cover that position. Know that all guidelines are the same for each Mass, so that you are able to feel at home whenever you come and can help when all the ministries are not covered. In this way, we show that we are faithful. All of your priests thank you! TOMORROW, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3, IS THE FEAST OF ST. BLAISE, Bishop and Martyr. Blaise was a Bishop of Sebaste in Armenia. He was martyred during the persecution of Christians by the Roman Emperor Lucinius. Blaise is said to have been a physician, as well as a Bishop. A legend tells that Blaise saved the life of a boy who was choking on a fish bone. Blaise is now the Patron Saint of all who have diseases of the throat. On his feast day, in many parishes of the United States, people have their throats blessed. It's no surprise that this custom coincides with the peak of the sore throat and flu season. Years ago, wintertime illnesses were very dangerous. Before the discovery of penicillin, a person could die from complications of a sore throat.

A tradition of blessing throats began at a time when the church's calendar was filled with blessings for the saints' days. Many of these are no longer practiced, but somehow, the custom of blessing throats has survived. Two candles are tied in the shape of a cross, and the candles are touched to our necks. We can think of the blessing of throats as a sign of God's care for every part of us.

Please note: Throats will be blessed on the Feast of St. Blaise only, which is Monday, Feb. 3. The schedule for the Blessing of Throats at our parishes is as follows:

7 a.m. Mass at Visitation 12:10 p.m. Blessing service at St. Pius X 6 p.m. Blessing service at Visitation.

I would like to extend a special thank you to all the people of our parishes who participated in the March for Life in Washington D.C. or any of the local pro-life services that were held on Friday, Jan. 24th. Whether you attended the march or made time for prayer at the DCCW day of prayer, thank you for praying for the "sanctity of life." Your time was truly appreciated. Thank you, and God bless you all. ~**Fr. Paul**

Baptism is the first foundational sacrament where we are welcomed into the Church, freed from Original Sin, receive the Holy Spirit and become sharers in God's Divine Life. Preparations to begin this journey of faith should start *PRIOR* to your child's birth. Parents should contact the parish office at least three months before the baby's due date, and Sr. Donna Mulligan will be in touch with the expecting parents. This allows for adequate formation for both the parents and Godparents.

In & Around Our Neighborhood...



VISITATION PURSE/CASH BASH Scheduled for Sunday, March 2nd, 2025, in the St. Pius X hall from 1-4 p.m. Tickets include 4 numbers, at a \$35 donation. Appetizers, luncheon, desserts and beverage included. Tickets are available now in the church office during normal business hours or by calling Kathy at 724-547-2432. You need not be present to win.

CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION,

CONNELLSVILLE: The Holy Name Society will have a pancake & sausage breakfast on SUNDAY, February 2, 2025, in the Immaculate Conception social hall from 7:30-11:30 a.m. Cost is \$7 for adults and \$3 for children 10 and under.



ATTENTION, LADIES & GENTLEMEN! The Visitation Kitchen Crew is looking for volunteers for making pirohy (pierogis) for the Purse/Cash Bash and for the Visitation Church festival. Pirohys will

be made on February 4th at 8 a.m. We are in need of help! Please come to the Visitation hall that morning if you'll be available, and thank you!



In-Person PA Mandated Reporting Class at St. Raymond on Saturday, February 22, from 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Registration is important and must be done online prior to the class. Use the QR code or go to

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/recognizingreporting-child-abuse-st-raymond-krohaly-tr015861tickets-1203521327689?aff-oddtdtcreator. Any questions, please contact Bill at 724-289-0198.

Take a moment to recognize some important partners of Visitation & St. Pius X parishes. On the back of our Sunday bulletin are ads from the companies that support us year round. When you are patronizing those businesses or service say, "Thank you from Visitation and St. Pius X parishes."



Walking With Moms in Need Walking With Moms in Need is described as a nationwide

"...parish-based initiative to increase support for pregnant and parenting mothers in need. It works to ensure that any woman who finds herself unexpectedly pregnant, or parenting in difficult circumstances, can turn to her local Catholic Church and be connected with the resources she needs. Volunteers walk with moms throughout the motherhood journey, offering them authentic Christian friendship and ongoing support." If your parish does not already have a Walking With Moms group, now would be a great time to start. Every parish needs to be a resource for young families in need. Even if your parish doesn't have the size and resources to be a local pregnancy resource center, volunteers at the parish need to know where someone can go for help when they need it. If we are going to promote life in the womb, we need to support life in the community. To find information to get started in your parish go to: https:// www.walkingwithmoms.com/parish-resources.

Has your marriage become cold or unloving?

Are you making plans to move out, considering separation or even divorce? Don't give up–Give Retrouvaille a try. The next Pittsburgh program begins on February 14th. Please contact Retrouvaille by calling 412-277-3434 or emailing our registration couple at 3041R@HelpOurMarriage.org. You can also check us out at **helpourmarriage.org**.

An Invitation for Young Men All young men who are interested in exploring God's call and who are open to learning more about the priesthood are invited to save the dates for Spring 2025 gatherings-the first Sunday of each month (Feb. 2, Mar. 2, Apr. 6, May 4) at St. John de La Salle Parish, 497 Athena Drive, Delmont. The Melchizedek Project, for young men ages 18 and older, will meet from 3:30-5 p.m., and Exploring God's Call, for young men of high school age, will meet from 6:30 -8 p.m. Each gathering will include prayer, discussion, and the sharing of helpful resources. For more information or to make your attendance plans known, please contact Fr. Dave Slusarick, Associate Director, Office for Priestly Vocations at dslusarick@dioceseofgreensburg.org.

PATRON SAINTS-WHAT IS A PATRON SAINT?

Patron saints are chosen as special protectors or guardians over areas of life. These areas can include occupations, illnesses, church, countries, causes-anything that is important to us. The earliest records show that people and churches were named after apostles and martyrs as early as the fourth century. Recently, the popes have named patron saints, but patrons can be chosen by other individuals or groups as well. Patron Saints are often chosen today because an interest, talent or event in their lives overlaps with the special area.

For example, Francis of Assisi loved nature, and so he is a patron of ecologists. Francis de Sales was a writer and so he is patron saint of journalists & writers. Clare of Assisi was named patron of television because one Christmas when she was too ill to leave her bed, she saw and heard Christmas Mass-even though it was taking place miles away. Angels can also be named as patron saints. A patron saint can help us when we follow the example of that saint's life and when we ask for the saint's intercessory prayers to God.

CONFESSION QUESTIONS

How often should I go to Confession? Catholics are required to receive the Sacrament at least once per year. However, if you are aware of having committed any mortal (serious) sin, you should receive the Sacrament. That being said, all are encouraged to take advantage of the Sacrament on a regular basis. Frequent reception helps keep us aware of our spiritual progress and provides the grace to overcome our sins.

Can I receive Communion without going to Confession? When you receive the Eucharist you affirm that you are in a state of grace, reconciled with God and the Church. Since the Sacrament of Confession provides that reconciliation,

if you are in a state of mortal sin you must abstain from receiving the Eucharist until you go to Confession. A mortal sin consists of a serious action through which a person turns away from God's law and charity, fully understands it is wrong and chooses to commit it freely. If you have committed venial sins, you may still receive the Eucharist. Venial sins wound our relationship with God, but consist of less serious matters than mortal sins or are performed without full knowledge or consent. Penitents are encouraged to confess venial sins regularly, since the repetition of these sins can lead to more serious sin.

I'm divorced. May I receive the Sacrament? If you are civilly divorced and have not remarried or were validly married after receiving a declaration of nullity for your prior marriage, you may participate in the Sacrament. If you have remarried outside of the Church and have guestions about your situation, we encourage you to speak with your parish priest.

How do I find out when the Sacrament is offered? Parishes offer Confession regularly throughout the year: if you contact the parish office, they will be able to tell you. Additionally, many parishes have more times during the seasons of Advent & Lent.

Please pray for our recently deceased, especially Barbara Polanovsky and Evelyn Pfeifer. 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.

OUR PRAYER LIST:

Zippy, 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, Peggy, Sharon & Russ Gonda, Mike, Patty & Dan Gonos, Pat, Bill, Connie Zemba, Ray B., Andrew, Bob Sandzimier, Joann L., Knox, Phillip, Baby Parker, Ken Keslar, Jen, Dwayne Thomas, Mary Rose, David Gillott, Patricia Burke, Carol K., Frank Chain, David, Gene, Elizabeth E., Don Seder, Colleen, Jeff, William Pakulski, Kathi Kappel, Danny & Elaine Kurpiel, Brenda, Dorinda O., Patty, Gary French & family, Paul, Mike & Sue Ruszkowski, Liz, Brenda, Paul, Barry Stanziana, Kitty Jensen, Donna Zemba, Ryan Snyder & family, Margie, Jeff Kiral, Isaac Donaldson, 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, 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., 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, Patricia Skero, Michael Tarasky, Sr., Logan, 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., R.J., Aggie Farcosky, Judy F., Mike M., Mary Lou L., Dolores O'Brocto, Agnes Rerko, Chrissy Lejeune, John DiPasquale, Bertie Zaucha, Anita F., Christina T., Rosemary Carolen, Margie D., Linda Goodlin, Billy C., Judy K., Mike H., Linda Koskee, Carl & Amy Schaefer



Please pray for those actively serving in our armed forces: Captain Jonathan Lang, USMC Jacob & Alex Shafley Drew Sheldon James Dzurica Jared Yester May God guide & protect them always.



First Communion

Preparation resumes 2/8 at 9am at St. Aloysius.

Confirmation

We have two upcoming Preparation sessions: 1/29 at 6pm and 2/1 at 1pm. Year 2 Paperwork is DUE 2/1!

Companions

Our next meeting is 2/5! See you there!

<u>Frassati</u> Fellowship

Our next meeting is

2/12! See you there!

Summer Plans!

It's time to start thinking about the summer! Please consider helping with VBS!

MALLISON@DIOCESEOFGREENSBURG.ORG

Weekly Offering- January 19, 2025
Visitation Parish
Weekly\$3,598
Capital Improvements\$45
Growing\$100
Accent\$122
Solemnity of Mary\$25
Online giving\$645
Total envelopes: 159
St. Pius X Parish
St. Pius X Parish Weekly\$5,802
Weekly\$5,802
Weekly\$5,802 Capital Improvements\$20
Weekly\$5,802 Capital Improvements\$20 Accent\$40
Weekly\$5,802 Capital Improvements\$20 Accent\$40 Christmas\$25
Weekly\$5,802 Capital Improvements\$20 Accent\$40 Christmas\$25 Solemnity of Mary\$32

Thank you for your generosity!



ONLINE GIVING AVAILABLE! Please scan the appropriate QR code or go to www.mpcatholicchurches.org.

ST. PIUS X

VISITATION





TOTAL GIVING REPORT As you know, we don't publish a report of individual contributions in any kind of public way. We feel that your giving is honest & that it is between you & the Lord. We'll be sending a statement to every parishioner at the beginning of February. Please be patient. We are grateful to all who are generous & we pray that your generosity continues so that our parishes can continue to grow & perform God's work.



A SECOND COLLECTION FOR THE CHURCH IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

This weekend our second collection will be for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. The proceeds from this collection will help the Church to overcome the challenges of rebuilding after decades of atheistic communist rule, bringing light to twenty-nine nations in Central and Eastern Europe, such as Lithuania, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Poland, Slovenia, Slovakia, Macedonia, and Ukraine. The citizens of Central and Eastern Europe have been freed from the evil of communism for over thirty years, but much work still remains to accomplish the restoration of the Church in this part of the world. Although the tyranny of communism did not snuff out the Catholic faith in these countries, the people of Central and Eastern Europe do need our assistance and financial help because they do not have the resources to "Restore the Church [and] Build the Future" on their own.

Because of the generous response from parishioners in past years, the Bishops of the United States were able to provide aid immediately when war and other forms of oppression brought suffering to the people of Central and Eastern Europe. The Bishops continue to respond to the cry of the poor in these nations, especially as wars continue and mass migration of refugees bring instability to these nations. For example, from 2022 through summer 2024, The Catholic University of Croatia was responsible for bringing students and faculty from European universities for a series of summer courses called "Practicing Resilience - Preparing For Recovery," a program designed to prepare people spiritually, psychologically, and socially for the work of healing and recovering from the aftermath of war. Funding provided from our support of the collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe aided in making the program available for all participants. Our parishioners' contributions to this collection do indeed make a difference in the lives of so many persons as they struggle to recover from former communist rule and present difficulties. Our participation and our parishioners' participation in the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe express our care and support for the people in Central and Eastern Europe, especially in times of crisis and disruption. We are called to continue to offer hope to our fellow Catholics in Central and Eastern Europe by providing both material and spiritual assistance as they face enormous challenges. The collection will take place during the celebration of Our Lord's Presentation in the Temple, when He is recognized as the Light to the Nations. May we and the Faithful of the Diocese of Greensburg share the Light and Hope of Christ with others who are overshadowed by the darkness of sin, communism, atheism, suffering, and war, helping the citizens of Eastern and Central Europe to restore the Church and build the future. Thank you for your support of this collection!





