



# Saint Francis of Assisi of Western Fayette County

ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

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

Bishop Larry J. Kulick, J.C.L.



## October 15, 2023

**Rev. Dick Anthony Cortado  
Administrator**

[dcortado@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:dcortado@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

### Masses in Masontown

Monday, Wednesday, Friday ..8:00 am  
Saturday .....6:00 pm  
Sunday..... 8:00 am & 11:30 am

**Confessions:** Saturday 5:00-5:30 pm

**Adoration:** First & Third  
Fridays - 4:30 to 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:** Second & Fourth  
Wednesdays - 12:30 to 2:00 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.

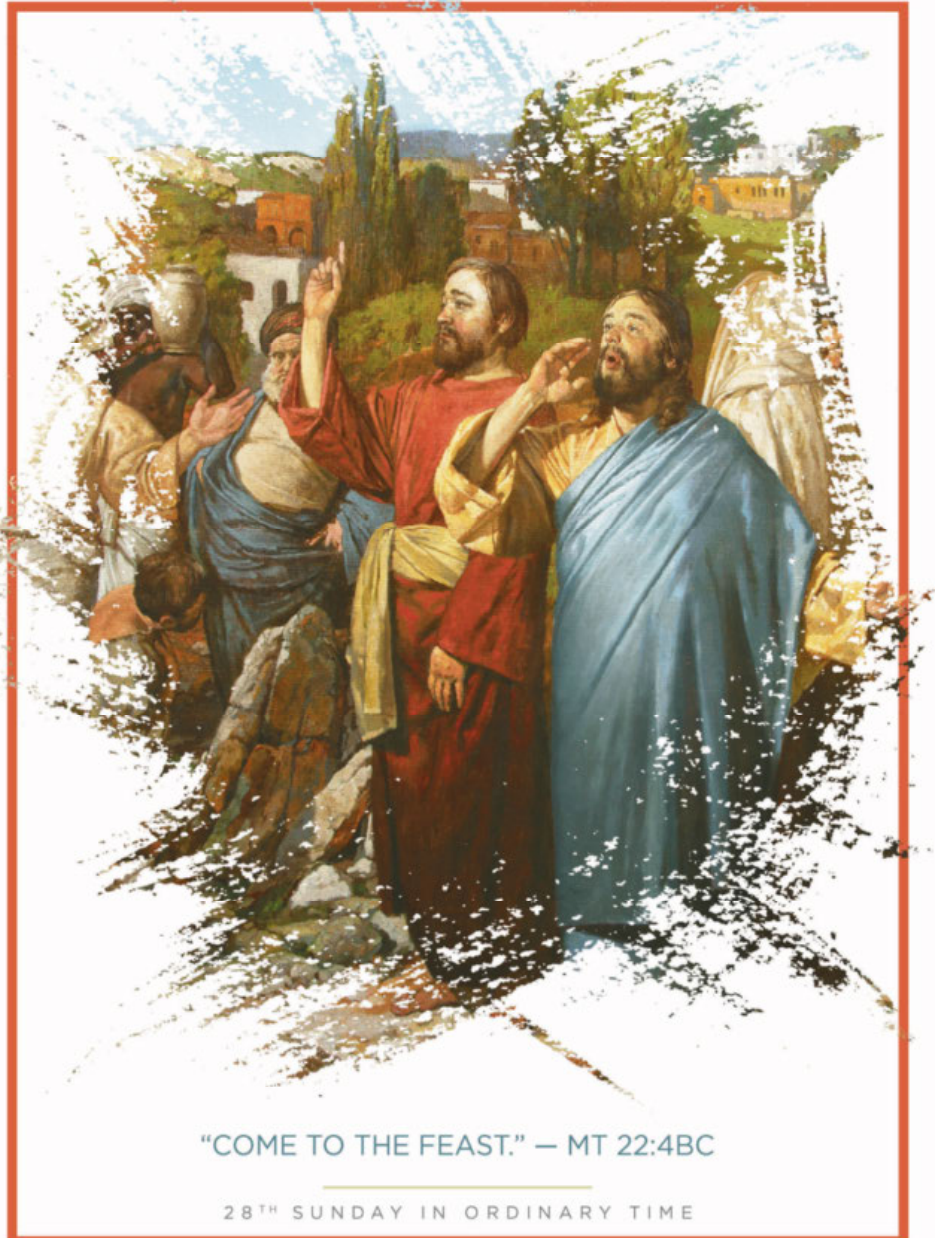
**Communion to the Homebound** is  
provided on a regular basis. Call the  
Parish Office to be added to our list.

**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



## Thoughts from Father Anthony



### 28<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A - (Mt. 22:1-10)

It is said that whenever opportunity knocks, instead of people getting off their feet to open the door, they complain about the noise. Life becomes a case of what-could have-been simply because we did not take seriously those moments of opportunities. Life is full of opportunities, but they are not always there forever. Either we seize them while we have the time and ability, or we reject them. If we choose the former, it is a decision to accept what opportunities may bring into our lives. If we choose the latter, it means we are not willing to undergo the obstacles relative in every opportunity. It is absolutely important to be sensitive to the leading of the Holy Spirit. If we pray sincerely and ask for the Spirit's guidance, He will lead us to the best decisions. The best decision may not be the easiest ones. Many times, they are the most difficult ones; however, the Holy Spirit gives us an unexplainable inner peace derived out of doing the right thing despite hardships.

To be worthy of the banquet of God's kingdom is not merely a matter of avoiding evil. Some of those invited to the wedding banquet were not necessarily evil people. They simply ignored the invitation either because they were not interested, or they were struck with what they thought were more important things. One went to his farm, and the other to his business. It seems unbelievable, but it does happen that we allow ourselves to lose much in order to gain so little and sometimes we never learn. We keep on pursuing worldly things as if they are all there is to life only to neglect the call of faith and involvement in God's kingdom. We work towards self-sufficiency in order to declare ourselves autonomous individuals, free from God's authority.

Here in today's Gospel there are three types of rejection of God's invitation. First are those who ignored the invitation and went away, one to his farm, another to his business. Second are those who laid off his servant, mistreated them, and killed them. Third are those who accepted the invitation of God but were not dressed in a wedding garment. Of course, there are others who do not only reject God's invitation but make a parody of God. They insult and even kill His messengers. They do not only spurn His authority but completely disregard the consequences of their actions. They fear neither God nor the last judgment of God.

We have to decide for ourselves if we want to avail ourselves of God's opportunities of grace because God respects our freedom. We have to work hard if we wish to possess the promise of everlasting life; however, condemnation is not a punishment but a consequence of our rejection to God's invitation.

We can see from today's first reading, final salvation was portrayed under the image of a banquet. "On this mountain the Lord of hosts will provide for all people a feast of rich food and choice wines, juicy, rich food and choice wines. The Lord will destroy death forever and wipe away every tear from face to face. Thus salvation entails a positive response to God's invitation. God wants all of us to be saved, He wants all of us to come to Him and experience His forgiving love. God invites us to unite ourselves to Him and enter into His friendship. God's invitation is given to all. God calls us regardless of our social position or social status. He calls us to come to Him regardless of our physical appearance or intellectual capacities; but how do we respond to His call? Now let us remember, once we answer, we have to adapt and align ourselves to His ways and His wishes. It is not enough to accept or to answer, we have to change our lifestyle, be contrite, and transform ourselves according to His plans for us. We have to participate faithfully. We have to act truthfully, we have to fulfill His will and His words completely and unconditionally. In doing so, we can exclaim "I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life."



### 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.

Do we know yet what the kingdom of God is like? In parable after parable, with increasing urgency, Jesus impels us to understand where the path of faith is leading and what obstacles we must overcome along our journey.

In the parable of the wedding feast, He cautions: once we accept God's invitation into His kingdom (once we become Christians), we still have work to do. Like the underdressed guest, we can still be judged unfit for the banquet. Our limited view may get in our way.

The complacency Jesus warns us about is defeated with deepened faith. The domestic church is where faith is organically grown and nurtured; if you do not already have one, start a family faith tradition such as a weekly Rosary or nightly prayer together.

**PARISH MEETINGS & EVENTS**

The **Hospitality Committee** meets at 6pm on Monday, **October 16**, at the cafeteria in Masontown to discuss upcoming events. New members are always welcome.

The **Formation / Evangelization Committee** meets at 6:00 pm on Monday, **October 16**, at the social hall in Footedale.

The regular monthly meeting of the SFOA **Golden Group** takes place Wednesday, **October 18**, at 11:30 am at the social hall in Footedale.

Lunch will be a "Columbus Day" spaghetti dinner with tossed salad, bread/butter and dessert. Cost is \$3. Come and enjoy some good food and fellowship!

**K of C Pie Sale** continues with **final paid orders due by October 27**. Delivery date is November 7. Order forms are available at the Church entrances and can be returned through the collection basket.

**BINGO - Sunday, October 29** - 2:00 to 5:00 pm at the cafeteria in Masontown hosted by the Hospitality Committee. Admission of \$7 per person includes lunch.

Come dressed in costume for a special "treat." Sign up sheets are located at the entrances of both worship sites. Deadline to register is October 24.

**Vendor Show - Sunday, October 22**

10:00 am to 4:00 pm at the social hall in Footedale. Vendors, Bargain Corner, Chinese Auction, and food will be available.

**Parish Cash Bash - Sunday, November 5**

at the social hall in Footedale. Doors open at 2pm; 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 Monday through Friday, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.



**The Blessing of Pets - Wednesday, October 4, 2023**  
on the Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi, our patron

**THE CONFESSIONAL** is a familiar setting in literature and drama. Everyone from Doestoevsky and Shakespeare has used the sacrament to tragic or comic effect or to reveal aspects of character otherwise hidden. All of this has had a numbing effect on our own expectations, yet the artists are on to something. The reconciliation chapel is a place where hearts are laid bare, where honesty is the watchword, and people confess their deepest needs. It is also a place of rebirth, or at least realignment. It is, like the baptismal font, a place where something dies, and where something else is born. Today, although literature has barely caught up, the place is usually not the dark and gloomy cabinet of old; rather it is a chapel that speaks of peace, serenity, and the comfort of a welcome home. People in one parish were astonished recently to see their children skipping with delight as they left the place of their first confession. We have to wait a bit for world literature to catch up with this reality, but at least we can experience the joy of penance, the thrill of a new beginning, the assurance of God's love.



### MISSION CO-OP APPEAL

Each year the parishes of the Diocese of Greensburg are asked to support a particular mission with our prayers and financial support. **This year we are asked to support the DIOCESE of SICUANI.**

Bishop William G. Connare initiated the Diocese of Greensburg's support for Sicuani as its *Sister Diocese* in 1963 in response to the Vatican II call for dioceses in North America and Europe to send priests to Central and South America. The diocese sent priests to Sicuani until the 1980s and now supports the prelature with prayers and financial support.

Formed on January 10, 1959 by Saint Pope John XXIII, its first three bishops were from the United States and Canada. Sicuani is 2 1/2 hours south of the Inca city of Cusco in the Andes Mountains and consists of four of the poorest regions in Peru. The majority of the people are farmers descended from the Incas and are scattered throughout the mountainous terrain with few paved roads to facilitate travel. They mostly raise corn, potatoes, llamas, alpacas, sheep and cows. The population is 86% Catholic, but many are in areas that are so remote they are visited by a priest to celebrate Mass just once a year.

*Lumen Gentium* (Light to the Nations), one of the foundational documents of the Second Vatican Council, teaches us that, as Catholics, we are all missionaries. May you feel the gratitude of all the People of God in the Diocese of Sicuani for whatever you can share with God's precious poor. Special **Mission Cooperation Plan** envelopes are provided for your generous response.

The goodness and mercy of God are gifts that He wants to share with each one of us, but we have to be ready to receive them. Let's be prepared for whatever the Lord will ask of us this week.

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## The Practice of Stewardship

In today's second reading, Saint Paul thanks the Philippians for being willing to share in his hardships and promises that God, in turn, will fully supply all their needs. Our God truly cannot be outdone in generosity!

### Stewardship of Treasure

**October 8:** \$6,081; loose \$438; monthly \$1,702; children \$12; online \$352; Accent \$20; total \$8,605

**Our parish is grateful for your continued support!**

**Thank you to the Knights of Columbus** for their generous donation of \$400 to our Faith Formation and Youth Ministry Programs. May God bless you!

**Never Miss a Bulletin!** Sign up to have our weekly bulletin emailed to you at [www.parishesonline.com](http://www.parishesonline.com)

The **Saint Vincent College Concert Series** presents "*Lyrical Impressionism: French Art Songs*" with soprano Dr. Caryn Greco, Visiting Professor of Voice at Saint Vincent College. Dr. Greco will perform art songs by the great French impressionist composers Claude Debussy, Gabriel Faure, Reynaldo Hahn, Maurice Ravel, and others. **Sunday, October 15, at 3:00 pm** in the **Verostko Center for the Arts** at Saint Vincent College, Latrobe. Admission is free and all are welcome.

**41<sup>st</sup> Annual Carpatho-Rusyn Celebration**  
Sunday, **October 29**, Noon to 5pm at St. John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic Church Social Hall in Uniontown.  
Divine Liturgy at 3pm concelebrated by Fr. Vasyl Symyon and guest homilist, Fr. Mitch Pacwa of EWTN.  
There will be ethnic foods (holubki, halushki, pirohi, pagach, kolbasa & kraut) baked goods, entertainment by the Rusyn Folk musical group "Rusynsky Betjare" throughout the afternoon; presentations on Rusyn culture/customs, a church tour, displays, crafts, raffles, parish cookbooks, extensive bake sale, folk art demonstrations, children's activities. All are welcome!

**Iconography Workshop with Peter Pearson**  
**November 16-19 at St. John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic Church in Uniontown.**  
During this workshop participants will paint an icon from start to finish and learn a little about the history, spirituality and aesthetics of byzantine iconography. No previous art experience is required just a willingness to try something new.  
For more information, call Marko at 1-410-852-2249 or email: [ikon71355@gmail.com](mailto:ikon71355@gmail.com)

**High School & Young Adult Priesthood Discernment**  
*The Melchizedek Project* is designed for high school and young adult-aged men who would like to grow in their understanding of how to discern a vocation and learn more about the priesthood. Each gathering involves prayer, discussion on a specific topic related to priesthood, and dinner. For information, visit [greensburgpriest.org](http://greensburgpriest.org)

# MASS SCHEDULE ©LPI

**Saturday, October 14 -- Vigil: 28<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Sunday**  
 4:00 pm-F *Helen Pollick (Jimmy,Bobby,Cindy,Sharon)*  
 6:00 pm-M Pro Populo

**Sunday, October 15 -- 28<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
 8:00 am-M Beatrice Deli Dyer (John/Kathy Pleban)  
 9:30 am-F *Renne Kremposky (SFOA Faith Formation)*  
 11:30 am-M Donna Waslousky (Betti)

**Monday, October 16 -- Weekday**  
 8:00 am-M George & Elizabeth Parish (Dtr Mary Anne)

**Tuesday, October 17 -- Saint Ignatius of Antioch**  
 8:00 pm-F *Hedwig (Edith) Horvath (Bozak Family)*

**Wednesday, October 18 -- Saint Luke, Evangelist**  
 8:00 am-M Deceased of Rosnack Family (Ken)

**Thursday, October 19 -- Weekday**  
 8:00 am-F *Joseph Thomas (Eugene/Roseanne/Family)*

**Friday, October 20 -- Saint Paul of the Cross**  
 8:00 am-M Agnes Frost (Louise/Jenifer Wesolowsky)  
 4:30-6:00 pm-M Adoration / Confessions

**Saturday, October 21 -- Vigil: 29<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Sunday**  
 3-3:30 pm-F *Confessions*  
 4:00 pm-F *Mary & Casimer Glodziak (Mary J Ranney)*  
 5:00-5:30 pm-M Confessions  
 6:00 pm-M Patrick Krokus (Parents)

**Sunday, October 22 -- 29<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
 8:00 am-M William Santella (John & Carol DelGrosso)  
 9:30 am-F *Joe Sawyers (Mary Rose Whitaker/Fam)*  
 11:30 am-M Pro Populo

## Mass Readings for the Week Ahead

Monday: Rom 1:1-7; Lk 11:29-32  
 Tuesday: Rom 1:16-25; Lk 11:37-41  
 Wednesday: 2 Tm 4:10-17; Lk 10:1-9  
 Thursday: Rom 3:21-30; Lk 11:47-54  
 Friday: Rom 4:1-8; Lk 12:1-7  
 Saturday: Rom 4:13-18; Lk 12:8-12  
 Next Sunday: Is 45:1-6; 1 Thes 1:1-5; Mt 22:15-21

**Question of the Week:** How can God's generosity give me peace of mind through difficult times?



## Eucharistic Adoration

**Friday, October 20, 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 we hear Jesus tell the story of a king who invites everyone he can find to a feast for his son. Today and every Sunday, everyone is invited here to a feast where we receive God's Son. Many Sundays we take this invitation for granted or see it only as an obligation. Let this be an opportunity to be reminded that the Eucharist is a feast, that God's Son offers Himself for us each time, and that this is just a foretaste of the heavenly banquet to come.

The first reading for this Sunday is frequently used at funerals. As November and the observance of the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed come closer, pray that those who have died may enter God's kingdom.

**You Are Invited to a Mass and Blessing of the Vocation Chapel of Southern Fayette County** (located at St. Therese Church) at 6:00 pm on Wednesday, **October 18**, at St. Therese Church. Bishop Larry J. Kulick will be the celebrant.

Parishioners from all parishes are invited to come and pray for an increase in vocations in our diocese and throughout the world.

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

- † **Sanctuary - World Peace**
- † **Blessed Mother - Theresa Cassidy** requested by Rosalie Sabatelli
- † **Saint Joseph - Wally Suba** requested by Helen Sofranko
- † **Sacred Heart - Pete & Mary Rohol** requested by their family



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