

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	ı
Sunday8:00 am & 11:30 am	ı

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

Masses in Footedale

Tuesday & Thursday	8:00 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

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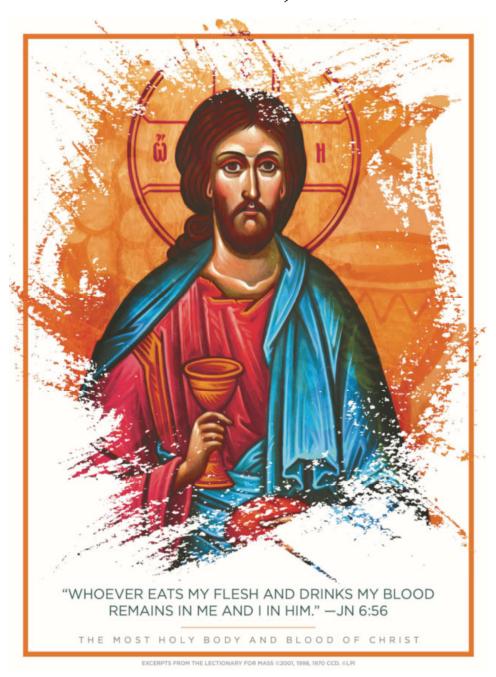
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June 11, 2023



Fr. Marlon's Reflections - The Most Holy Body and Blood of Jesus Christ (Dt. 8:2-3, 14-16; 1 Cor. 10:16-17; Jn. 6:51-58



Please pray for our Church! The Pew Research Center released a study explaining that most Catholics in the United States believe the Eucharist is symbolic of Jesus' body and blood, rather than believing in the Real Presence of Jesus Christ under the forms of bread and wine. The study, conducted in Feb. 2019, found that only 31% of Catholics believe the Church's teaching on **TRANSUBSTANTIATION** — the moment during the consecration at Mass where the bread and wine become the real body and blood of Jesus Christ. Many Catholics are having a hard time believing that after the consecration the thin, flat host is really the Body of Jesus and the wine is really the Blood of the Lord.

How can we be sure that Jesus is really present in the Holy Eucharist? The Council of Trent summarizes the Catholic faith by declaring: "Because Christ our Redeemer said that it was truly his body that he was offering under the species of bread, it has always been the conviction of the Church of God, and this holy Council now declares again, that by the consecration of the bread and wine there takes place a change of the whole substance of the bread into the substance of the body of Christ our Lord and of the whole substance of the wine into the substance of his blood. This change the holy Catholic Church has fittingly and properly called transubstantiation." (CCC, 1376, cf. Mt 26:26 ff.; Mk 14:22 ff.; Lk 22:19 ff.) The teaching of the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist, according to the Catechism, is the "source and summit of the Christian life." (CCC, 1324)

Around the year 700 A.D., a priest in Italy who had begun to doubt the presence of Jesus in the Eucharist held up the Host during Mass one day and saw it change into flesh, while the liquid in the chalice became clots of blood. (cf. The Eucharistic Miracle at Lanciano, Italy) This treasure was guarded by monks until 1970 when Church authorities gave a team of scientists permission to study the substances. After taking samples and putting them through a variety of tests, the scientific team concluded that the flesh was really human flesh and the clots were human blood. The team found no trace of any preservative, yet the flesh and blood were just as fresh then as they were 13 centuries earlier.

Very few of us will ever have the privilege of witnessing such a miracle. Most of us accept the Real Presence of Christ on faith, i.e., we believe it because Jesus, the Son of God, revealed it to us. At the Last Supper, when Our Lord said the first Mass and gave us the Holy Eucharist, He took bread and said, "This is my body." He did not say, "This represents my body," but rather, "This IS my body."

Our Lord also took a cup of wine and said, "This is my blood." He did not say, "This is a symbol of my blood," but rather, "This IS my blood." And for 2,000 years the Catholic Church has faithfully taught that Jesus is really and truly present, Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity, in the Eucharist.

Evidence of this marvelous truth can be found in our gospel this Sunday (Jn. 6:51-58). Jesus said, "If you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. He who feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has life eternal and I will raise him up on the last day. For my flesh is real food and my blood real drink."

That Jesus' listeners took Him literally is indicated by the fact that many of His disciples found His words disturbing and "would not remain in his company any longer." Our Lord did not call them back and say, "Wait a minute, you misunderstood me; that wasn't what I meant." He let them go.

When Jesus asked the Apostles if they were going to leave Him, too, St. Peter answered for the Twelve: "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe; we are convinced that you are God's holy one" (John 6:67-69).

How does realizing that Christ is truly present in the Eucharist change the importance of receiving the Eucharist for you?

AMEN

Take a look around the walls of the church. The word "Amen" has resounded off those walls countless times at the conclusion of the Eucharistic Prayer and as the faithful have come forward to receive the Body and Blood of Christ.

Today's feast is about those "Amens" offered in faith, offered in times of trouble or doubt, spoken in joy, spoken mindlessly, but all given to God in a multitude of ways. It is our very lives that lie behind our "Amens" and are touched by the presence of Christ, the presence we celebrate today.

More importantly, we celebrate the love of Christ for us shown in the sacrifice on Calvary and that He continues to give to us in every celebration of the Eucharist. What can we do but rejoice in that great love and go out into the world and live that love in sacrificing for others?

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

- Pope St. Leo the Great

Parish Sympathy♥ is expressed to Joan Cech on the recent passing of her sister, Bernadette Celestine (Mullen) Livingston. May God grant her eternal life and comfort her family. May she rest in peace.

FESTIVAL MEETING - Monday, June 12

6:00 pm at the cafeteria in Masontown. Everyone interested in helping with Festival planning is welcome!

Christian Mothers Meeting - Wednesday, June 14 6:30 pm at the social hall in Footedale.

VBS Planning Meeting - Thursday, June 15

6:00 pm in Footedale. Anyone interested in helping with this year's Vacation Bible School is welcome.

Golden Group Meeting - Wednesday, June 21 11:30 am at the social hall in Footedale.

Youth Ministry Hoagie Sale - June 24 & 25

Our Youth Ministry will offer for sale 8" Italian hoagies from New Salem Mini Mart after all Masses the weekend of June 24 & 25. No pre-orders needed. The cost is \$6.00. Proceeds benefit the NCYC

Altar Server Training - Saturday, June 24

Anyone who has received the Sacrament of First Eucharist is eligible to become an altar server. Training for those interested is scheduled for 10:00 am on Saturday, June 24, in Footedale.



The Sacred Heart of Jesus, celebrated Friday, and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, celebrated Saturday, are honored in celebration of God's generous love.

The feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, celebrated the third Friday after Pentecost, is a echo of Good Friday, a reminder that *every* Friday is kept with renewed efforts to understand and share the compassion of God. Remembering the suffering of Jesus helps us make sense of our own troubles. Gertrude the Great, who lived in the 13th century, said that Jesus appeared to her the way He had appeared to Thomas and showed her His wounds. He taught her His love which shone from His heart. If Christ lives in our hearts, we bear the love of God in our own bodies. The first Letter of John says that *God is love*. God's love gives value and purpose to every human life.

Devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary has become a comfort and promise that salvation is a gift of God open to all, not only to a select few. Saint Paul tells us: "eye has not seen nor ear heard what is in store for those who love God."

Friday is World Day of Prayer for the Sanctification of Priests. Established by Saint John Paul II in 2002, this celebration occurs annually on the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus providing us with a special opportunity to pray for our priests and the gift of their vocation.

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus, through the intercession of Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque and the Immaculate Heart of Mary imbue all priests with His grace, strengthen their hearts and renew them in their vocation to image Christ, Head and Shepherd, Servant and Spouse. Amen.

HELP NEEDED / JOIN OUR TEAM

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

Thank you to everyone who made a **2023 Diocesan Lenten Appeal** gift. Our pledge total as of June 5 is \$49,456; we reached 105.9% of our Diocesan Target; our parish participation is 49%. All gifts will now be returned to our parish. Thank you for your support!

Stewardship of Treasure

June 4: \$6,796; loose \$568; online \$427; total \$7,791 Our parish is very grateful for your support!

Revival's in the Air

AN EXCITING JOURNEY AHEAD
Our world is hurting. We all



need healing, yet many of us are separated from the very source of our strength. Jesus Christ invites us to return to the source and summit of our faith in the celebration of the Eucharist. The National Eucharistic Revival sponsored by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops is a movement to restore understanding and devotion to this great mystery here in the United States by helping us renew our worship of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist.

YEAR OF PARISH REVIVAL June 11, 2023 - July 17, 2024

The second phase of the National Eucharistic Revival will foster Eucharistic devotion at the parish level, strengthening our liturgical life through the faithful celebration of the Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, etc. Events are being planned for our parish community.

PARISH CASH BASH - Sunday, JUNE 25

at the social hall in Footedale. Doors open at 2:00 pm; cash drawings begin at 2:30 and take place every ten minutes through 7:00 pm. Donation of \$20 includes food and refreshments.

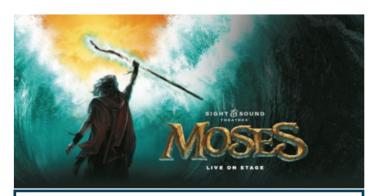
Tickets are available at the Parish Office.



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





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, please contact Rosemary at 724-245-8333.

Tuesday is the Feast of Saint Anthony of Padua

Born in Portugal, Anthony gave up a life of luxury to devote his life to prayer and study. When he preached, no church could hold the crowds. Because of what he said, parents and children made peace with each other; people who had told lies admitted them publicly and corrected them. His words were especially powerful because all knew that he practiced what he preached.

They pray best who do not know that they are praying. - Saint Anthony of Padua

Flag Day is celebrated Wednesday, June 14,

commemorating the adoption of the flag of the United States which took place this day in 1777. All U.S. citizens are urged to fly the American flag.





Saturday, June 10 -- Vigil: Body & Blood of Christ

4:00 pm-F (M) Steve Tretinik (Daughter, Elaine Boyd) 6:00 pm-M (M) Gene & Nancy Barnhart (Hospitality Com)

Sunday, June 11 -- Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ

8:00 am-M (A) Pro Populo

9:30 am-F (A) Agnes Frost (Wally & Terri Frost) 11:30 am-M (M) Clarinda Tokish (Nancy Tokish)

Monday, June 12 -- Weekday

8:00 am-M Dorothy Rohol (Family)

Tuesday, June 13 -- Saint Anthony of Padua

8:00 pm-F Christine Balabon (Kathy Duhon)

Wednesday, June 14 -- Weekday

8:00 am-M Sam Bartoni (Dennis/Maureen Fabbri)

Thursday, June 15 -- Weekday

8:00 am-F Dolores Sofranko (Karen/Steve Stanish)

Friday, June 16 -- The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

8:00 am-M Tom Gorman (Daughter, Julia Dugan) 4:30-6:00 pm Adoration/Confessions in Masontown

Saturday, June 17 -- Vigil: 11th Ordinary Sunday

3-3:30 pm-F Confessions

4:00 pm-F (A) All Fathers, Living & Deceased

5:00-5:30 pm-M Confessions

6:00 pm-M (M) All Fathers, Living & Deceased

Sunday, June 18 -- 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am-M (M) All Fathers, Living & Deceased 9:30 am-F (M) All Fathers, Living & Deceased 11:30 am-M (A) All Fathers, Living & Deceased

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

Mass Readings for the Week Ahead

Monday: 2 Cor 1:1-7; Mt 5:1-12 Tuesday: 2 Cor 1:18-22; Mt 5:13-16 Wednesday: 2 Cor 3:4-11; Mt 5:17-19

Thursday: 2 Cor 3:15-4:1, 2-6; Mt 5:20-26

Friday: Dt 7:6-11; 1 Jn 4:7-16; Mt 11:25-30

Saturday: 2 Cor 5:14-21; Lk 2:41-51

Next Sunday: Ex 19:2-6; Rom 5:6-11; Mt 9:36-10:8

Question of the Week

How do I participate in Christ's mission? Do I recognize the strength that I receive in the Eucharist?



Eucharistic Adoration Friday, June 16, in Masontown

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

5:45-6:00 pm: Benediction



Today's Feast, The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi) celebrates the Real Presence of the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus in the elements of the Eucharist. Proposed by Saint Thomas Aquinas, Doctor of the Church, to Pope Urban IV in order to create a feast focused solely on the Holy Eucharist. At the conclusion of the Mass, there is a procession with the Blessed Sacrament.

We come together today to *receive* the Body and Blood of Christ, conscious of the fact that Jesus gave us His Body and Blood to sustain us and nourish us as we continue to carry out His mission. He is the *living bread come down from heaven*, the bread that is the flesh He gave for the life of the world, the bread that leads us all to eternal life. Let us give thanks to God - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit - for the unique and priceless gift of the Eucharist, to which we are invited *every* day.

Next Sunday is Father's Day

All Masses next weekend will be offered for our fathers, living and deceased, as a gift of love and gratitude. Please use the special envelope from your packets to remember your father this Father's Day. All envelopes will be placed on the altar during the five Masses.

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

† **Sanctuary** - *Steve Tretinik* requested by Elaine Boyd

† Blessed Mother - Agnes Frost requested by Roseanne, Eugene & Family

John Franczyk requested by his family

† **Saint Joseph** - *Joseph Stoffa* requested by daughter, Cheryl & Family

† Saint Anthony - Bruno W. Smith requested by his Brothers & Sisters

† Sacred Heart - Margaret Moore requested by Grandchildren & great-grandchildren



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