



Saint Francis of Assisi of Western Fayette County

ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

101 West Church Avenue
Masontown, Pennsylvania 15461

Phone: 724-583-7866

Website: www.sfoafayette.org

email: sfoafayette@dioceseofgreensburg.org

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



September 18, 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



25th Sunday

IN ORDINARY TIME

"If, therefore, you are not trustworthy with
dishonest wealth, who will trust you with
true wealth?" - Lk 16:11

Fr. Marlon's Reflections - Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
(Amos 8:4-7; 1Tim 2:1-8; Luke 16:1-13)



Corruption is one of the problems that my home country Philippines is facing with. The culprit are usually those in the government. The basis of this is our experience in transacting business with some government offices where hardly anything moves unless money changes hands. This is true from top to bottom, the only difference being the amount. When a corrupt official is caught, he is blamed by his fellows not for the evil he did but for being caught. After all, he was supposed to live up to the eleventh commandment, namely, "Thou shall not be caught."

The problem of corruption is not new, and it is everywhere. In the gospel this Sunday Jesus gives us the parable of the corrupt but shrewd manager. It was then the practice in Palestine that large estates were run by overseers or managers for absentee landlords. In the parable, the owner, discovering his manager's dishonesty, decided to fire him after an accounting was made. Before losing his job, the manager went to the estate's tenants who were supposed to give to the owner a share from their harvest and reduced their dues so that when he would be fired, at least one of them would hire him. The manager ensured his future security through dishonesty. He was shrewd to the end.

In the first reading the prophet Amos thunders at the greedy rich who take advantage of the poor by lessening the content of a sack, tampering weighing scales, raising prices and even selling the sweeping with the wheat. Does this not remind us of some unscrupulous businessmen today? There appears to be no difference between the greedy rich in the prophet's time and their counterparts in today's world. To what extent people would go for money!

Jesus wants us to be trustworthy, beginning with small things. And so he said: "The person who is trustworthy in very small matters is also trustworthy in great ones; and the person who is dishonest in very small matters is also dishonest in great ones." Jesus knows that if we are faithful in small things, then we can also be faithful when facing big temptations, which is, making big money dishonestly. Thus, the absolute need to develop the habit of honesty.

Obviously, the manager is not presented to us as a model for integrity. But his shrewdness and tenacity are worthy of imitation in our service of God's Kingdom. For as Jesus had observed, while the manager was shrewd in assuring his future, the "children of light" were not so in the pursuit of their heavenly security. Jesus is thus challenging his followers to be at least equally shrewd in their pursuit of what really matters in life.

Jesus also teaches us the proper use of money. His words are: "No servant can serve two masters. He will either hate one and love the other, or be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon." No question about it, money is important. Moreover, money in itself is not evil. It is our attitude towards it and how we use it that can lead us to evil. Thus, Jesus is asking us to set our priorities right, namely, that God and not money should occupy first place in our lives.

Many people, nowadays, make money their God. People lied for money. People killed for money, and the list can go on. How about us? We can discover our attitude towards money by the way we use it. Do we pay enough those who work for us? For those of us who work, do we do justice to the pay we receive by always reporting for work on time and doing our work as conscientiously as we can?

The parable makes us reflect on the accounting we have to give to God for our stewardship of his gifts. In this regard, would it not be wonderful if we make the eleventh commandment, "Thou shall not be caught," work for us? How? By never allowing ourselves to be caught doing a dishonest act.

MASS WITH BISHOP KULICK

This year is the 40th Founding Anniversary of the Shrine of St. Maximilian Kolbe at the Footedale Worship site. And so, it is only right to celebrate this wonderful event by celebrating the Holy Eucharist at the Shrine. The Mass will be on **October 2**, Sunday, at 9:30am. Bishop Larry Kulick will be the celebrant. Those attending should take chairs. The Mass will be held inside the church in case of inclement weather. I invite those who will attend to join us also in the Social Hall after the Mass for food and fellowship. – *Fr. Marlon*

FEAST OF SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI

As we prepare to celebrate the Feast of our beloved patron saint, Saint Francis of Assisi, on **October 4**, we'll have a series of Catechism on the life of our patron saint beginning this weekend. Please arrive fifteen minutes before the start of our weekend Masses, and with this you have the opportunity to know more about our beloved patron Saint Francis of Assisi. May Saint Francis of Assisi intercede for us and give us the peace of mind and heart that we need each day. Saint Francis of Assisi, pray for us! – *Fr. Marlon*

FR. MARLON'S VISIT TO THE PHILIPPINES

I'll be taking a vacation next month to the Philippines from October 4 – November 4. It's been 4 years that I've never been home. I could not wait any longer to see my parents, siblings, and nieces and nephews. I also need to renew my Visa and I have to do it in the Philippines so that I can continue serving our parish until Fall of next year. If you need assistance during this time, Fr. Arnel will be able to help. Just contact the Parish Office. Thank you and please include me in your prayers for a safe trip!

The **GOLDEN GROUP** meets at 11:30 am on **Wednesday, September 21**, at the social hall in Footedale. It will be "Burger Day" along with sides and desserts; the cost is \$2.00. Please join us! New members are always welcomed!

VENDOR SHOW - Sunday, September 25

10:00 am to 3:00 pm at the social hall in Footedale, hosted by the Christian Mothers. The event will include a Bake Sale, 50/50, Chinese Auction, Tips and more. Interested vendors are asked to contact Sharon at 724-208-1284 for more information.

Monday is the feast of Saint Januarius. According to legend, he was bishop of Benevento, martyred under Diocletian. As early as 1389, his blood has liquefied on this and other days each year. He is patron of Naples.

Wednesday is the Feast of Saint Matthew the Apostle. Called to be an "evangelist" in order to proclaim the "Good News" by word and deed, he is symbolized by the winged human being and is patron of accountants.

Friday is the Feast of Saint Pius of Pietrelcina. "Padre Pio" was born Francesco Forgione in 1887 in the small Italian village of Pietrelcina. A Capuchin priest who had received the stigmata, he spent fifty years at the monastery of San Giovanni Rotondo, where he was much sought after as a spiritual advisor, confessor and intercessor. Despite such notoriety, he would often say, "I only want to be a poor friar who prays." His life was devoted to the Eucharist and to prayer. He is patron saint of civil defense volunteers and Catholic adolescents.

The Practice of Stewardship

The dishonest manager in today's parable knew how to manipulate money to his own advantage, but the Gospel warns that no one can serve both God and money. Which do I serve? Is my stewardship such that anyone can tell?

Thank you for donations to Saint Francis of Assisi Parish given in memory of **Victor Palotta** by the Marucci and Barraca Family, Tom & Jennifer Croftcheck, Frank Congelio, Elmer Croftcheck

Next weekend is the Seminararian and Clergy Formation Collection throughout the Diocese of Greensburg. Please prayerfully consider making a financial gift in support of our Seminararians, men who are preparing for the Permanent Diaconate, the ongoing formation of our clergy and our International Priests. Please respond using the tear-off portion of the letter that was mailed to you, the special collection envelope in your envelope set from the parish, or online at www.dioceseofgreensburg.org Also, please support the clergy of our diocese and our **Shepherds for Tomorrow** by your prayers.

Question of the Week: How can I be a prudent steward of the wealth God has blessed me with? Where do I regard my "true wealth"? Luke 16:11

Stewardship of Treasure

September 11: \$6,526; loose \$414; monthly \$2,808; children \$1; online \$982 totaling \$10,731

Our parish is grateful for your faithful support!

Catechetical Sunday 2022

September 18, 2022

*This is my body
given for you*

Luke 22:19

Congratulations to Our Teachers / Catechists

Congratulations to our Faith Formation Teachers / Catechists who were commissioned this weekend for the work of forming God's people in the faith and for leading us into fellowship with Jesus Christ and the Church community here at St. Francis of Assisi Parish. We pray that the Holy Spirit will bless you always.

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)

Rita Masi (Youth Ministry)

Rose Gabelletto (Adult Formation)

Bernie Redmond (Pre-baptismal Instruction)

Frank Palo (RCIA)

Michael & Estella Oppman (Marriage Preparation)

Bethany Hughes (Girl Scouts)

Thank you for your service to the Church!

Interested in Becoming Catholic?

If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a member of our Catholic Faith, please contact the Parish Office - sfoafayette@dioceseofgreensburg.org or call 724-583-7866 Monday/Friday 9am/4pm

Help Wanted: We are now accepting bids for **SNOW PLOWING** at the Footedale Worship Site. Must be able to provide proof of insurance coverage. Please send bids to the Parish Office, 101 W. Church Ave., Masontown, PA 15461 or call 724-583-7866.

The 33rd Annual ROSARY WALK takes place this Sunday, **September 18**. It begins at 2:00 pm at St. George Maronite Catholic Church then continues to St. John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic, St. John the Evangelist, St. Therese, St. Mary Nativity and St. Joseph.

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YOUTH MINISTRY UPDATE

Our Youth Ministry and Faith Formation Kids were having fun last Saturday! It was a wonderful afternoon of playing bowling, fostering camaraderie and time spent in fellowship with the youth ministry leaders and parents. We hope to see you next time.



Never Miss a Bulletin! Sign up to have our weekly bulletin emailed to you at www.parishesonline.com

MASS SCHEDULE

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

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)

Monday, September 19 -- Saint Januarius

8:00 am-M Linda Rhodes (Jim & Renee Young)

Tuesday, September 20 -- Weekday

8:00 am-F Lou Otto (Frank & Deborah Palya)

Wednesday, September 21 -- Saint Matthew

8:00 am-M Robert Kenney (Veronica Kenney)
4:30-6:00 pm Adoration in Footedale

Thursday, September 22 -- Weekday

8:00 am-F Mary Ann Campbell (Glodziak Family)

Friday, September 23 -- Saint Pius of Pietrelcina

8:00 am-M Wynonna Gashie (Bill & Pat Post)

Saturday, September 24 -- Vigil: 26th Ordinary Sunday

3-3:30 pm-F Confessions
4:00 pm-F Pro Populo
6:00 pm-M Joseph Sabatelli (Wife, Rosalie)

Sunday, September 25 -- 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am-M John B. Spak (Kathy/John Pleban/Family)
9:30 am-F John & Bridget Berisko (Sons Philip/Raymond)
11:30 am-M Larimer & Lois Roberts (Tom/Christy Karpency)

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



Jesus teaches His disciples an important lesson about wealth in today's Gospel. In the parable He tells them, the clever steward is applauded for finding a way to maintain his wealth despite losing his job, but this kind of wealth is not what is truly important, for true wealth is found in God. We cannot allow money (mammon) to be our master.

Today, on Catechetical Sunday, let us be reminded that Jesus, our Teacher, continually teaches us the way to eternal dwellings.

2022 MISSION CO-OP PLAN

We welcome Fr. Andrew Siasa to our parish community. He will speak on behalf of the CONGREGATION OF THE SISTERS OF OUR LADY OF USAMBARA, TANGA - TANZANIA for this year's Mission Co-op Appeal. The sisters who belong to this congregation are in mission of caring for the needs of the poorest and most deprived people in the northeastern region of Tanzania.

This is our best opportunity to be missionaries - by giving our generous financial support to the Sisters of Our Lady of Usambara, Tanga - Tanzania. Envelopes are available in the exits of our churches. Lastly, please keep all their sisters in your prayers! - Fr. Marlon

Mass Readings for the Week Ahead

Monday: Prv 3:27-34; Lk 8:16-18
Tuesday: Prv 21:1-13; Lk 8:19-21
Wednesday: Eph 4:1-13; Mt 9:9-13
Thursday: Eccl 1:2-11; Lk 9:7-9
Friday: Eccl 3:1-11; Lk 9:18-22
Saturday: Eccl 11:9-12:8; Lk 9:43b-45
Next Sunday: Am 6:1-7; 1 Tm 6:11-16; Lk 16:19-31



FAITH FORMATION BEGINS TODAY

Sunday, September 18: 10:30-11:45 am in Footedale

Eucharistic Adoration

Wednesday, September 21, in Footedale

4:30-5:30 pm: Exposition and Confession
5:30-5:45 pm: Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena
5:45-6:00 pm: Benediction

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

† **Sanctuary** - *Patty & John Keeney*
Anniversary Remembrance
requested by Charlotte Komar

† **Blessed Mother** - *Dolores Sofranko*
requested by Helen Sofranko

Josie Filiaggi
requested by Michael Bello

† **Saint Joseph** - *Steve Wallace*
requested by daughter Maureen & Family

† **Saint Anthony** - *Nancy Barnhart*
requested by Lydia Coll

† **Sacred Heart** - *Steve & Rose Bello*
requested by their family

Health of Judy Scola
requested by her sister, Mary Jo Bashour



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