



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*



April 23, 2023

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: Saturday 5:00-5:30 pm
Adoration: Check bulletin

Masses in Footedale

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

Confessions: Saturday 3:00-3:30 pm
Adoration: Check bulletin

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



3rd SUNDAY OF EASTER

They set out at once and returned to Jerusalem where they found gathered
together the eleven and those with them who were saying, "The Lord has
truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!" - Lk 24:33-34

Fr. Arnel's Reflections - Third Sunday of Easter

Acts 2:14, 22-33; Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11; 1 Peter 1:17-21; Luke 24:13-35

ALLELUIA!

The theme of our Readings this Sunday is that No matter what happens in our lives, the Risen Jesus is always with us. God is near to those who seek Him and who want to live in His presence, doing His will. The Emmaus incident is the story of a God who will not abandon us when we are hurt and disappointed. Furthermore, the readings are teaching the followers of Jesus, that they are to maintain contact with their Risen Lord through prayer, the Eucharist, and the Bible. They also remind us that our belief in the presence of Jesus in the consecrated Bread and Wine should help us to understand better His presence in the Bible and in the believing and worshipping community. Putting the two appearances (to the Emmaus disciples and to Peter), together, it is clear that the risen Jesus wants Peter to act as spokesman for Him, and that the faithful who seek to follow Jesus should seek His company in the Eucharist, in prayer, in the praying community, and in the Bible under the direction of Peter and his successors.

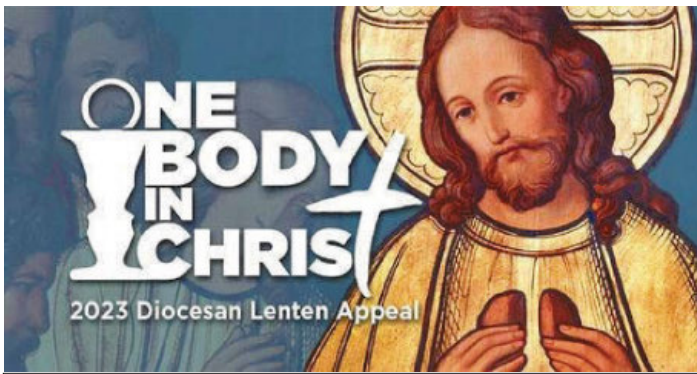
In the First Reading which is taken from the Acts of the Apostles, Peter goes deep into the Old Testament scriptures to learn that David spoke of Jesus through the Psalms. He quotes from Psalm 16. Peter then goes on to say that even the great King David died and was buried to be seen no more. Other great men and women of the Old Testament also have come and gone, but Jesus who died was then honored by the Father by being raised from the dead to live forever. This should give us cause to reflect on how we are fulfilling our role in God's Plan as Jesus did.

In the Responsorial Psalm, the psalmist sings of the great spiritual comfort that comes from being close to Jesus and walking in His footprints. This is something that we should take very seriously because we never know when our time will come.

In the Second Reading from the First Letter of St. Peter, Peter advises us to walk with the Lord Jesus daily because Jesus paid a great price for our being delivered from sin. Therefore, we should not take His sacrifice lightly. Here also, as he did in "Acts" above, Peter refers back to ancient scripture to acknowledge that Jesus existed before all creation — "before the foundation of the world."

In the Gospel Reading from the Gospel of Luke, we have the beautiful story of the two disciples on the road to Emmaus where they meet Jesus but do not recognize Him. This is understandable because Jesus has been resurrected and is now in His divine "Glory." These disciples must have always seen Jesus in the "here and now" without looking back at how scripture described His coming. The "stranger" then goes through the Old Testament scriptures to point out how they often referred to the Messiah; but it was in the "breaking of the bread," the Eucharist, that they finally recognized Him.

Jesus meets us on our Emmaus Road. The Risen Lord meets us on the road to our "Emmaus", both in the ordinary experiences of our lives, and in the places to which we retreat when life is too much for us. We, too, have hopes and dreams about better health, healing, financial security and better family relationships. These often shatter. However, the Gospel story promises us, that Jesus will come to us in unfamiliar guises to support and strengthen us when we least expect the risen Lord. Emmaus moments come to us when we meet the Risen Christ on our life's journey through rough times.



2023 Diocesan Lenten Appeal

Diocesan Target - \$46,712; Parish Goal - \$66,712
 Parishioner Pledges to date - \$36,346
 Parish Participation to date - 39.8%

Thank you to all who have made pledges! Your participation enabled us to reach 77.8% of our diocesan target. Everything raised beyond that target will be returned to us and used to improve the safety and security of our facilities at both worship sites. Our current weekly offertory and many fundraising activities do not provide the extra funds needed to accomplish this and so we rely upon the success of this important annual campaign. We cannot do this without everyone's help! We respectfully ask the 60.2% who have not yet made a commitment to prayerfully consider a donation to assist our parish in our effort to keep each other safe and secure. Thank you for your prayerful consideration.

Magnificat Breakfast April 29

The Greensburg Chapter of Magnificat - A Ministry to Catholic Women will hold a breakfast Saturday, April 29, 9:00 am to Noon at Rizzo's Banquet Hall in Crabtree. Guest speaker Father John-Mary Tompkins, OSB will talk about his faith journey. Cost is \$25. To register, call 724-836-2094 by April 24 or visit www.magnificatgreensburg.com



The Practice of Stewardship

The disciples on the road to Emmaus walked and talked with Jesus all day long but it was not until they offered Him hospitality and He blessed and broke the bread that they recognized Him. Simple acts of loving kindness *still* reveal the presence of God in our midst.

Thank you for the following memorial donations:

Saint Francis of Assisi Parish

In memory of *Frank Coppolino* by David & Vicki Berish, Eugene & Evelyn Burchianti

In memory of *Gene Barnhart* by Michael Gabeletto Family, Gary & Patty Ball

Saint Procopius Cemetery

In memory of cousins *Frank Coppolino, Paul Lukac, Kate (Palaisa) Heavrin and Andy Bocha* by Louis L. Palaisa

Saint Mary, Our Lady of Perpetual Help Cemetery

In memory of *Wanda Valusek* by her family, Don Shenal, Mark Kopec, Aggie & Armand Spooner

Saint Thomas Cemetery Endowment Fund

In memory of *John J. Karłowicz* by his family

THANK YOU

Youth Ministry would like to thank everyone who supported them during the Lenten Fish Dinners at both worship sites by donating baskets and purchasing tickets. Your support enabled them to raise over \$3,000 which will be used for Youth Ministry events and trips. We also want to thank everyone who donated filled Easter Eggs for the Easter Egg Hunt. The children of our parish were excited to find the eggs. Your generosity to our endeavors is truly appreciated!

Stewardship of Treasure

Holy Thursday \$1,479; **Good Friday** \$1,690; **Easter** \$15,547; weekly \$4,177; monthly \$2,101; loose \$1,455; children \$43; totaling \$26,492
 Easter Flowers - \$4,450

April 16: \$4,827; loose \$568; monthly \$435; children \$9; online \$382 totaling \$6,221

Our parish is very grateful for your support!

**SACRED STEPS - Sacramental Celebrations
at Saint Francis of Assisi Parish**



Parish Congratulations
to **Briar Jordan**, son of
Matthew & Emily (Thomas) Jordan
who was baptized on April 12.
His Godparents are Max Kaydo
and Kayla King. Welcome to the
newest member of our Parish Family!

Parish Sympathy is expressed to the family of
† **Martha Jean (Winge) Baron**
who was buried Monday, April 17.
May God grant her eternal life and comfort
her family. May she rest in peace.

BINGO - Sunday, April 30 at 2:00 pm at the cafeteria
in Masontown. Cost of \$7 includes lunch. Please help
us to plan by using the sign up sheets which are located
at the church entrances of both worship sites.

FESTIVAL MEETING - MAY 2

A meeting to begin planning for this year's Labor Day
Festival will be held at 6:00 pm on Tuesday, **May 2**, at
the cafeteria in Masontown. All are invited to attend.

Faith Formation News

There will be an end-of-year Faith Formation Party on
Friday, **May 5**, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm at the Fairbank
Bowling Center. Hosted by Youth Ministry, the theme
will be *Cinco de Mayo*. We hope to see our Faith
Formation students that evening for some bowling and
lots of fun. To help us plan, we need you to RSVP
by May 3 to kstavish@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Yard Sale: Youth Ministry will participate in the
Masontown Community Yard Sale on Saturday, **May 6**,
and are in need of gently used items to sell. If you have
these items to donate please drop them off at the Parish
Office in Masontown or the Social Hall in Footedale.

Questions? Call Rita Masi 724-208-6779.

Rosary Walk and May Crowning

Sunday, **May 7**, at 3:00 pm in Masontown
We will begin with a Rosary Walk around the church
grounds then crown a statue of the Blessed Mother.
Refreshments will follow in the cafeteria.
We invite everyone to participate.

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Our God shows us the way to live.

- Psalm 16

Emmaus and the Mass

Emmaus might as well be Brigadoon. We hear of
it in this one story - and it's only in Luke - and then it
disappears. The journey to Emmaus is one of the most
beloved stories about Jesus and yet the town is probably
"mythical" in the truest sense. Like so much of life, this
story is about the journey, not the destination. Running
away from Jerusalem and their fears, probably going
home in disillusionment, two of Jesus' disciples encoun-
ter a stranger on the road who, like a rabbi, is able to help
them understand their experiences using his deep
knowledge of scripture. Later, sharing a meal with Him,
they recognize the stranger as Jesus and they return to
Jerusalem to tell the others.

How like our Mass - we hear the scriptures and
an explanation of them, we share a meal, and then we go
out to tell the good news.

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* tells us
that we are taught that our faculties make us capable of
"coming to a knowledge of the existence of a personal
God." If we are ever to be able to form a personal rela-
tionship with God, it was necessary to give us both the
revelation (in His son Jesus Christ) and the capacity to
welcome this revelation in faith. (CCC 35)

If even Jesus' disciples had trouble understanding
their faith, we know how much harder we must work to
preserve it.

Question of the Week:

Luke says that at first the disciples' eyes were
prevented from recognizing Him. What prevents
me from recognizing the Lord in our midst?

The Practice of Charity

"Peace be with you." His closest friends had run away
in fear at His time of greatest need. The risen Christ
begins not with scolding but with the gift of peace.
Perhaps you have relationships that are in need of this
gift of peace. We know that human beings are prone to
hurting one another, failing one another, falling short
of their own ideals when it comes to love of God and
love of neighbor. Reach out. Offer the peace of Christ.
Until Pentecost, strive to carry out a corporal work of
mercy each week. The corporal works of mercy are:
to feed the hungry, to give drink to the thirsty,
to clothe the naked, to shelter the homeless, to visit
the sick, to visit the imprisoned and to bury the dead.
Take some time this week to pray Psalm 118 focusing
on the words, "His mercy endures forever."

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

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, April 22 -- Vigil: Third Sunday of Easter
 4:00 pm-F (M) Catherine Shimshock (Eugene/Roseanne)
 6:00 pm-M (M) Philip Griffith (Mother & Family)

Sunday, April 23 -- Third Sunday of Easter
 8:00 am-M (M) Peggy Dulik (Tom & Rita Malesky)
 9:30 am-F (M) Patricia Stunja (L/A Bogus & D Muratore)
 11:30 am-M (M) Pro Populo

Monday, April 24 -- Saint Fidelis of Sigmaringen
 8:00 am-M No Mass

Tuesday, April 25 -- Saint Mark, Evangelist
 8:00 pm-F No Mass

Wednesday, April 26 -- Easter Weekday
 8:00 am-M No Mass

Thursday, April 27 -- Easter Weekday
 8:00 am-F No Mass

Friday, April 28 -- Easter Weekday
 8:00 am-M No Mass

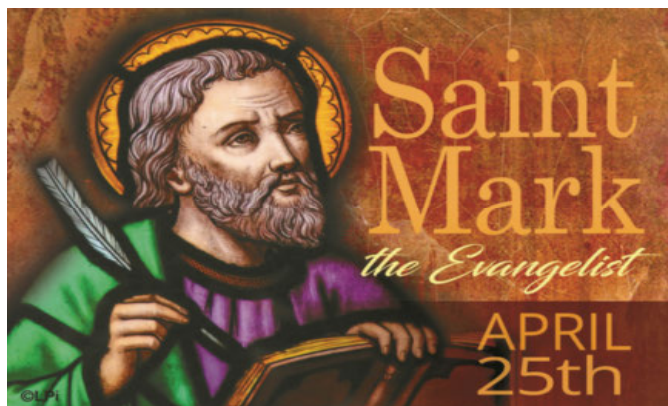
Saturday, April 29 -- Vigil: Fourth Sunday of Easter
 3-3:30 pm-F Confessions
 4:00 pm-F (M) Adeline Kiec (John & Margie Gebe)
 5:00-5:30 pm-M Confessions
 6:00 pm-M (M) Irene O'Brien (Soroptimist Int/Fayette)

Sunday, April 30 -- Vigil: Fourth Sunday of Easter
 8:00 am-M (M) Pro Populo
 9:30 am-F (M) Sandra Sofocle (John/Linda Zembar)
 11:30 am-M (M) Cindy Cheresnye Glad (Rich/Linda Girod)

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

Mass Readings for the Week Ahead

Monday: Acts 6:8-15; Jn 6:22-29
 Tuesday: 1 Pt 5:5-14; Mk 16:15-20
 Wednesday: Acts 8:1-8; Jn 6:35-40
 Thursday: Acts 8:26-40; Jn 6:44-51
 Friday: Acts 9:1-20; Jn 6:52-59
 Saturday: Acts 9:31-42; Jn 6:60-69
 Next Sunday: Acts 2:14a, 36-41; 1 Pt 2:20-25; Jn 10:1-10



As we continue our celebration of Easter, we praise God for this miracle that brings new life to us all and we pray that we will continue to grow in understanding of the many ramifications of this event.

Today we hear the story of how two disciples, making their way back to Emmaus, slowly grow in understanding until the moment the stranger they had met on the road breaks bread with them. Suddenly they recognize the Lord in their midst.

May we always be open to recognize the Lord in our midst as well.

Father Marlon will be away this week; consequently, there will be no Morning Mass this Monday through Friday.

Eucharistic Bread and Wine

The altar bread used in the liturgy is an unleavened, round wafer made of wheaten flour. It is consecrated during the Eucharistic Prayer and distributed during the communion rite at Mass.

The wine consecrated during the Eucharistic Prayer must be pure grape juice which has been naturally fermented. The wine may be white or red. A few drops of water are added to the wine at the Offertory. The consecrated wine is distributed to the faithful during the Communion rite.

The effect of our sharing in the body and blood of Christ is to change us into what we receive.

- Pope Saint Leo the Great

Memorial Candles burn this week in loving memory of or for the special intention of:
 † **Blessed Mother** - *Augustine A. Aello Sr.*
 requested by wife Edith and daughter, Barbara Rhodes
Peggy Dulik
 requested by Rose Gabeletto



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