



Saint Francis of Assisi of Western Fayette County

ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

101 West Church Avenue, Masontown, Pennsylvania 15461

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

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



October 29, 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: First & Third
Fridays - 4:30 to 6:00 pm

Masses in Footedale

Tuesday & Thursday8:00 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



30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**"You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart,
with all your soul, and with all your mind." - Mt 22:37**

Thoughts from Father Anthony

**30th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A - (Mt. 22:34-40)**

Two friends wanted to become painters. Both of them, however, were poor, so one of them proposed: "I shall work so that I can support your studies. When you become an accomplished painter yourself, then it's your turn to assist me in my studies."

After a long while, the one who studied finally became a famous painter. He told his friend: "I am now a successful artist. Stop working because it is your time to learn" but his friend replied: It is too late for me to be a painter and he showed him his deformed and callous hands. Unknown to his friend, he spent years of hard labor in a quarry carrying heavy stones.

When the artist friend was to paint an image of Christ deep in prayer, he got his friend as a model. The painting is the famous "Praying Christ" or Praying Hands. The one who devoted his life working for his friend became the perfect embodiment of Christ praying with great love.

Sunday after Sunday, we are gathered in our church to pray to God. During the offertory, the popular notion is to offer to Him our money in the collections but we offer, too, all that we are and all that we have - our pains, our hurts, our sacrifices, the struggles of the past week. We lift them up to God's altar as we prepare the simple bread and wine that become, in consecration, the very body and blood of Christ. These are raised to the Father who accepts them as a worthy offering of His children. Our emptiness and helplessness in the offertory will be transformed into a celebration of joy and fullness in the holy communion. We shall receive no less than our Lord who communes with our life and suffering for the rest of the days of the week. We learn from the Old Testament that the chosen people must give a tithe of ten percent to God. In the book of Leviticus, one tenth of all the produce of the earth or the fruits of trees belongs to Yahweh. In all tithes of flock and herd, the tenth animal of all that pass under the herdsman's staff shall be a thing dedicated to Yahweh. In the New Testament, ten percent is never enough. We should give to God one hundred percent.

Christ didn't say we should give one tenth of our heart, our soul, and our mind to God, He said: "Love the Lord your God with your whole heart, with your whole soul, and with all your mind." We cannot fulfill the New Law if we go to church for only one hour once a week. This doesn't mean we should live inside the church. The essence of the provision is to put the love of God in everything that we do. "Whatever you do, do it wholeheartedly, working for the Lord". It is a time of unity of faith and life; a time of linking worship and love. When Christ spoke that we should love God and we should love our neighbor, He did not say that they were the same thing; rather, they are two sides of one coin inseparable from each other. When fathers toil hard to support their family; when mothers have to wake up early to prepare the breakfast for their children; when a son or daughter is supporting an ailing parent; when professionals and employees are serving their fellowmen with dedication; when farmers and fishermen are selflessly producing food for others; all of them perform acts of love service to their neighbors that they offer to God as well.

When we go to church, we do not present to God our wealth, influence, and academic degrees, we are here to obtain mercy. We are to give first our acts of mercy to others. We want to show our love to God. We are to lift up first those occasions wherein we manifested love to our fellowmen. Perhaps our hands became dirty this week because we have done menial chores for our family and others. Our bodies may be dead tired because we have tried to help others in their need. Our eyes may have eye bags because we cried with a relative or friend. Our hearts may be aching because of an unloving spouse or child. Stretch them all out to God and offer them with our Lord's offering to His Father. This is what praying with love truly means. A child once said to his mother: "You are the prettiest woman in the world except for your hands. What ugly hands you have." The father heard it, and sensing how his wife felt, said to the child: "I'm going to tell you a story: One night a little child was asleep in his cradle, and somehow the cradle caught fire. The nurse ran out of the room, but the mother pushed in and with her delicate hands put out the fire and saved the child. Those hands suffered terrible burns: when they finally healed, the hands were ..." the child did not wait for the end of the story. He ran out to his mother and reaching for her scarred hands, kissed them, saying: I'm sorry, Mother. You have the most beautiful hands in the world.

The commandment of Jesus reminds us to prioritize love. Be conscious of making it the main reason for living and being because when there is love there is God. Finally we may say, I love you, Lord, my strength.



The **Feasts of All Saints and All Souls** give us the opportunity to remember the vast **Communion of Saints** who have preceded us. Some are officially proclaimed holy men and women by the church; others we know from our experience of the holiness of their lives.

On **November 1**, the Church celebrates the **Feast of All Saints**, a feast that reminds us all of our call to holiness and anticipates the glory of the new and heavenly Jerusalem by celebrating the memory of those who have lived our faith to its fullest. Take time for some spiritual networking by seeking the counsel and insight of the saints, they are present to us especially in the stories of their lives. Begin a tradition of reading about the lives of the saints. Start with the story of the saint whose name you bear, practiced your profession or shared your hardships. The wisdom of the saints is there for our benefit.

Masses for this Holy Day of Obligation are:

Wednesday, **November 1, 12:00 pm** (Noon)
in Footedale and **6:00 pm** in Masontown

Let us rejoice in all the men and women, blest in the eyes of the Lord, who celebrate the heavenly liturgy. They stand in God's holy place and sing of the love the Father has bestowed upon them through the blood of the Lamb.

The Diocesan and Parish Offices will be closed this day.

Mass of Remembrance and Candle Ceremony

On **Thursday, November 2**, we will remember all the faithful departed with a special emphasis on those who were buried from our parish since last November 1st during a special Mass in Footedale at **6:00 pm**.

All are invited to attend, most especially the families of these deceased parishioners.

Additionally, a Mass for **All the Faithful Departed** will be celebrated in Masontown this day at 12:00 pm.

It is a holy and pious thought to pray for the dead.

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

During the month of November we are called to remember our brothers and sisters who have fallen asleep in the hope of the resurrection. A **Book of Remembrance** is located in the Sanctuary at both worship sites in which you are invited to inscribe the names of your beloved dead who will be remembered in prayer during this month.



The month of November is dedicated to the Poor Souls

Through the prayers and sacrifices of the faithful, the souls in Purgatory are freed from the punishments due to their forgiven sins. The Poor Souls who will one day enter heaven can pray for the faithful on earth.

Pray for the Poor Souls!

O Gentle Heart of Jesus, ever present in the Blessed Sacrament, ever consumed with burning love for the poor captive souls in purgatory, have mercy on them. Let some drops of Your Precious Blood fall upon the devouring flames and send your Angels to conduct them to a place of refreshing light and peace.

The November prayer intention is **For the Pope**. We pray for the Holy Father: as he fulfills his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit

BINGO - Sunday, October 29 - 2:00 to 5:00 pm.

October Food Collection



During the month of October, we are collecting non-perishable food items to share with our local food banks. If you have these items to donate, please place them in the boxes located at both worship sites **this week**. This project is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus who thank you for your support.

PARISH CASH BASH - Sunday, November 5

at the social hall in Footedale. Doors open at 2pm; drawings begin at 2:30 pm 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 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Coffee & Donuts will be available after all Masses next Sunday, **November 5**, in Masontown only. Please stop by the cafeteria after Mass and join us!

Coffee and donuts in Footedale is postponed this month due to the Cash Bash that day.

Paper Products to share with our local food banks will be collected next weekend. If you have these items to donate, please place them in the designated receptacles. Thank you for your care of those in need.



Parish Sympathy is expressed to the family of
† **Mary Catherine (Ketchel) Fotta**
who was buried Thursday, October 26. May God
grant to her eternal life and comfort her family.

We are to love the Lord with our whole heart and our
neighbor as ourselves. By thus fulfilling these
two great commandments, we hope to become models
of faith and imitators of the Lord who gave
Himself totally for our sakes.

News From the Diocese of Greensburg

With joy and thanksgiving to God, the Diocese of Greensburg announces that Bishop Larry J. Kulick has called **Mr. Kevin Richardson** to be admitted to Candidacy for Holy Orders. Archbishop Nelson J. Perez will confer the Rite of Admission to Candidacy within Mass at 10:00 am on Saturday, November 4, in the Saint Martin Chapel at Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary, Wynnewood, Pennsylvania.

Please keep Kevin in your prayers as he continues his formation and discernment for holy orders. In addition, please continue to pray for all people discerning God's call throughout our diocese.

The Practice of Stewardship

We fulfill the commandment to love our neighbor when we exercise good stewardship - joyfully sharing our gifts of life, abilities, and resources to meet our neighbor's need.

We are excited to showcase our new **Giving QR Code**. Located on the front page of our bulletin, scanning it gives you a direct link to our OSV online giving site.

Thank you for the following memorial donations:
St Francis of Assisi Parish
in memory of *Theresa A. Cassidy*
by her family
Saint Agnes Cemetery
in memory of *Theresa A. Cassidy*
by Gene & Evelyn Burchianti

Stewardship of Treasure

October 22: \$5,331; loose \$483; monthly \$605; children \$8; online \$272 totaling \$6,699
Mission Co-Op Appeal (Diocese of Sicutani) \$1,084
Mission Sunday Appeal \$832

Our parish is grateful for your support!

The Miracle of Christmas
Sight & Sound Bus Trip Basic Itinerary
Thursday, November 9
8:30 am - Depart SFOA parking lot Footedale
9:00 am - Depart Uniontown Mall
Rest Stop Only
1:30-3:00 pm - Miller's Smorgsbord
4:00 pm - Miracle of Christmas Show
11:00 pm - Approximate Arrival Uniontown Mall
11:30 pm - Approximate arrival SFOA Footedale

Neighboring Events

41st 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!

I.A.C.C. Spaghetti Dinner - Sunday, November 5
11:00 am to 5:00 pm at the Italian Club Hall in Masontown. Eat in or take out; the cost is \$10.

Geibel Catholic Junior-Senior High School Sports Boosters Spaghetti Dinner - Sunday, November 5, 11am to 4pm.
Adults \$12; children 10 & under \$5. Advance purchase is preferred but not required by calling 724-628-5600.
Dinner includes: spaghetti with marinara or meat sauce, salad with dressing, bread and a dessert. All proceeds benefit Geibel Catholic Sports Boosters.

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MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, October 28 -- Vigil: 30th Ordinary Sunday

4:00 pm-F Pro Populo
6:00 pm-M August & Sarah Vittone (Family)

Sunday, October 29 -- 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am-M Joseph M. Matyus Jr. (Kormanik Family)
9:30 am-F Mary Coppolino (Italian Mardi Gras Stand)
11:30 am-M Donna Parish (Hospitality Committee)

Monday, October 30 -- Weekday

8:00 am-M Janice Rocek (Joyce Rocek)

Tuesday, October 31 -- Weekday

8:00 am-F Joan & Paul Cech Sr. (Son, Kevin)

Wednesday, November 1 -- ALL SAINTS DAY

12:00 pm-F Elaine Rosnack (Husband, Ken)
6:00 pm-M Pro Populo

Thursday, November 2 -- ALL SOULS DAY

12:00 pm-M All the Faithful Departed
6:00 pm-F Mass of Remembrance

Friday, November 3 -- Saint Martin de Porres

8:00 am-M Paul Verska (Brother, Tom & Agnes)
4:30-6:00 pm-M Adoration - (NO Confession)

Saturday, November 4 -- Vigil: 31st Ordinary Sunday

3-3:30 pm-F Confessions
4:00 pm-F Bruno W. Smith (Brothers & Sisters)
5:00-5:30 pm-M Confessions
6:00 pm-M Joe & Katie Furayter (Mihallik Family)

Sunday, November 5 -- 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am-M Theresa Galluzzo (Mom & Dad)
9:30 am-F Marty Check (Daughters)
11:30 am-M Pro Populo

Mass Readings for the Week Ahead

Monday: Rom 8:12-17; Lk 13:10-17
Tuesday: Rom 8:18-25; Lk 13:18-21
Wednesday: Rv 7:2-14; 1 Jn 3:1-3; Mt 5:1-12
Thursday: Wis 3:1-9; Rom 5:5-11; Jn 6:37-40
Friday: Rom 9:1-5; Lk 14:1-6
Saturday: Rom 11:1-29; Lk 14:1-11
Next Sunday: Mal 1:14-2:2-10; 1 Thes 2:7-13; Mt 23:1-12

Remember to set your clocks BACK one hour before retiring on Saturday, November 4



We are reminded in today's Gospel what Jesus considered to be the greatest commandments: "Love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind" and "Love your neighbor as yourself."

Let us renew our commitment to these commandments, resolving to follow them each and every day. Let us lift our voices in praise of our God, whose greatest command is simply to love.

God became human to show us that only love can change the world. Let's not just believe in that love - let's be that love, each and every day.



Eucharistic Adoration

Friday, November 3, in Masontown

4:30-5:30 pm: Exposition (no Confession)
5:30-5:45 pm: Chaplet of Divine Mercy
5:45-6:00 pm: Benediction

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

† **Sanctuary** - *Edward & Irene Kubica*
requested by their family

George Yasenosky
requested by daughter, Linda & Family

† **Blessed Mother** - *Augustine Aello Sr.*
requested by wife Edith, children, grandchildren

Irene Kubica
requested by her family

† **Saint Joseph** - *Anthony & Patricia Pikulski*
requested by their family

Melvin John Lovis
requested by wife Barbara & children

† **Saint Anthony** - *Toby R. Maykuth*
requested by Drew Colebank/Colebank Family

† **Sacred Heart** - *Bruno W. Smith*
requested by his brothers & sisters



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