



# Saint Francis of Assisi of Western Fayette County

ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

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Masontown, Pennsylvania 15461

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



**Rev. Marlon Pates, Pastor**  
[mpates@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:mpates@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

**Rev. Arnel Patayon Tadeo**  
Shared Parochial Vicar  
[atadeo@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:atadeo@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

### Masses in Masontown

Monday, Wednesday, Friday ..8:00 am  
Saturday .....4:00 pm  
Sunday..... 8:00 am & 11:30 am

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

### Masses in Footedale

Tuesday & Thursday .....8:00 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

## November 20, 2022



### OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

"Amen, I say to you,  
today you will be with me in Paradise." - Lk 23:43

**Fr. Marlon's Reflections - FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING**

(2Sam 5:1-3; Col 1:12-20; Luke 23:35-43)



The liturgical cycle of the Church always closes with the celebration of the Feast of the Kingship of Jesus. Having already accepted the Kingship of Jesus, nowadays we take this for granted. But not so during the time of Jesus. Even towards the end of his life, namely, as he hanged on the cross, it was still being questioned as we read in the gospel reading. We can learn much about Jesus' kind of Kingship from the way some people behaved as Jesus was being crucified.

First, **THE RULERS**. Having habitually used power for their own benefit, they now wanted Jesus to prove that he was the Messiah by using his power to save himself. They said: "He saved others, let him save himself if he is the chosen one, the Messiah of God."

Second, **THE SOLDIERS**. Like their bosses, they taunted Jesus. They said: "If you are King of the Jews, save yourself." They could not do otherwise because their power rests on that of their boss. Here we see what leadership by example does to people. As the leader is, so are his followers.

Third, **THE UNREPENTED CRIMINAL**. His case is especially sad. He was tied to the cross – totally powerless. Yet, at the moment when salvation was within grasp, he turned against Jesus saying: "Are you not he Messiah? Save yourself and us." Why? Because he was not ready to put his salvation in the hands of a Man who would not save himself. In our desire to control our own destiny, do we not behave as if our salvation is entirely in our own hands?

For his part, Jesus refused to use power for himself, not even to save himself. Rather, he appealed to the better nature of people to do what is right. Though powerful he performed miracles during his public ministry or he could have called on his Father's legions during his arrest in the garden of Gethsemane. Jesus used powerlessness as symbolized by the cross to win and save humankind. Or if Jesus used power at all, it was to give life, not to take it away.

This last is especially true in the way Jesus dealt with the good thief who was being crucified with him. Rebuking his fellow criminal, the good thief turned to Jesus saying: "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." Jesus, acting as Savior even at the moment of his life, told him: "Today you will be with me in Paradise."

Jesus as Savior does not think of his own skin as he works for the salvation of others for whose sake he came in the first place. That was what Jesus did with the penitent thief. And in forgiving the thief, Jesus did not inquire about his sinful past. He was only concerned about his future. How different is Jesus' way for forgiving compared to ours. First, we make those who have offended us deserve our forgiveness before we forgive them. If we can only go beyond our hurts, disregard our cynicism and future blessings – as Jesus did with the good thief – then we are not far from the Kingdom of God.

Because of our state of life or position in the community, say as parents or community leaders, we are entrusted with some power. How are we to use it? We can turn it into a channel of God's loving care for people. How? By bringing about happier families filled with understanding, respect, and readiness to serve and to forgive, by bringing about more peaceful and just communities.

This way, power or authority becomes service. Our readiness to really serve others and in the process save ourselves is what makes us kings with Jesus. This is what it means to derive power from the cross.

**THE TRUE KINGSHIP OF JESUS CHRIST**

What kind of King is Jesus? How do you envision Him? Remembering that they were promised a king from the line of David, the Israelites hoped for a Messiah who would set their political problems aright and bring about a worldly kingdom of Judaic power. Even Psalm 122 seems to describe this type of ruler.

Luke’s Gospel today shreds that image after the whip of the Roman soldiers tore at Jesus’ flesh. Still, the Romans flaunted the traditional notion with their ironic inscription above King Jesus’ crown of thorns. Soldiers and ordinary people jeered the royal title at Him, yet the throne of Jesus was the cross of Christ from which He dispensed kingly mercy and justice toward the humble criminal who shared His execution.

Writing to the Colossians, Saint Paul describes the truth about Jesus and His kingship, using words like fullness, peace, and forgiveness. So let us go rejoicing!



**The season of ADVENT begins next Sunday** and resets the clocks and calendars of Christian worship. It summons us to the beginning. Advent is both a beginning and an end, an alpha and an omega of the Church’s Year of Grace.

Advent is the time to pause, remember and celebrate that we are a people who wait. As watch-keepers for the dawn, as a woman with child, as Israel for the Messiah, Christians await the coming of Jesus in glory, in the fullness of time. This festival of the Winter Solstice, this “feast of Christ” does more than lead us from one year to another. In the power of Christ, Advent and Christmas-time lead us from time to eternity. **Come, Lord Jesus!**

*Cemetery Fundraising*

**JANUARY CALENDAR TICKET**

Winning numbers will be determined by the PA daily lottery evening number each evening in January. Daily cash awards range from \$100 to \$400. Tickets are \$10 each and are available at the Parish Office or by mail. If you wish to have your ticket mailed to you, please enclosed a self addressed, stamped envelope. If you request a certain number, we’ll do our best to accommodate your request. **Thank you for your support!**

✂ -----

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Tickets requested \_\_\_\_\_

Requested ticket numbers \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make checks payable to: St. Francis of Assisi Parish.**

**Sacred Steps at Saint Francis of Assisi**



**Best wishes Joseph & Theresa Mohar** who celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary last Friday, November 11<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for always serving as a shining example for us and for demonstrating your commitment to building a wonderful marriage.

**PARISH ADVENT ACTIVITIES**

**Advent: A Season of Prayer and Service**

This Advent, you are invited to take part in a new SFOA Advent Tradition: Soft Enough For A King This activity will help us refocus Advent away from a period of frenzied pre-Christmas busyness to its real purpose - anticipating the coming of Christ.

Next week, each worship sit will have an empty manger on display. You are invited to obtain pieces of “straw” attached to suggestions for individual/family prayer or acts of service to perform and record on the “straw.” Return the “straw” to the empty manger each week. By Christmas, our acts of prayer and service will make our manger Soft Enough For A King!

**The Giving Tree has arrived.** All are invited to take a tag, purchase the appropriate gift, attach the tag to the gift and return it to the Church by December 10/11. Please note: when taking a tag, please list your name next to the tag number on the sheet provided.

**Advent issues of THE WORD AMONG US** are available at the Church entrances.

The Polish Heritage Club invites you to relive the tradition of an authentic **Polish Wigilia** (Christmas Eve dinner). Learn the meaning of the customs, traditions and folklore of old Poland. Wigilia begins at 6:00 pm on Friday, **December 16**, at the Uniontown Polish Club, 229 S. Mt. Vernon Ave. Door prizes, basket auctions, 50/50 are planned. For information and reservations, call Barb at 724-438-1036. All are invited!

**Stewardship of Treasure**

Due to an early bulletin transmission deadline, the November 13 offertory was not available. It will be published next weekend.

**Offertory envelopes:** We apologize for the delay that we all experienced in receiving the November/December envelopes. The envelopes are mailed directly from our envelope supplier in Ohio and are now being received into our homes. Thank you for your patience.



**Thanksgiving will be celebrated this Thursday.** Give thanks to God and praise for His abundant mercies and blessings! God has been extravagant with our country and, in response, we need to be extravagant with all of our neighbors around the world. This generosity is what brought our ancestors here and invites more to share our good fortune. The delicate task is to *invite* others rather than impose on them. Let us give thanks for all of God's good gifts and blessings!

**Mass on Thanksgiving Day** will be celebrated at 9:30 am at both worship sites. The intention will be for all of our benefactors, those generous people who support our parish in so many ways - volunteers, bulletin sponsors, etc., etc. May God bless you!  
We invite you to join us!

**The Parish and Diocesan Offices will be CLOSED on Thursday and Friday in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday.**

**Ember Days** were days of fasting and prayer that marked the changing of the seasons. They were days of thanksgiving for the various harvests of the year.

It is suggested that, beginning tomorrow, the days before Thanksgiving be set aside for deeds of charity, penance and prayers for economic justice. Extra prayer, fasting and giving of charity is a way to give thanks for and to share our daily bread.

**Christmas Preparation Retreat at Mount Saint Macrina** Saturday, December 10, 9:30 am/12:30 pm. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be offered along with a conference and a prayer service. Offering is \$40; lunch is included. Registration due December 3; call 724-438-7149 or email hpmsm@verizon.net

**Christmas Craft/Bake Sale at St. John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic Church in Uniontown.** Saturday, December 3, Noon to 5pm and Sunday, December 4, 10:00 am to 1:00 pm at the upstairs school hall. Crafts, candy, decorations, raffles, cookbooks, baked goods, nativity display. Handicapped accessible; free admission. All are welcome! Questions? Call 724-438-1382, M-F 9am/3pm.



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## Masses for 2023

are ready to be scheduled. Please help us to serve you better by observing the following:

- All Mass requests must be submitted *in writing* in order to save time and avoid mistakes. Mass intentions will *not* be taken over the phone or after Mass. *Send or drop them off* to us *in writing*.
- Only four Masses per year may be scheduled by any one person. Only one of these may be scheduled on a weekend or holy day of obligation.
- No Mass intentions will be taken for Easter weekend, Mother's Day, Father's Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas.
- If there are any Mass intentions for your loved ones here (from funerals), we already scheduled a Mass on or near the anniversary date of death.
- Masses must be paid for at the time of scheduling. According to Diocesan guidelines, the offering for each Mass is a minimum of \$10.
- Please remember that Mass Intentions are a *request*. We reserve the right to make changes to the Mass schedule if need be due to circumstances beyond our control such as retreats, illness, etc. In this case, the next available date will be scheduled. **Please note:** we don't always have time to call you when a Mass needs to be rescheduled - please refer to the bulletin.

**Please note:** Church Law requires the pastor to offer one of the Mass intentions each weekend (Saturday Vigil or Sunday) and each Holy Day of Obligation for "All the people entrusted to his care." In 2023, the Pro Populo Mass (All Living & Deceased Parishioners) will alternate between worship sites each weekend.

### Mass Intention Request Form

Intention for: \_\_\_\_\_

Requested by: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Requested: \_\_\_\_\_ Mass Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate Date/Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Worship Site: \_\_\_\_\_ Footedale \_\_\_\_\_ Masontown

Payment is due at the time of scheduling. Please make checks are payable to: **Saint Francis of Assisi Parish**

# MASS SCHEDULE

## Saturday, November 19 -- Vigil: Christ the King

4:00 pm-F (A) Judith Scola (Frank Palo)  
6:00 pm-M (A) Ellen Duffy (Mike & Betti Moser)

## Sunday, November 20 -- Christ the King

8:00 am-M (M) Peggy Dulik (Rose/Michael Gabeletto)  
9:30 am-F (M) Pro Populo  
11:30 am-M (M) Linda Marano (Daughter, Erika Doyle)

## Monday, November 21 -- Presentation of Virgin Mary

8:00 am-M Carla Howard (Lisa Chatlak)

## Tuesday, November 22 -- Saint Cecilia

8:00 pm-F Joseph Smith (Brother, Walter)

## Wednesday, November 23 -- Weekday

8:00 am-M Betty Berish (Ken Rosnack)  
4:30-6:00 pm Adoration in Footedale

## Thursday, November 24 -- Thanksgiving Day

9:30 am-M All Benefactors  
9:30 am-F All Benefactors

## Friday, November 25 -- Saint Catherine of Alexandria

8:00 am-M Edward J. Pleban Sr. (Sons, John & Ed)

## Saturday, November 26 -- First Sunday of Advent

3-3:30 pm-F Confessions  
4:00 pm-F (M) James Berkey (SFOA Choir Footedale)  
5-5:30 pm-M Confessions  
6:00 pm-M (M) Helen Miller (Egidi Family)

## Sunday, November 27 -- First Sunday of Advent

8:00 am-M (A) Art & Teddi Cerullo (R/N Zatlukovitz)  
9:30 am-F (A) Joseph Novotny (Helen Suba)  
11:30 am-M (M) Pro Populo

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

### Mass Readings for the Week Ahead

Monday: Rv 14:1-3; Lk 21:1-4  
Tuesday: Rv 14:14-19; Lk 21:5-11  
Wednesday: Rv 15:1-4; Lk 21:12-19  
Thursday: Rv 18:1-2, 21-23; 19:1-9; Lk 21:20-28  
Friday: Rv 20:1-4, 11 - 21:2; Lk 21:29-33  
Saturday: Rv 22:1-7; Lk 21:34-36  
Next Sunday: Is 2:1-5; Rom 13:11-14; Mt 24:37-44

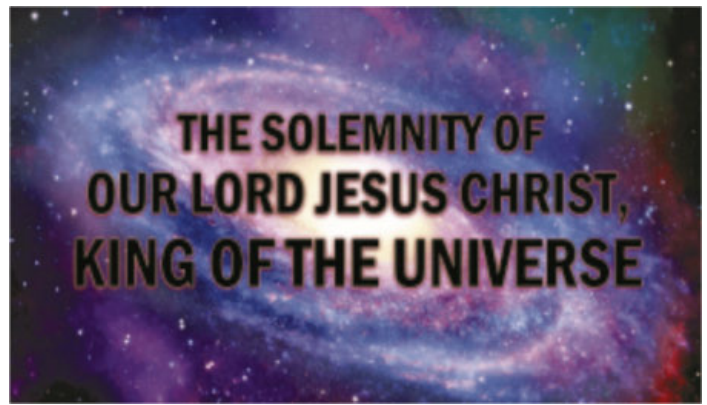
### Eucharistic Adoration

#### Wednesday, November 23, 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

### WEEKEND CONFESSIONS IN MASONTOWN

Beginning Saturday, November 26, confessions will be available at 5:00 pm in Masontown except on the second Saturday of the month.



*Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.*

- Luke 23:35-43

Today's feast celebrates Christ's reign over the human race and over human hearts. It emphasizes God's ultimate forgiveness and Christ's final coming and sovereignty over all creation.

Today we acknowledge that, while leaders of nations in this world come and go, Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is ruler over all people both now and forever. The idea to celebrate this feast was born out of a growing nationalism and secularism one hundred years ago. The world had just lived through the horrors of four years of war unprecedented in its spread over the whole world. This led to Pope Pius XI instituting this feast in 1925. Today we recognize Christ's preeminence and pray for the day when peace and goodwill forever overcome war and aggression.

### Question of the Week

Who can I forgive this week, imitating the Lord's mercy, sowing the seeds of the kingdom and bringing a sort of paradise to someone else's heart?

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

† **Sanctuary** - Margaret & Walter Tomecheck requested by daughter, Betty

† **Blessed Mother** - Rose Guerrini requested by Dolores Solomon  
Joseph & Kathryn Furayter requested by the Mihallik Family

† **Saint Joseph** - All the Faithful Departed

† **Saint Anthony** - Elaine Rosnack requested by Barb & Jerry Grimes  
Cecelia Kaparic requested by her brother, Anthony

† **Sacred Heart** - Katie, Maggie & Denny Connell requested by Rosemary



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