

Rev. Marlon Pates, Pastor mpates@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Rev. Arnel Patayon Tadeo Shared Parochial Vicar

Masses in Masontown

Monday, Wednesday, Friday ...8:00 am Saturday6:00 pm Sunday8:00 am & 11:30 am Confessions: During Adoration

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

Masses in Footedale

Tuesday & Thursday8:00 am Saturday:4:00 pm Sunday9:30 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

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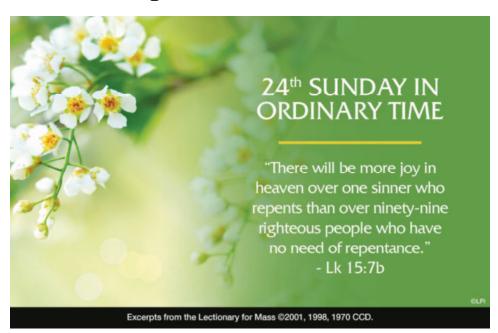
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September 11, 2022





Patriot Day

Heavenly Father, Creator of All, You have created the human person as good. You have placed us in the world as one human family, as sisters and brothers. We pray today for all victims of violence across the world, for the healing of their mind and body, for their mourning family members, for the repose of their souls. Jesus, You have told us to love our enemies, and to pray for those who persecute us. Give us the strength and courage to forgive. Remove all lingering desire for revenge. Holy Spirit, reveal to us the mercy of God. Give us the gift of Your peace that surpasses all understanding. Amen.

Fr. Marlon's Reflections - Sunday in Ordinary Time (Ex 32:7-11, 13-14; 1Tim 1:12-17; Luke 15:1-32)



A mother once said: "The face of my child is the face that only a mother can love." But we can change these words into this: "God loves faces that even mothers cannot love." These beautiful words could inspire us to live a good life in this world.

Even in the Old Testament, in the book of Isaiah 49:15, it says: Can a mother forget her infant, be without tenderness for the child of her womb? Even should she forget, I will never forget you." These words are so good that they inspire us to go on with life.

In our gospel this Sunday, Jesus mingles with sinners and tax collectors. These people come to Jesus in order to listen to His teaching. When the Pharisees heard about this, they were scandalized. And so, Jesus made use of the opportunity to tell them about the eternal forgiveness

of God when he narrated to them the Parable of the Lost Sheep, the Lost Coin, and the Prodigal Son. He assures them that there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one repentant sinner than over ninety nine righteous people who have no need to repent. But He does not mean that He no longer love and forgive the righteous. What is needed is a true conversion (constant conversion) in us. It is because sometimes we become obstacles to the conversion of others. God does not love the sins but sinners because God owns all of us. We belong to God. Nobody is unimportant before God.

If we apply this eternal forgiveness of God into our lives, what shall we do? We shall also forgive those people who have wronged against us. When somebody hurt you and up to now you could not forget what he/she had done to you and the pain is still fresh in your heart and mind and always troubles you, this eternal forgiveness is not yet working in you. And if that person is very far from you even if they are your family and close friends, this eternal forgiveness is not yet working in you. And if you see him/her you are afraid that you will be hurt again, again this eternal forgiveness is not yet working in you.

The University of Nebraska conducted a research about the effects of grudges and hatred into our physical and mental health, and this is the result of their research: If a person is always afraid and always get angry, most of them got sick of migraine, asthma, rheumatic arthritis, heart disease, peptic ulcer, etc. So this is only a reminder for those people who have kept grudges and anger against their brothers and sisters and also those who are afraid to take and accept responsibilities perhaps you will have these illnesses if you continue these type of attitudes.

Forgiveness is not an emotion. Forgiveness is a journey within us. It is a very slow and a painful process. It's the same with a growing process. Forgiveness is not something that you do for your fellowmen but you do it for yourself. It is because when you do not forgive, you bind yourselves to a certain circumstance that you could not forget. Who will suffer and hurt? It is you. Perhaps the person who did this to you is sleeping beautifully and undisturbed in the night. And, because of sleepless nights, you have nervous breakdowns and insomnia due to so much thinking. So, we should forgive and it should be coming from our hearts.

And in the case that the person who hurt you do not change, do not change your decision also to forgive, to love and to pray for that person. Be patient. Jesus says: "If you are slapped on the side of your face, give the other side."

To end my sharing with you, let us reflect on these words from the Book of Prophet Ezekiel 36:26: "I will give you new heart and place a new spirit within you, taking from your bodies your stony hearts and giving you natural hearts."

Do you have this kind of heart today so that you can forgive others as God forgives you?

PARISH FESTIVAL THANK YOU

The 2022 St. Francis of Assisi Parish Festival was a great success. We could not have accomplished this without all of your support. From the volunteers, event committee, supporters, guests and customers, it was you who made this year's Parish Festival a success! I want to especially thank our sponsors. St. Francis of Assisi Parish is extremely grateful to all of our sponsors who have given so selflessly over the years. The monies, services, and goods donated have been a strong foundation for the success of our festival in the past years and this year is no different. The Parish Festival went better than expected and we are appreciative of all the positive feedback we have received. A million thanks to all of you for being a part of this event! We hope to see each of you again next year - and please bring a friend! — In Marlon

Catechetical Sunday 2022

September 18, 2022



The weekend of September 17 & 18 is designated by the USCCB as CATECHETICAL SUNDAY. This is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each one of us plays, by virtue of our Baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel. The theme for this year is: "This is my body given for you."

Those who our parish community has designated to serve as catechists (Faith Formation Teachers) will be called forth to be commissioned for their ministry.

They are the following:

Nicole Thompson (Pre-K & Kindergarten)

Renne Kremposky (1st/Pre-Sacramental)

Kim Stavish (First Communion)

Mary Lou Taylor (3rd & 4th Grade) Jessica Bates (5th & 6th Grade)

Rosa Stoffa (Confirmation Preparation)

Rose Gabelletto (Adult Formation)

Bernie Redmond (Pre-baptismal Instruction) Frank Palo (RCIA)

Michael & Estella Oppman (Marriage Preparation) **Bethany Hughes** (Girl Scouts)

Please keep our Faith Formation Teachers in your prayers always!

Faith Formation Classes begin next Sunday, September 18, and take place in Footedale from 10:30 to 11:45 am

The Practice of Stewardship

We can hear God speaking to us today in the words of the father to his elder son: "You are with me always and everything I have is yours." What is my response to such remarkable generosity? Do I give joyfully and generously as God gives to me? See Luke 15:31

Thank you for a donation to Saint Francis of Assisi Parish given in memory of Betty Weido by Jim Pollick, Bob Pollick, Cindy Marmol and Sharon Cochran

Stewardship of Treasure

September 4: \$5,343; loose \$427; monthly \$690; children \$2; online \$217; totaling \$6,679

Your support is vital to the life of our parish!

2022 MISSION CO-OP PLAN

Dear Parishioners, Our Annual Mission Co-op Appeal is next weekend. Sr. Servatrix Joseph from the CONGRE-GATION OF THE SISTERS OF OUR LADY OF USAMBARA, TANGA - TANZANIA will be with us next weekend to tell us about the work of her Sisters in caring the needs of the poorest and most deprived people in the northeastern region of Tanzania.

Their areas of ministries include teaching religious education to young people; providing services to the poor and the sick and educating young women in schools and colleges. Also, the sisters serve orphans and helpless children who have lost their parents due to HIV/ AIDS, malaria and other endemic diseases.

As we experience the wonderful gift of God's love for us reflected in the joy and beauty of these Summer days, let us echo His goodness by responding to this opportunity to give both prayerful and financial support to the Sisters of Our Lady of Usambara, Tanga - Tanzania by generously contributing to the Mission Co-op appeal. Envelopes are available in the exits of our churches. Lastly, please keep all their sisters in your prayers!

– Fr. Marlon

Monday is the Feast of the Most Holy Name of Mary.

God the Father is glorified by the exalted role in salvation of the Blessed Virgin Mary; thus, her name is a name of honor, a holy name, a maternal name and a name responsive to the needs of the Church.

Tuesday is the Feast of Saint John Chrysostum.

One of the four great doctors of the Eastern Church, he defended the poor and sought reform of the clergy.

Wednesday is the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy

Cross. This feast celebrates a double anniversary the discovery of the Lord's cross by the empress, Saint Helena, in 320 and the dedication of the basilicas at the sites of the Holy Sepulcher and of Calvary in 335. Make the Sign of the Cross with great reverence this day.

Thursday is the Feast of Our Lady of Sorrows.

Mary lived in a country oppressed by the Romans. She knew how it felt to be an unwed mother, a refugee, the mother of a political prisoner and criminal. She experienced poverty and was a widow. Her sufferings have been shared by many people of our times, especially in the places around the world that endure political oppression and war. The sorrows of Mary numbered seven: the presentation of Jesus in the Temple; the flight into Egypt; Jesus being lost in Jerusalem; the meeting of Mary and Jesus on the way to Calvary; the crucifixion; the taking down of Jesus' body from the cross; His burial.















FESTIVAL 2022

Thank you to all who supported our Festival!

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Saturday, September 10 -- Vigil: 24th Ordinary Sunday

4:00 pm-F Edward Shimshock (Antoinette Trout-Mikel)

6:00 pm-M Alex Adams (Family)

Sunday, September 11 -- 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am-M Pro Populo

9:30 am-F Rocco & Concetta Onorato
11:30 am-M Seraphine Komacek (Eric Blanda)

Monday, September 12 -- The Most Holy Name of Mary

8:00 am-M Mazurik/Radzilowski Families

Tuesday, September 13 -- Saint John Chrysostom 8:00 am-F Frank Smith (Brother, Walter)

1 Tank Smith (Brother, Watter)

Wednesday, September 14 -- Exaltation of the Holy Cross

8:00 am-M Betty Berish (Kay Rendina)

Thursday, September 15 -- Our Lady of Sorrows

8:00 am-F Frank Duda (Linda & John Zembar)

Friday, September 16 -- Saints Cornelius & Cyprian

8:00 am-M Barbara Smith (Bruce/Angela Magerko)

4:30-6:00 pm Adoration in Masontown

Saturday, September 17 -- Vigil: 25th Ordinary Sunday

3-3:30 pm-F Confessions

4:00 pm-F Martha & Steven Tretnik (Elaine Boyd)

6:00 pm-M Pro Populo

Sunday, September 18 -- 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am-M Tom Lipchinsky (Nick & Joann Young)
9:30 am-F Wallace R. Frost (Wallace/Terri Frost)
11:30 am-M Thomas Gashie (Bill/Patty Gashie, Post)

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

Mass Readings for the Week Ahead

Monday: 1 Cor 11:17-33; Lk 7:1-10 Tuesday: 1 Cor 12:12-31; Lk 7:11-17 Wednesday: Nm 21:4-9; Phil 2:6-11; Jn 3:13-17 Thursday: 1 Cor 15:1-11; Jn 19:25-27 Friday: 1 Cor 15:12-20; Lk 8:1-3 Saturday: 1 Cor 15:35-49; Lk 8:4-15

IN PEMEMERANCE OF THOSE WHOSE LIVES WERE LOST.

Next Sunday: Am 8:4-7; 1 Tm 2:1-8; Lk 16:1-13

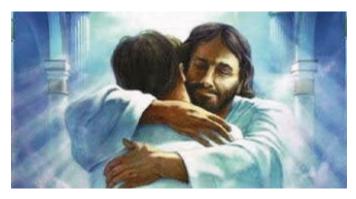


Coffee and Donuts will be available following the Masses this Sunday, September 11. Please join us!

Eucharistic Adoration Friday, September 16, 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





In today's Gospel we hear the Pharisees disparage Jesus for welcoming sinners and eating with them. Jesus turns their criticism on its head by telling them three parables that show how much joy God finds in one repentant sinner. We sinners are welcomed to this banquet today where Jesus provides Himself as the meal to share. Let us approach the altar with repentant hearts, thankful for God's constant mercy.

GRANDPARENTS DAY

We extend prayerful best wishes to all grandparents and pray that children may become aware of the strength, wisdom and guidance that older people offer.

FEAST OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI, OCTOBER 4

As we prepare to celebrate the Feast of our beloved patron saint, St. Francis of Assisi, on October 4, we'll have a series of Catechism on the life of our patron saint. This starts next weekend, September 17 & 18. Please arrive 15 minutes before the start of our weekend Masses, and with this you have the opportunity to know more about our beloved patron St. Francis of Assisi. May St. Francis of Assisi intercede for us and give us the peace in mind and heart that we need each day. St. Francis of Assisi, pray for us! — 7n. Marlon

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

† Sanctuary - All Grandparents

† **Blessed Mother** - *Monica Markusic* requested by her mother, Dolores Solomon

† Saint Joseph - Mary Knapick requested by her family

† Saint Anthony - David Solomon requested by wife, Dolores

† **Sacred Heart** - *Charles Yackmack* requested by wife, Mary Louise & Family



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