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



## February 5, 2023

**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 .....6:00 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.

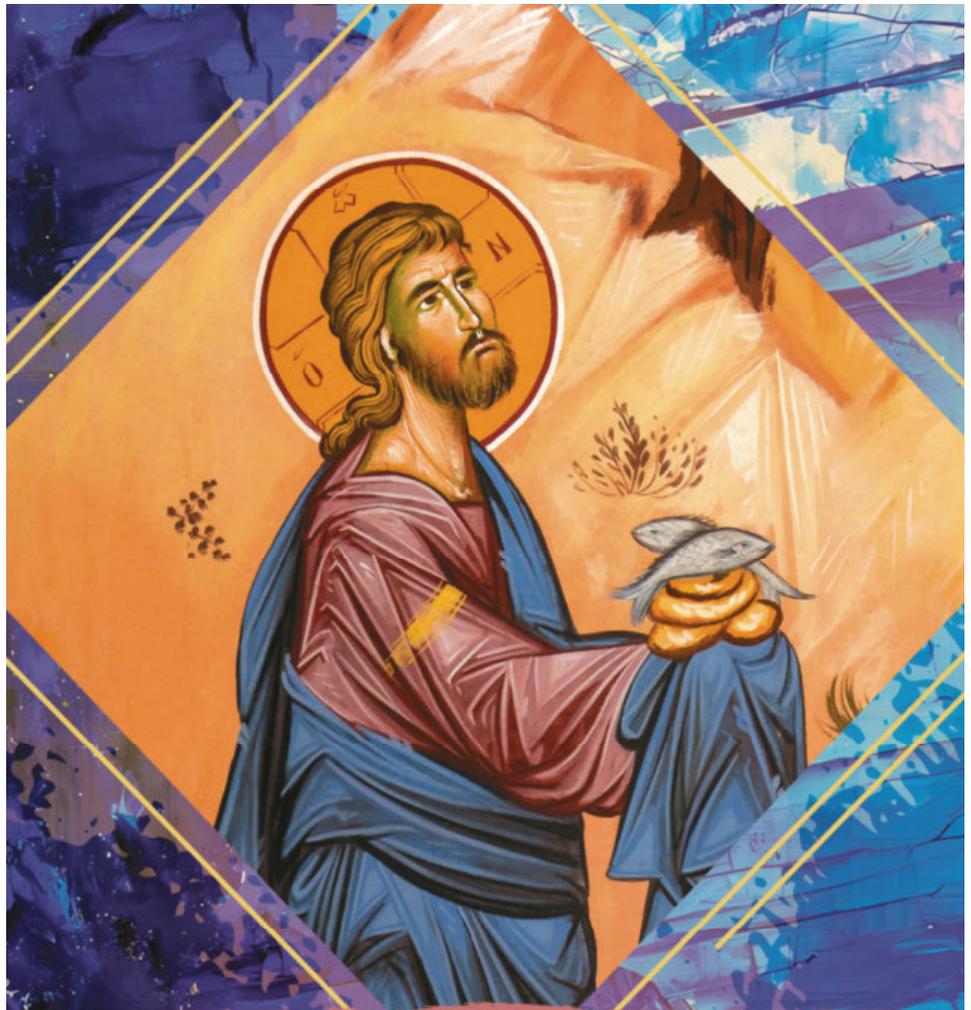
**Communion to the Homebound** is  
provided on a regular basis. Call the  
Parish Office to be added to our list.

**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



### 5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

*"Your light must shine before others, that they may see your  
good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father." - Mt 5:16*

**Fr. Marlon's Reflections - 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
(Is 58:7-10; 1Cor 2:1-5; Matt 5:13-16)



*Your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God*, says St. Paul (1 Cor 2:5). “Human wisdom” tells us that wealth, power and fame are all that matter in life. We must have one or all of these – by hook or by crook – if we do not want to be considered failures. Thus too many people have made them their gods before whose altar they sacrifice everything – values, morality, principles. So do honesty, fairness, industry, sharing with others, purity, love, etc. – as these do not bring anyone anywhere.

At the start of his ministry, Matthew portrays Jesus as the fulfillment of Isaiah’s prophecy, namely, that he is “the great light” that will disperse the shadow of death, of sin, that has enveloped the world. Now Jesus is sharing this task to his disciples by telling them: “*You are the salt of the earth and You are the light of the world.*” Coming as it does immediately after giving the Beatitudes which ultimately is the summary of Christian doctrine, Jesus now tells his disciples what they are to be and do in the world so that they can help shape it according to God’s plan – doing what salt and light do to things.

Salt and light have one thing in common: they are not appreciated in themselves. They become valuable only when used according to their nature: salt to make our food tasty and light to allow us to see our surroundings. As salt and light, we, the followers of Christ, have to be in and mix with the world and give meaning to and influence what happens to and in it through our good deeds.

How can we be salt to the world? Just as salt makes food tasty when it completely but unobtrusively penetrates and flavors our food, so do we when our faith penetrates and influences in everything that we do, like, we are good sports when we play, we tell the truth even when doing so would bring us trouble, we work and deal with others honestly, we are peacemakers when conflict arises, we work for the elimination of unjust structures in institutions and society, etc.

Aside from giving flavor to food, salt also prevents it from rotting, i.e., it is preservative. Is it not a fact that the honesty and industry of our coworkers rubs on us? When we see them work hard and honestly, we find it embarrassing to loaf around or do under the table deals. Or when we have eaten something delicious, we often ask the cook how it was prepared and what ingredients were used. In the same manner, others seeing us live our Christian principles may led to ask at least within themselves, “*What is it that makes him act that way?*” For example, why did he tell the truth when lying could have given him a “safe” way out? In many ways, our good deeds may have preserved others from doing what is rotten and corrupt. We have become salt to them.

How can we be light of the world? As Jesus himself said, people do not light a lamp and then put it under a bushel basket; it is set on a lamp stand, where it gives light to all in the house. In effect, we are either a light to others or we block the light. When we are the source of gossip or are dishonest in our work and dealings with others, when all kinds of dirty words come out of our mouths at the slightest provocation, when we turn a blind eye to a person in need, then we have blocked the light. In fact, we become a contradiction in the eyes of others. If to be a Christian is to be like that – unchristian in our attitude and behavior – then goodbye to Christianity.

On the other hand, when we are honest, forgiving, humble and generous, we become a light to others. When people see us just and fair in our dealings with others, caring in our relationship with others, happy with our family and in our home life – then they might also aspire to become like us. We then have become a light for others to follow.

Finally, as we become salt and light to others, let us do so for the reason Jesus gives us, and that is, “*Your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father.*” Just as the moon only reflects the light of the sun, the good works we do should not only reflect but also point to the Source of all goodness – God himself. Then seeing our good works, others may glorify the heavenly Father, too.



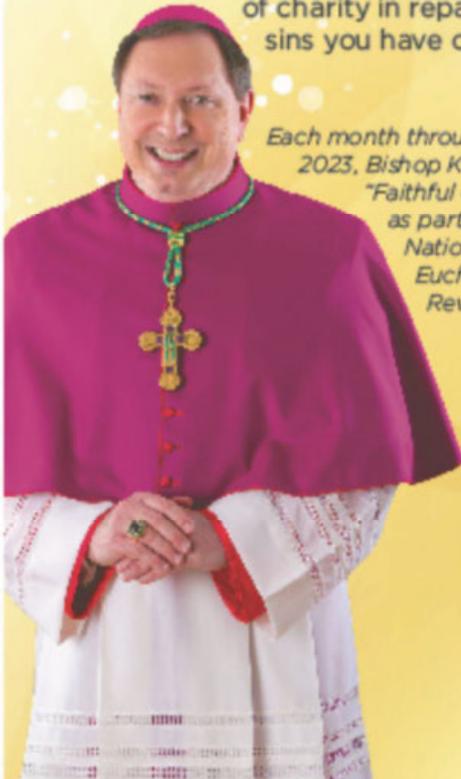
## February Faithful Challenge: **FORGIVENESS**

“Forgiveness is the essence of love which can understand mistakes and mend them.” – *Pope Francis*

Throughout the month of February, Bishop Kulick is challenging the faithful of the Diocese of Greensburg to offer and seek forgiveness.

“What I’m asking you to do is reflect upon how you have harmed or even how you have been harmed by somebody, and make an outreach for reconciliation and forgiveness,” Bishop Kulick said. “It may be as simple as making a phone call, sending a text or writing a letter. Or maybe just performing a kind deed of charity in reparation for sins you have committed.”

*Each month throughout 2023, Bishop Kulick will issue “Faithful Challenges” as part of the National Eucharistic Revival.*



### **Challenge yourself to reach out by:**

- Writing a letter
- Sending a text
- Making a phone call
- Performing a kind deed



Eucharistic Revival is a three-year process initiated by the USCCB to invite the faithful to reflect upon the mystery and meaning of the sacrament of the Eucharist in our lives. While much of year one involves providing devotional and formational opportunities for parish and Diocesan staff, you, too, can be a part of Eucharistic Revival right now! Visit the Diocese of Greensburg Facebook page every Thursday to participate in a Faithful Challenge, and hopefully you will feel yourself growing in a relationship with Christ. Visit the Eucharistic Revival resource page at [DioceseofGreensburg.org/EucharisticRevival](https://www.dioceseofgreensburg.org/EucharisticRevival) for videos, prayers and gathering dates. Consider Bishop Kulick’s invitation to become an intentional disciple this year!

## THE LIGHT OF SERVICE

The prophet Isaiah inspires us with these words: "Light shall rise for you in the darkness and the gloom shall become for you like midday." All of us celebrating the liturgy today praise God for these words of encouragement. Surely each of us knows the gloomy side of life but today's readings propose a brilliant antidote to misery: the light of service.

Isaiah focuses on physical suffering, telling us to provide food, clothing, housing and equal opportunity to those with limited resources. Moving beyond material needs, Saint Paul demonstrates how to proceed humbly when attending to people's spiritual needs.

Saint Matthew's Gospel stirs us to bold action: whatever gifts we have, we must put them at the service of our communities. As Christians, we must engage with one another without holding back, letting our light shine before all.

*rest in peace*

**Parish Sympathy** is expressed to the family of  
† **Sylvia Gloria (Erminio) Krofcheck**  
who was buried Friday, February 3.  
May God grant her eternal life and comfort  
her family. May she rest in peace.



**Liturgy Commission Meeting**  
Monday, **February 6**, 6:00 pm  
at the Footedale social hall.

**Pierogi Making:** To prepare for our Lenten Fish Dinners, we will be making pierogi as follows: Sunday, February 5, potato peeling; Monday, February 6, pierogi making. All sessions take place at 9:00 am at the social hall in Footedale. Your help is appreciated.

**CASH BASH** - Sunday, **March 5**, at the social hall in Footedale. Doors open at 2:00 pm; drawings begin at 2:30 and continue every ten minutes through 7:00 pm. Tickets are \$20, include food and refreshments and are available at the Parish Office. Please join us!

## SARRIS CANDY ONLINE

Our Faith Formation Program is sponsoring an online fundraiser **now through April 2**. To participate, visit [SarrisCandiesFundraising.com](http://SarrisCandiesFundraising.com) - order online using our organization name **St. Francis of Assisi Faith Formation** and our group number **10-3965**. Sarris will ship your order directly to your door for free; however, a \$5 packaging/handling fee will be applied. Our group will earn a 25% profit with every purchase. Thank you for your support of our young people♥

## Diocesan Men's Conference March 25

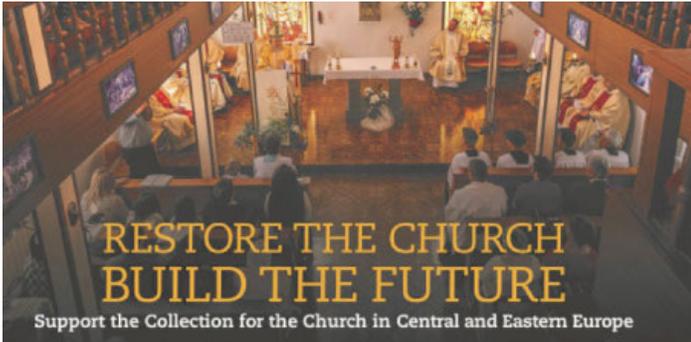
Men in the Diocese of Greensburg are invited to get out of their comfort zone and make Catholicism a way of life at **The Well - Be Not Afraid**, the Diocesan Men's Conference, **Saturday, March 25**, at Christ Our Shepherd Center in Greensburg. It will be a day of inspiring speakers, Eucharistic Adoration, Reconciliation and Mass celebrated by Bishop Kulick. Cost of \$50 includes lunch. Register at [DioceseofGreensburg.org/TheWell](http://DioceseofGreensburg.org/TheWell)

*One who is just is a model for  
the righteous.* Psalm 112

## Stewardship of Treasure

**January 29:** \$5,053; loose \$543; monthly \$275;  
online \$287; totaling \$6,158

**Your support is vital to the life of our parish!**



Proceeds from today's collection help the Church overcome the challenges of rebuilding after decades of atheistic communist rule, bringing light to twenty-nine nations in Central and Eastern Europe. Thanks to your generous response in past years, the Bishops of the United States were able to provide aid immediately to Ukraine when Russia attacked last February. Grants were made available for humanitarian aid to victims and refugees in Ukraine, Poland, Slovakia and Moldavia. Food, tents, blankets and personal hygiene products were provided at various relief centers during the early days of the invasion. Your contributions to this collection did make a difference in the lives of many last year. We are called to continue to offer hope to fellow Catholics by providing both material and spiritual assistance as they face enormous challenges.

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# MASS SCHEDULE

**Saturday, February 4 -- Vigil: 5th Ordinary Sunday**  
 4:00 pm-F (M) Anna & Edward Shimshock (Trout-Mikel)  
 6:00 pm-M (M) Andrew & Carol Mihallik (Mihallik Family)

**Sunday, February 5 -- 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
 8:00 am-M (M) Mary Kay Richnafsky (Anna Hornick)  
 9:30 am-F (M) Dolores Sofranko (Helen Sofranko)  
 11:30 am-M (M) Pro Populo

**Monday, February 6 -- Saint Paul Miki & Companions**  
 8:00 am-M Antoinette Smitley (Angela Haley)

**Tuesday, February 7 -- Weekday**  
 8:00 pm-F Mary Coppolino (Christian Mothers)

**Wednesday, February 8 -- Weekday**  
 8:00 am-M Mary Homa (George Homa)  
 4:30-6:00 pm Adoration/Confessions in Footedale

**Thursday, February 9 -- Weekday**  
 8:00 am-F John Reagan (Family)

**Friday, February 10 -- Saint Scholastica**  
 8:00 am-M Betty Stoffa (Family)

**Saturday, February 11 -- Vigil: 6th Ordinary Sunday**  
 3-3:30 pm-F Confessions  
 4:00 pm-F (M) Mary Matis (Emilia Bertugli)  
 5:30-6:00 pm-M Confessions  
 6:00 pm-M (M) Mary E. Michalik (Janet)

**Sunday, February 12 -- 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
 8:00 am-M (M) Lawrence & Margaret Gashie (B/P Post)  
 9:30 am-F (M) Pro Populo  
 11:30 am-M (M) Anna Marella (Daughter, Caroline)

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

## Mass Readings for the Week Ahead

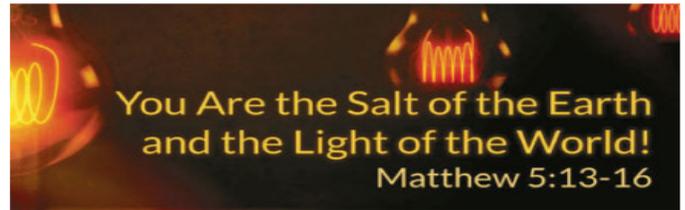
Monday: Gn 1:1-19; Mk 6:53-56  
 Tuesday: Gn 1:20-2:4a; Mk 7:1-13  
 Wednesday: Gn 2:4-17; Mk 7:14-23  
 Thursday: Gn 2:18-25; Mk 7:24-30  
 Friday: Gn 3:1-8; Mk 7:31-37  
 Saturday: Gn 3:9-24; Mk 8:1-10  
 Next Sunday: Sir 15:15-20; 1 Cor 2:6-10; Mt 5:17-37



**COFFEE & DONUTS**  
 will be available after all Masses  
 this Sunday, February 5.  
 Please join us!

## Eucharistic Adoration

**Wednesday, February 8, 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



*“You are the light of the world,”* Jesus tells His disciples in today’s Gospel, exhorting them to shine that light for everyone to see. Jesus Himself is the light who shone through the darkness from the very moment He was born. Now He challenges His disciples to be that light - the light of Christ - for others. We are given that same challenge. May we be conscious of receiving the Lord today in the word and the Eucharist, so that we may go forth to shine the light of Christ, transforming the darkness around us.

**Saturday, February 11, is the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes.** In 1858, Mary appeared to 14-year-old Bernadette Soubirious, identified herself as the Immaculate Conception and instructed her to dig for water with her hands. When she did, she uncovered a spring which still flows at the rate of 27,000 gallons daily. Many people come to bathe in the spring and to pray for healing from all kinds of diseases.

This day has also been designated as **World Day of the Sick**, “a special time of prayer and sharing, of offering one’s suffering for the good of the church and of reminding us to see - in our sick brothers and sisters - the face of Christ who, by suffering, dying and rising, achieved the salvation of humankind.”

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

† **Sanctuary** - Robert & Betty Berish  
 Wedding Anniversary Remembrance  
 requested by their Family

† **Blessed Mother** - Irma Tolnai  
 requested by niece, Paulette Yucha

Mary Homa  
 requested by husband, George

Josephine Yash  
 requested by her daughters, Cindy & Sharon

† **Saint Joseph** - Bob Brown  
 requested by Mary Anne Hritz

John Reagan  
 requested by his family

† **Sacred Heart** - Donna Waslousky  
 requested by Jude, Erik, Greg & Stacy

Personal Intention  
 requested by Caroline Marella



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