



Saint Francis of Assisi of Western Fayette County

ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

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Website: www.sfoafayette.org

email: sfoafayette@dioceseofgreensburg.org

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



July 2, 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.

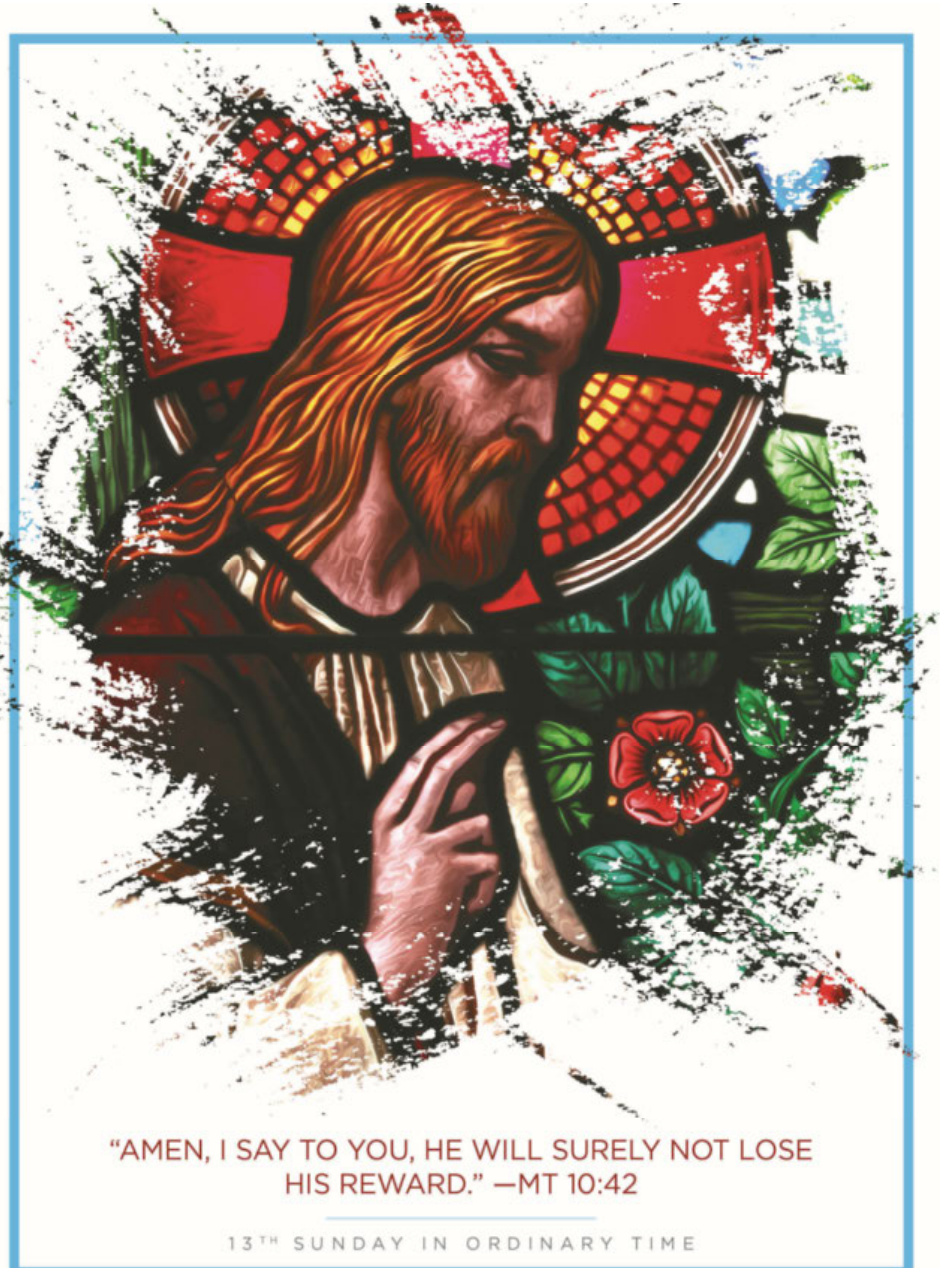
Communion to the Homebound is
provided on a regular basis. Call the
Parish Office to be added to our list.

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

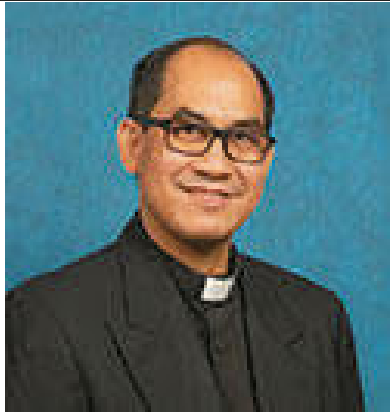


**"AMEN, I SAY TO YOU, HE WILL SURELY NOT LOSE
HIS REWARD." —MT 10:42**

13TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

EXCERPTS FROM THE LECTIONARY FOR MASS ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI

Fr. Arnel's Reflections - 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time
2 Kgs 4:8-11, 14-16a; Ps 89:2-3, 16-17, 18-19; Rom 6:3-4, 8-11; Mt 10:37-42



On this 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time, the *First Reading* and the *Gospel* are talking about receiving the "holy men" who serve as God's representatives. In the Scripture, a "holy man" refers to someone who has the mission and responsibility as the bearer of God's word. In our time today, the men of our ministerial priesthood fulfill that role.

In the *First Reading*, a woman generously receives God's prophet Elisha into her home because she tells her husband, "I know that he is a holy man of God." Not only does Elisha's presence in her home enrich her life, but Elisha rewards her generosity by his petition to the Lord to bless his barren benefactress with a child.

In the *Responsorial Psalm*, the psalmist proclaims God's steadfast covenant love for His people and His faithfulness to the promises He makes to them. He describes God's protection of His people and their king, who is God's chosen representative to the covenant people. Chief among the kings of Israel was David, the divinely anointed shepherd-king with whom God made an eternal covenant. In Jesus of Nazareth, Son of God and Son of David, God fulfills the promises of the everlasting Davidic covenant. The resurrected Jesus Christ is the eternal King of God's New Covenant people.

In the *Second Reading*, Saint Paul, tells us how Christians receive an infusion of divine grace through the Sacrament of Baptism. The regenerative waters of baptism yield a supernatural transformation and rebirth. Baptism not only frees us from slavery to sin but allows us to begin a new life in which we are no longer a child of Adam but become a child of God. This "new life" is not merely symbolic. Saint Paul writes that in Christian Baptism, our old self dies with the crucified Christ, and in our new life, God calls us to live not only in freedom from "sin" but freedom from "self." The sinner is immersed in water and is thus "buried" with Christ with whom the Christian is also raised up through the water to a resurrection as a new creation, infused with "divine life" as a member of God's holy covenant family.

In the *Gospel*, Jesus gives a teaching on the conditions of discipleship. Jesus, the Living Word of God to humanity, warns that the decision to follow Him may cause a break in the bonds of our friendships and families. Alluding to His future crucifixion, Jesus invites His disciples to follow Him in announcing the Kingdom in His healing ministry, in His suffering, and ultimately in His glory. Jesus also speaks of the reward for receiving one of His emissaries and the Gospel message he carries. Jesus promises that someone who does even a small act of kindness for one of His disciples will not lose his reward of eternal life.

Finally, our readings today challenge us to be hospitable and generous. Hospitality means acknowledging the presence of God in others and serving Him in them, especially those in whom we least expect to find Him. We, as individuals and as a community, are to look for opportunities to be hospitable – and, of course, there are plenty of ways of offering hospitality. Maybe hospitality is offered through a kind word to a stranger – or even a smile. A kind smile or a "hello" to someone waiting with us in a grocery line may be the only kindness that person encounters all day. We become fully alive as Christians through the generous giving of ourselves. What is more important than the sending of checks for charitable causes is the giving of ourselves to people, primarily in the way we think about them, for from that spring will flow the ways we speak to them and about them, forgive their failings, encourage them, show them respect, console them, and offer them help. Such generosity reflects warmth radiating from the very love of God.

The Practice of Faith

Jesus makes some uncomfortable statements in today's Gospel: We must love nothing - even our children - more than we love Him and we must lose our lives for His sake. In the face of this declaration, it's natural to ask: If this is the path, why am I on it? Paul says that the answer is nothing less than complete "newness of life."

Absorbed through baptism into Christ's death, we now share in His resurrection. A "newness" is what Jesus is asking for, a reorientation in what we have been taught to value. Nothing in our lives, now or to come, offers us the promise that Jesus does.

Ask yourself, why am I Christian? Seen through the lens of my Christian identity, what things do I value that I shouldn't? Pray each night this week for someone, living or dead, who has given their lives to service of the Gospel. Support a Catholic mission with prayer, time, or a donation. If you have children, involve them in these efforts.

Our relationship with Christ is the ultimate starting point - the wellspring. Every good quality in our character, every kind action of our lives, every devout practice of our day must flow from this place where we encounter Him in our hearts.

HELP NEEDED / JOIN OUR TEAM

We are looking for parishioners to join the **MAINTENANCE & UPKEEP TEAM** at Saint Francis of Assisi. All skill levels are needed - general, carpentry, masonry, electrical, and plumbing. Please contact team leaders: Masontown - Rick Bobincheck 724-317-6635
Footedale - Dave Madison 724-366-2307.



Summer Vacation Bible School - July 17-21

9:00 am to Noon in Footedale

Children, age 4 through 5th grade, will be taken on a Southwest Monumental adventure to *Celebrate God's Greatness*. Enrollment is now open. Enrollment forms are available at the church entrances.
Questions? kstavish@dioceseofgreensburg.org



Parish Sympathy is expressed to the families of

† **Mary Ellen (McLaughlin) Karafa**

who was buried Saturday, June 24;

† **Delores Ann (Miranov) May**

who was buried Thursday, June 29.

May God grant them eternal life and comfort their families. May they rest in peace.



The Practice of Stewardship

Both the first reading and the Gospel today speak of hospitality and welcome. Our ministers of hospitality are a most visible example of using one's time and talents to welcome the people of God but the Gospel assures us that all who give even just "a cup of cold water" to one of His lowliest ones will be rewarded. See Matthew 10:42



Thank you for the following donations to Saint Francis of Assisi Parish: in memory of Joseph Matyus by Bernie Redmond

Boiler Fund:

in memory of parents Adam & Elizabeth Freiberg; grandparents Albert & Mary Freiberg and Andrew & Anna Balash by daughters and granddaughters Barbara, Carol, Colette, Sharon

Cash Bash News: Many grateful thanks to all who supported our Cash Bash last Sunday. Special thanks to the Cash Bash Committee♥ for their hard work and dedicated service. We realized a profit of \$10,548.25.

Winning Numbers: 298, 564, 883, 124, 450, 474, 986, 734, 019, 512, 318, 423, 073, 058, 602, 695, 440, 282, 170, 777, 949, 777, 298, 510, 015, 553, 863, 516
Congratulations to the winners!

Our next Cash Bash takes place Sunday, November 5.

Thank you for your support!

Stewardship of Treasure

June 25: \$5,002; loose \$409; monthly \$65; children \$6; online \$252; Accent \$56; totaling \$5,790

Peter's Pence / Holy See Appeal - \$432

We also collected \$703 for the **care of our Cemeteries:**

St. Thomas \$263; OLPH \$212; St. Agnes \$188; Holy Rosary \$60; St. Procopius \$55; Madonna \$15

DLA Update - June 26 - Total Pledged \$50,006

Our parish is very grateful for your support!

Saint Francis of Assisi Summer Celebration



Mark your calendars!

Pasta Dinner / Salad Bar / Bake Sale and Basket Raffle

Sunday, August 6, 11am to 4pm in Footedale

Eat in or take out, the cost of the **Pasta Dinner** is \$12 for adults and \$6 for children under age 12. Choose from several varieties of pasta along with traditional red, chicken alfredo or aioli sauce. Includes a salad bar, bread & butter and beverage.

The Christian Mothers will host a **Bake Sale** featuring a variety of delicious homemade treats and there will be a **Basket Raffle** on which you can take chances to win a beautiful themed gift basket.

Labor Day Festival

Saturday, September 2 & Sunday, September 3
on the parish grounds in Masontown. Details to follow!

Needed: Theme Baskets - All Types - for both events

Sports, movies, lottery tickets, gift cards, etc.
(Please bring these items to either Church on weekends or drop them off at the Parish Office in Masontown Monday through Friday, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm)

Needed: Summer Celebration Sponsors

We are asking for donations to help cover celebration expenses and entertainment costs. Donor levels are: Platinum \$250; Gold \$100/\$249; Silver Level \$50/\$99; Bronze \$30/\$49. Sponsors will be displayed on the signs throughout the celebration grounds, in the bulletin and on our Facebook page.

Your sponsorship supports both events!

✂ -----

Sponsor Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Donation Amount \$ _____
(Platinum \$250; Gold \$100-\$249; Silver \$50-\$99; Bronze \$30-\$49)

Include name on signs? Yes No

Please make checks payable to: **Saint Francis of Assisi Parish** and return to the Parish Office. Many thanks!

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Join Budget Charters for another wonderful performance at the Sight & Sound Theatre on **Friday, July 28.**

Price of \$186 includes transportation, ticket for the 3pm performance of MOSES at the Sight & Sound Theatre and a Smorgasbord Dinner at Bird-in-Hand Restaurant.

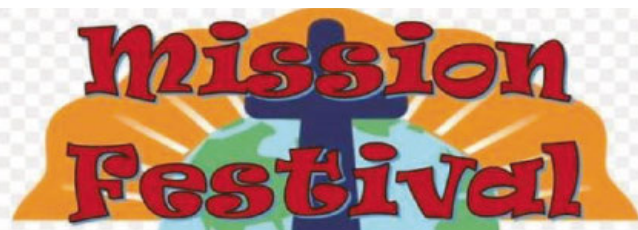
Bus departs from Saint Francis of Assisi parking lot in Footedale at 9:00 am and returns at approximately 11:00 pm. For questions and reservations, contact Rosemary at 724-245-8333.



Widowed, Divorced, Separated?

The loss of a spouse through death, divorce, or separation is a traumatic experience. The *Beginning Experience*© Pittsburgh Lay Apostolate will host a one-day Saturday seminar, *Coping with Life Alone*, intended to help widowed, divorced or separated men and women work through their grief and begin to move forward with hope on their life journey. Please plan to join us Saturday, **July 22**, from 8:45 am to 4:00 pm at St. Emma Retreat Center, 1001 Harvey Avenue, Greensburg.

The fee is \$25 (beverages & lunch included). **Register by July 16th** by calling 412-352-2653 or online at www.BeginningExperiencePittsburgh.com to learn more about this healing ministry.



**Saturday, July 15 - 3:00 to 7:00 pm
at the German-Masontown Park**

Sponsored by the Klondike Clergy Association

Come out for some fun and help support our community!

Entertainment, Food, Booths sponsored by Local Civic and Church Groups
Basket Raffle, Baked Goods, Large Item Auction will benefit Charlie Mattish and family and The Masontown Community Kitchen
Call 724-998-3519 for more information.

MASS SCHEDULE ©LPI

Saturday, July 1 -- Vigil: 13th Ordinary Sunday

4:00 pm-F (M) Dolores Kovach (Family)
6:00 pm-M (A) Thomas & Mary Smearcheck (Becky/Family)

Sunday, July 2 -- 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am-M (M) Ellen Duffy (Frank & Mary Maykuth)
9:30 am-F (M) Pro Populo
11:30 am-M (A) Lindakay Rendina (Mom, Kay & Family)

Monday, July 3 -- Saint Thomas, Apostle

8:00 am-M James W. Nagg (Liz Arendash)

Tuesday, July 4 -- Weekday (Independence Day)

8:00 pm-F Mary Coppolino (Her Secret Pal)

Wednesday, July 5 -- Saint Anthony Zaccaria

8:00 am-M Greg Cox (Mom & Dad)

Thursday, July 6 -- Saint Maria Goretti

8:00 am-F Steve & Erma Olesko (Son, Frank)

Friday, July 7 -- Weekday

8:00 am-M Domenick LeDonne (Betty Gorman)
4:30-6:00 pm-M Adoration / Confessions

Saturday, July 8 -- Vigil: 14th Ordinary Sunday

3-3:30 pm-F Confessions
4:00 pm-F (M) Edward & Ann Balabon (Balabon Children)
5:00-5:30 pm-M Confessions
6:00 pm-M (M) Josephine Yash (Husband & Family)

Sunday, July 9 -- 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am-M (A) Pro Populo
9:30 am-F (A) Irma Yandura (Paul & Bonnie Cassidy)
11:30 am-M (M) Richard Marella Sr. (Daughter, Caroline)

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

Mass Readings for the Week Ahead

Monday: Eph 2:19-22; Jn 20:24-29
Tuesday: Gn 19:15-29; Mt 8:23-27
Wednesday: Gn 21:5, 8-20; Mt 8:28-34
Thursday: Gn 22:1b-19; Mt 9:1-8
Friday: Gn 23:1-4, 19; 24:1-8, 62-67; Mt 9:9-13
Saturday: Gn 27:1-5, 15-29; Mt 9:14-17
Next Sunday: Zec 9:9-10; Rom 8:9, 11-13; Mt 11:25-30

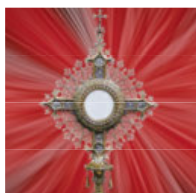


Coffee & Donuts will be available after all Masses today. Please join us!



Eucharistic Adoration Friday, July 7, in Masontown

4:30-5:30 pm: Exposition / Confession
5:30-5:45 pm: Chaplet of Divine Mercy
5:45-6:00 pm: Benediction



The Holy Spirit draws us to this holy place each week to join together as a faith community to celebrate the Eucharist. Eucharist literally means “thanksgiving” and we are forever thankful to God for sending the Son, who gives us His Body and Blood to nourish us, to redeem, us, and to give us eternal life.

May the Lord’s acceptance of His cross give us the courage to carry our own crosses, to empathize with others carrying their own crosses, and inspire us to help those whose crosses are too heavy to carry themselves.

Happy Birthday America!

This Tuesday we celebrate our nation’s freedom. On July 4th, 247 years ago, one of America’s most historic documents was signed - the *Declaration of Independence* - marking the birth of this nation.

Today throughout the United States, we celebrate our freedom. Our rights are protected and opportunities abound. We recognize that freedom has a cost, one we celebrate and honor on days such as this. It’s good to honor those who fight for our country, who may well pay the ultimate price for the liberties we’re afforded. As faithful Catholics, we recognize that there is more to freedom than simply being at liberty to make our lives what we want them to be. Saint John Paul II reminds us that “*Freedom is not just doing what we can, it is doing what we ought.*” We become more free within ourselves and within our relationships when we choose what is right and good. When we choose sin, we become trapped in egoism - we become less free, not more free.

This Independence Day, let’s continue to pursue virtue and good character and encourage others to do the same.

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

- † **Sanctuary** - Andrew & Carol Mihallik requested by the Mihallik Family
- † **Blessed Mother** - Thomas & Mary Smearcheck requested by Becky & Family
- † **Sacred Heart** - Edward & Esther Pleban (Anniversary Remembrance) requested by their family



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