



Saint Francis of Assisi of Western Fayette County

ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

101 West Church Avenue
Masontown, Pennsylvania 15461

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*A Parish of the Diocese of Greensburg
A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust*



October 2, 2022

Rev. Marlon Pates, Pastor
mpates@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Rev. Arnel Patayon Tadeo
Shared Parochial Vicar
atadeo@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Masses in Masontown

Monday, Wednesday, Friday ..8:00 am
Saturday6:00 pm
Sunday.....8:00 am & 11:30 am

Confessions: During Adoration
Adoration: Friday 4:30-6:00 pm

Masses in Footedale

Tuesday & Thursday8:00 am
Saturday:4:00 pm
Sunday.....9:30 am

Confessions: Saturday 3:00-3:30 pm
Adoration: Wednesday 4:30-6:00 pm

Office Hours: Monday through
Friday 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Bulletin Articles: The deadline
for placing articles in the bulletin
is Monday at Noon.

New Parishioners, Welcome!
Please register as soon as possible.

Communion to the Homebound is
provided on a regular basis. Call the
Parish Office to be added to our list.

Sacrament of Baptism: By
appointment. Prior to your baby's
Baptism, you must be a registered,
practicing member of this parish.

Sacrament of Marriage: Requires
parish membership by at least one of
the parties for six months prior to
making arrangements for marriage.

Weddings should be scheduled
one year in advance.

Prayer Chain: To request prayer,
please call Patty 724-245-9746
or Valeria 724-583-9460



27th Sunday

IN ORDINARY TIME

"When you have done all you have been commanded,
say, 'We are unprofitable servants; we have done what
we were obliged to do.'" - Lk 17:10b

Fr. Arnel's Reflections - 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Hb. 1:2-3; 2:2-4; Ps 95; 2 Tm 1:6-8, 13-14; Lk 17:5-19

**"Increase our faith!"**

Faith is the dominant theme this 27th Sunday of the Ordinary Time. The First Reading defines Faith as trusting in God. Faith is presented as trust and steadfast expectation in the face of suffering and delay. God assures the prophet that although "the rash one" that is one who does not believe, "has no integrity, "the just one, because of his Faith, will live" because he will lead a righteous life in the midst of encircling evil. Thus, Faith is the foundation of faithfulness; and faithfulness strengthens Faith. In the Responsorial Psalm (Ps 95), God is characterized as a solid rock and a caring shepherd, surely worthy of our trusting Faith. This reminds us of St. Augustine's advice to "pray as though everything depended on God and work as though everything depended on you." The Second Reading explains why Faith gives us a new way of looking at things and a new way of living. Paul reminds Timothy, and all of us that Faith is our acceptance of Jesus as the fulfillment of the promises of God. Paul stresses the need for a living Faith in, and loyalty to the teachings of Jesus Christ, which have been handed down to us by the Church. Hence, Faith is belief in, and acceptance of, revealed truths, based simply on the authority and truthfulness of God, and Hope is trust in God. Faith not only enables us to be faithful; it also strengthens us to be courageous. Faith grows as we put it to use by obediently rendering humble service to God in others. In the Gospel, Jesus teaches his Apostles that Faith allows us to share in God's power, and, hence, even in small quantities, deep Faith enables Him to work miracles in our lives and in the lives of others. It is Faith which makes one just, putting him into right relation with God and neighbor. In the Bible, Faith means reliance on, or confidence in, God, and Hope is the expectation of a better future.

Furthermore, Faith can be likened to a lens that God gives believers to explore that fullness of His plan for us. It enables us to experience the richness of God's embracing love from within as one of the family. To live without the lens of faith is to live on the surface of reality unaware of the wonder of God. To see things with a faith perspective is a gift of God to be pleaded for, protected, nourished, and treasured.

Faith, also, is much more than a life lens. As well as enhancing the view, faith actually changes the viewer. Faith is the foundation stone on which love is built. Faith-filled love transforms the relationship between the creator and the created one. It is the source of all our hope. It cannot be hoarded since it is through sharing it with others that it is deepened in our own hearts. So, every believer must sow seeds of goodness in every aspect of daily life. This is our glorious calling. As Jesus puts it in the Gospel, no matter how small the seed, it will bear fruit beyond measure if it is sown in faith.

Hence, when the Apostles ask for an increase in the quantity of their Faith, Jesus reminds them, and all of us, that the quality of their faith is more important. Using a master-servant parable, Jesus teaches them, and all of us, that, for Faith to be effective, it must be linked with trust, loving obedience and total commitment - an active submission to God and a willingness to do whatever He commands, even in tough times.

Our faith increases when we grow in our service to others. Why? Because in serving others, we become more in the likeness of Jesus who served when He washed the feet of His apostles. As we grow closer to Jesus in our daily personal relationship, we come to know His Divine Presence, His love, His mercy, etc... all of this leading towards unshakable faith. True faith, then, is unselfish. Living faith is unselfish faith. It seeks to give rather than receive. It seeks to obey God, not "me, I and myself." Unselfish faith is humble, not full of pride. It admits that "We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done."

As we reflect upon the Gospel, let us review what kind of faith that we have. Let us ask ourselves, "Do I have unselfish faith that will draw me to the loving heart of Jesus?" or, "Do I have a faith that places a barrier between Jesus and myself?" If there is a barrier that prevents us from growing in the love of Jesus, ask Jesus to remove it so we may blossom in our faith.



St. Maximilian Maria Kolbe OFM Conv (born Raymund Kolbe; Polish: Maksymilian Maria Kolbe; 1894–1941) was a Polish Catholic priest and Conventual Franciscan friar who volunteered to die in place of a man named Franciszek Gajowniczek in the German death camp of Auschwitz,

located in German-occupied Poland during World War II. He had been active in promoting the veneration of the Immaculate Virgin Mary, founding and supervising the monastery of Niepokalanów near Warsaw, operating an amateur-radio station, and founding or running several other organizations and publications. On 10 October 1982, Pope John Paul II canonized Kolbe and declared him a martyr of charity. The Catholic Church venerates him as the patron saint of amateur radio operators, drug addicts, political prisoners, families, journalists, and prisoners. Pope John Paul II declared him "the patron of our difficult century". His feast day is 14 August, the day of his death. Due to Kolbe's efforts to promote consecration and entrustment to Mary, he is known as the Apostle of Consecration to Mary.



St. Francis of Assisi, baptized Giovanni, renamed Francesco, in full Francesco di Pietro di Bernardone, (born 1181/82, Assisi, duchy of Spoleto [Italy] - died October 3, 1226, Assisi; canonized July 16, 1228; feast day October 4), founder of the Franciscan orders of the Friars Minor, the women's Order of St. Clare (the Poor Clares), and the lay Third Order.

He was also a leader of the movement of evangelical poverty in the early 13th century. His evangelical zeal, consecration to poverty, charity, and personal charisma drew thousands of followers. Francis's devotion to the human Jesus and his desire to follow Jesus' example reflected and reinforced important developments in medieval spirituality. In 1979 Pope John Paul II recognized him as the patron saint of ecology.

JOIN US IN PRAYING THE ROSARY

America Needs Fatima is sponsoring a public **ROSARY RALLY** in honor of Our Lady of Fatima on Saturday, **OCTOBER 15**, at exactly **12:00 pm** around the **BLESSED MOTHER STATUE** on the parish grounds in **MASONTOWN**. Please join us for the 2022 Public Square Rosary Crusade! If standing is a problem, please feel free to bring a chair.

BLESSING OF ANIMALS

Many people bring their pets to the church to be blessed on Saint Francis' feast day because of his love for animals as expressed in his Canticle of Creatures.

Here in our parish the **Blessing of Animals** will be on **October 3, Monday, at 6:00 pm** in both worship sites.

For Masontown worship site, please gather in front of Saint Francis Garden behind the church.

For Footedale worship site, please gather at Saint Maximillian Kolbe Shrine. See you!



On behalf of the entire congregation, I would like to sincerely express my gratitude to the officers and members of the Knights of Columbus for donating the beautiful statue of St. Francis of Assisi for Masontown church. We are so lucky to have you. – *Fr. Marlon*

Friday is the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary

This feast was established to commemorate the victory over the Turks at Lepanto which was attributed to Mary's intercession and is the reason that October has become known as the "Month of the Rosary."

"*His mother treasured all these things in her heart.*" This is how the Gospel of Luke describes Mary's reflection on the mystery of Jesus. The rosary is a tool that helps Christians to reflect on the life, death and resurrection of Christ. People have prayed the rosary in its present form for more than 500 years. Please make the Rosary part of your daily devotions.

October Count

During the month of October, the diocese asks us to participate in the annual October Count, the process that involves the *counting and reporting* of the Sunday Mass attendance for each weekend Mass in October. The purpose of the October Count is to monitor certain trends throughout the diocese and to obtain a picture of the diocese that is very useful for long range planning.



Breast Cancer Awareness Month

A special board is located in church on which you are invited to list the names of those you wish to pray for, honor and remember who have been effected by breast cancer.

THE GIFT OF FAITH

Faith is a gift. When the disciples asked Jesus to increase their faith, they were going to the source of that faith with their request. God is the giver of all good gifts, including faith. When we put our faith in Christ, we believe that God is with us, even though we cannot physically see God. Or can we? If we are attentive, we see the evidence of God's presence in the love of family and friends, care poured out in service of our neighbors, the living beauty of creation. This is not blind faith, but rather is the result of seeing with the eyes of faith. Followers of Jesus look beyond what is apparent to see what is possible with the power and presence of the Holy Spirit within and among us.

Parish Sympathy is expressed to the families of
† **Judith Ann (Bashour) Scola**, daughter of Joanne Bashour and sister of Mary Jo Bashour, who passed away recently.

† **Cecelia F. Kaparic**

who was buried Monday, September 26.

May God grant to them eternal life and comfort their families. May they rest in peace.

Faith Formation at Saint Francis of Assisi
Sunday, October 2, 10:30 to 11:45 am

Confirmation - Tuesday, October 11

at Saint Therese Church in Uniontown.

Please remember these young people in your prayers.

The Christian Mothers will meet at 6:30 pm on Wednesday, **October 12**, at the social hall in Footedale.

The **Golden Group** meets at 11:30 am on Wednesday, **October 19**, at the social hall in Footedale.

New members are always welcomed!



SENIOR BINGO - Sunday, **October 16**, 2:00 to 4:00 pm at the cafeteria in Masontown. Cost of \$7 includes a catered lunch. All are invited to attend! To help us plan, please RSVP via the sign up sheets located at the Church entrances by October 10.

CASH BASH - Sunday, **November 6** - at the social hall in Footedale. Doors open at 2:00 pm; cash drawings begin at 2:30 pm and take place every ten minutes through 7:00 pm. Tickets are \$20; include free food and refreshments and are available at the Parish Office.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

- The annual **PIE SALE** is now being held. Contact any Knight to order. Order blanks have been placed in both worship sights. All **paid orders** are **due on Friday, November 4**; delivery is Tuesday, November 15. Thanking you in advance for your support.
- The annual **THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE** will begin the first Sunday of October. Your support of this project is greatly appreciated.
- We continue to collect **USED EYE GLASSES** to be donated to the Blind Association. To date we have collected over 1,000 pairs

Attention: Girls in Grades K-12

Are you interested in becoming a leader in your community and making the world a better place? Then join the 40+ girls in Girl Scouts here in Masontown! Grades K-8 meet on Sunday afternoons at the St. Benedict Learning Center two or three times a month and Grades 9-12 meet on Friday afternoons once a month! We are also in need of adult volunteers to assist! Please contact Bethany Hughes at 724-557-7784 (call or text) or email: Bethanyio@yahoo.com for more information.

The Practice of Stewardship

Thank you to all who made a gift to the **Seminarian and Clergy Formation Collection** and are praying for vocations in our parish and diocese. Your prayers and contributions support our Seminarians, men preparing for the Permanent Diaconate, ongoing clergy formation and our International Priests. Those who have not done so can make a gift by returning the envelope that was sent to them or online at www.dioceseofgreensburg.org

Stewardship of Treasure

September 25: \$5,570; loose \$342; monthly \$305; children \$9; online \$187 totaling \$6,413
Mission Co-Op Appeal \$1,645
Seminarian & Priest Formation \$1,161

Our parish is grateful for your continued support!

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, October 1 -- Vigil: 27th Ordinary Sunday

4:00 pm-F (M) Edith Horvath (Edward Kopec)
6:00 pm-M (A) Deceased Gall Family (Kevin/Roxane Connors)

Sunday, October 2 -- 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am-M (T) Pro Populo
9:30 am-F * Angela & Louise Pikalski (Brother Walter Smith)
11:30 am-M (A) Michael A. Zumerling (Wife & Family)

Monday, October 3 -- Weekday

8:00 am-M Marcy Renocks (Marjorie Hovan)

Tuesday, October 4 -- Saint Francis of Assisi

12:00 pm-F Steve Palaisa (Dtr. Renee & Family)
6:00 pm-M Aladino Burchianti (Karl Burchianti)

Wednesday, October 5 -- Saint Faustina Kowalska

9:30 am-M Nicolina Galluzzo (Denise/Rick Bobincheck)

Thursday, October 6 - Sts Bruno & Marie Rose Durocher

9:30 am-F Joseph & Ann Sumego (Debi, Ed, Roseann)

Friday, October 7 -- Our Lady of the Rosary

No Mass
4:30-6:00 pm Adoration in Masontown

Saturday, October 8 -- Vigil: 28th Ordinary Sunday

3-3:30 pm-F Confessions
4:00 pm-F (A) Judy Scola (Sister, Mary Jo Bashour)
6:00 pm-M (A) Mary E. Zuzak (Steve, Irene & Eric)

Sunday, October 9 -- 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am-M (A) Cheryl Marie Maykuth (Family)
9:30 am-F (A) Beatrice Dunlevy (Daughter & Family)
11:30 am-M (T) Pro Populo

(M) Fr. Marlon / (A) Fr. Arnel / (T) Fr. Tringhese

* Bishop Larry J. Kulick

Mass Readings for the Week Ahead

Monday: Gal 1:6-12; Lk 10:25-37
Tuesday: Gal 1:13-24; Lk 10:38-42
Wednesday: Gal 2:1-14; Lk 11:1-4
Thursday: Gal 3:1-5; Lk 11:5-13
Friday: Gal 3:7-14; Lk 11:15-26
Saturday: Gal 3:22-29; Lk 11:27-28
Next Sunday: 2 Kgs 5:14-17; 2 Tm 2:8-13; Lk 17:11-19



Eucharistic Adoration

Friday, October 7, in Masontown
4:30-5:30 pm: Exposition and Confession
5:30-5:45 pm: Chaplet of Divine Mercy
5:45-6:00 pm: Benediction

Preach the gospel at all times; use words if necessary. - Saint Francis of Assisi



Often we feel that our faith is weak, unable to overcome all of our doubts or give us the confidence to face our trials. Jesus' closest friends, His apostles, may have felt the same way, as today we hear them ask Him to increase their faith. Jesus responds by issuing them a challenge, telling them that even a small amount of faith has the power to do great things. Let us accept that challenge today, recognizing that our faith, however uncertain, has brought us here in the first place to worship the Lord and celebrate the Eucharist.

♥ Today we welcome Bishop Kulick who presides at the 9:30 am Mass at the Shrine of Saint Maximilian Kolbe.

CHANGE OF DAILY MASS TIME FOR OCTOBER ONLY

Starting October 3, Monday, the time for Daily Mass is moved to 9:30 am. This change stays until October 31 since Fr. Marlon is going to the Philippines for VISA renewal and vacation. The weekend Masses remain the same as they are being scheduled. Thank you for your understanding.

Please take note of these changes:

Monday – Masontown at 9:30 am.
Tuesday – Footedale at 9:30 am.
Wednesday – Masontown at 9:30 am.
Thursday – Footedale at 9:30am.
Friday – No Mass

Memorial Candles burn this week in loving memory of or for the special intention of:

- † **Sanctuary** - The Parish Family of Saint Francis of Assisi
- † **Blessed Mother** - Judy Scola Birthday Remembrance requested by her sister, Mary Jo Bashour
- † **Saint Joseph** - David Solomon requested by wife, Dolores



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