



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*



September 3, 2023

Rev. Dick Anthony Cortado
Administrator

dcortado@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



22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it." - Mt 16:24b-25

Father Anthony's Reflections
 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A)
 - Jer 20:7-9; Rom 12:1-2; Mt 16:21-27



In today's Gospel, Jesus reprimanded Peter for going against God's will with his own intentions. Peter seemed not to fully grasp the significance of his declaration about Jesus as the Son of God, as recounted in last Sunday's Gospel. Jesus then proceeded to teach them about the balance between earthly life and eternal life, emphasizing that the former should serve the latter.

Jeremiah, in the First Reading, came to this realization. God assured Jeremiah of His support if he followed His Word. Jeremiah had hesitations, but he felt a fervent conviction in his heart and an overwhelming urge to share it. He couldn't suppress it; he had to communicate it. Despite doing so, he faced considerable suffering, even receiving death threats. He questioned where God was and whether he had been deceived. Amidst feeling isolated and pursued, he was afraid, facing the consequences of his obedience to God.

St. Paul, in the Second Reading, encountered a similar fate. Upon his conversion, he devoted his life as an offering pleasing to God. He advised us to discern wisely and not conform blindly to the world's demands. Our lives should be guided by God's influence, giving up everything to Him. This isn't selfishness on God's part but rather the path to our salvation.

This underscores the importance of our standards. Jesus highlighted Peter's standards and quickly brought them to light. While we reside in this world, we don't fully belong to it. We're travelers on a journey to eternal life, tasked with proclaiming the Good News in this world. Like Jesus, we're called to infuse Christ's essence into the world. Through our actions, we embody His teachings, embracing God's standards in all our words and deeds.

Suffering, in essence, doesn't conclude within itself; it serves as a route towards magnificence. Jesus assumed the entirety of human suffering, reshaping it into a source of life-affirming significance. This is why we openly exhibit the crucifix rather than turning away from it. As we endeavor to alleviate suffering using appropriate methods, we also aspire to perceive it through the lens of God's viewpoint, seeking its underlying significance. Observing a crucifix serves as a reminder that God doesn't perceive suffering as something to evade relentlessly. He understands how to extract positivity from suffering.

OUR PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

Saint Francis of Assisi Parish is a Eucharistically-centered faith community whose life is formed by our baptismal commitment to Christ; is nourished by Scripture, Church teachings and the Sacraments; and is supported by membership in the worldwide church around us. It is a community made up of the former faith communities of All Saints, Holy Rosary, Madonna, Saint Mary, Saint Procopius and Saint Thomas. There is a long and rich history here where all are welcome, trust is present, risks for the kingdom of God are taken and the gifts of everyone are called forth. Under the patronage of Saint Francis of Assisi, we strive to be an instrument of peace and all that God calls us to be.

Faith Formation begins Sunday, September 17.

Faith Formation begins with four-year olds (Pre-K) and continues through the eighth grade Confirmation Class.

The Sacrament of First Eucharist is received in the second grade; however, students must have completed one year of preparation (Faith Formation or Catholic School) prior to being admitted to the First Eucharist Class.

The Sacrament of Confirmation is received in the eighth grade; however, students must have completed the Seventh Grade Confirmation Preparation Class (Faith Formation or Catholic School) prior to being admitted to the Confirmation Class.

If this requirement is not met, the student will be placed in the first grade or seventh grade preparatory class before being admitted to the corresponding Sacramental Class.

Classes take place each Sunday from 10:30 to 11:45 am at the Footedale Worship Site

Questions? kstavish@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Faith Formation Bowling Party Saturday, **September 9**, 4:30/6:30 pm at the Fairbank Bowling Center. This event is being sponsored by our Youth Ministry group in an effort to welcome back all Faith Formation students. Please join us!

Ever Thought About Becoming Catholic?

Since the Church's earliest days, there has always been a strong concern for those wanting to convert to Christianity. Conversion is a turning around of one's life. It is an abrupt life stop. We stop; take stock; change directions, and proceed. It is a process which takes time, formation, and ... above all, acceptance of God's grace.

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the process by which one becomes a member of our Catholic faith. The process not only teaches the Doctrine of the Church, but also explores its practices. The first step is the Period of Inquiry which is a time for searching, questioning, discussing and reflecting. No decision is required during this Period of Inquiry.

This Rite is designed for those who have never been baptized, those who have no church to call their own, Catholics who have been baptized but have not received Confirmation or Eucharist, those who would like to come into full communion with the church, Catholics who have strayed from their faith and would like to be reconnected. If you or someone you know is interested, please join us. Come and See! The Period of Inquiry begins **Sunday, September 10**, and takes place at **10am** at the Saint Benedict Learning Center in Masontown.

If you or someone you know is interested, please call the Parish Office - 724-583-7866 or email - sfoafayette@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Congratulations to our Newly Baptized



**Zoe Karpency Dyer and
Elle Karpency Dyer**

children of Zachary & Rachel (Karpency) Dyer
and

**Thomas Joseph Karpency and
Matilda Kate Karpency**

children of Thomas Jr. & Andrea (Humbert) Karpency
who were baptized Wednesday, August 30.

Welcome to the newest members
of our Parish Family.

NEIGHBORING EVENTS

The 89th Annual Pilgrimage in honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help takes place this weekend at Mount St. Macrina and features religious services & activities, reconciliation, education/enrichment sessions, counseling & bereavement, religious gifts, ethnic crafts & food.

Heritage Festival - Saturday, September 9, at Saint Hubert Church, Point Marion. The Festival begins with a Polka Mass at 4:00 pm with music by The Vibrations and continues until 9:00 pm. Join us for a day of fellowship, raffles, knife & scissor sharpening, children's games, craft store, bake sale, good food and dancing to the music of The Vibrations. Please join us!

3 Day Mission - September 10, 11 & 12

St. Therese de Lisieux Church, Uniontown
National acclaimed actor Frank Runyeon will perform the Gospel of Luke, explore the Sermon on the Mount and speak about Hollywood vs. Faith. Each performance is an hour long and will be held at 7:00 pm in St. Therese Church. Performances are free and family friendly but we ask that you please make a reservation at www.faysouth.org so that we can assure seats for all.

34th Annual Rosary Walk - Sunday, September 17

Beginning in the Garden of Prayer at St. George Church, Uniontown, at 2:00 pm. The intention of this walk will be "In Glory and Honor of Mary, the Mother of God."

Ethnic Food Festival hosted by Holy Transfiguration

Orthodox Church at the McClellandtown Fire Hall from Noon to 5pm on Sunday, **September 17**, featuring Cabbage Rolls, Pierogi, Haluski, Kielbasi, Chicken, Meatball Subs, Kids Meals, Homemade Baked Goods, Basket Raffle, TV Raffle, Chinese Auction & more.

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MASS SCHEDULE ©LPI

Saturday, September 2 -- Vigil: 22nd Ordinary Sunday

4:00 pm-F (M) Michael Reposky (Cindy Nichols)

4:00 pm-M (A) Outdoor Polka Mass 🎵 - Pro Populo

Sunday, September 3 -- 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am-M (M) Tom Pavlovich (Rick/Denise Bobincheck)

9:30 am-F (A) 50th Anniversary of M/M Bernard Kopec

11:30 am-M (A) Phil Griffith (Mother & Family)

Monday, September 4 -- Labor Day

8:00 am-M Mary Kay Richnafsky (Alice Richnafsky)

Tuesday, September 5 -- Weekday

8:00 pm-F Sophia Thomas (Eugene, Roseann, Family)

Wednesday, September 6 -- Weekday

8:00 am-M James Forrai (Betty Gorman)

Thursday, September 7 -- Weekday

8:00 am-F Michael Kudra (Eric/Lisa Amber/ Family)

Friday, September 8 -- Nativity of the Blessed Mother

8:00 am-M Donna Parish (SFOA Christian Mothers)

Saturday, September 9 -- Vigil: 23rd Ordinary Sunday

3-3:30 pm-F Confessions

4:00 pm-F Mary Matis (Mary Kay/Rusty Mumaw)

5:00-5:30 pm-M Confessions

6:00 pm-M Pro Populo

Sunday, September 10 -- 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am-M Irene O'Brien (AGHSA Board of Directors)

9:30 am-F Anna & Edward Shimshock (Trout/Mikel)

11:30 am-M David Fabbri (Dennis & Maureen Fabbri)

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

Mass Readings for the Week Ahead

Monday: 1 Thes 4:13-18; Lk 4:16-30

Tuesday: 1 Thes 5:1-11; Lk 4:31-37

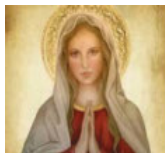
Wednesday: Col 1:1-8; Lk 4:38-44

Thursday: Col 1:9-14; Lk 5:1-11

Friday: Mi 5:1-4; Mt 1:1-23

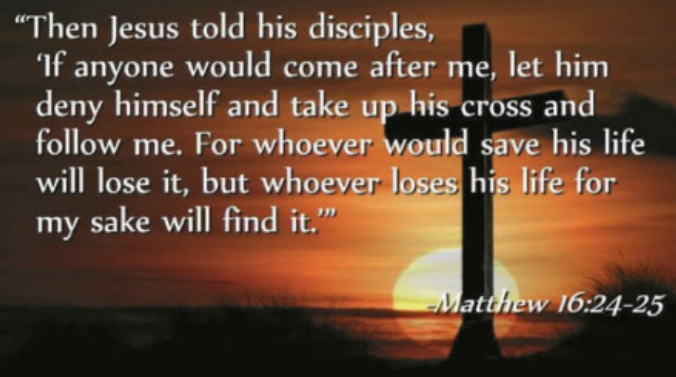
Saturday: Col 1:21-23; Lk 6:1-5

Next Sunday: Ez 33:7-9; Rom 13:8-10; Mt 18:15-20



HAPPY LABOR DAY

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Following the Lord means nothing less than the cross; offering ourselves with Jesus as a living sacrifice and not conforming ourselves to this world. Following Him will entail derision and scorn, yet the Lord is our help.

Today, as we honor all those whose labor enhances our lives and the lives of others, we recognize the holiness of the work we do. Whether we labor for an employer, for our families or both, we set aside our own desires to expend our time and effort to do something for others.

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells His disciples that they must deny themselves and take up their crosses.

We all have crosses that we are called to bear and some of them can be found in the work we must do for others. Let us strive to make the work that we do more closely unite us with Christ.

Question of the Week

In what ways do I find it difficult to deny my own desires, priorities and will to follow Christ? How can my faith in the resurrection ease my willingness to do so?

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

† **Sanctuary** - *Dorothy Rohol*
requested by her family

† **Blessed Mother** - 50th wedding anniversary
♥ of *Bernard & Karen Kopec*
requested by their children

Donna Parish
requested by Anita

† **Saint Joseph** - *Dolores Kovach*
requested by her family

† **Saint Anthony** - *Mary Louise Rudman*
requested by Philip Berisko

Mary Ann Suba
requested by A.J., Craig, Denise, Caden & Cole

† **Sared Heart** - *Henry & Bridget Bozak*
requested by daughters & sons

My loving family, Dad, Mom, Andrew & Marie
requested by Sis



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