

Rev. Dick Anthony Cortado Administrator dcortado@dioceseofgreensburg.org

#### Masses in Masontown

#### **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

## Saint Francis of Assisi of Western Fayette County

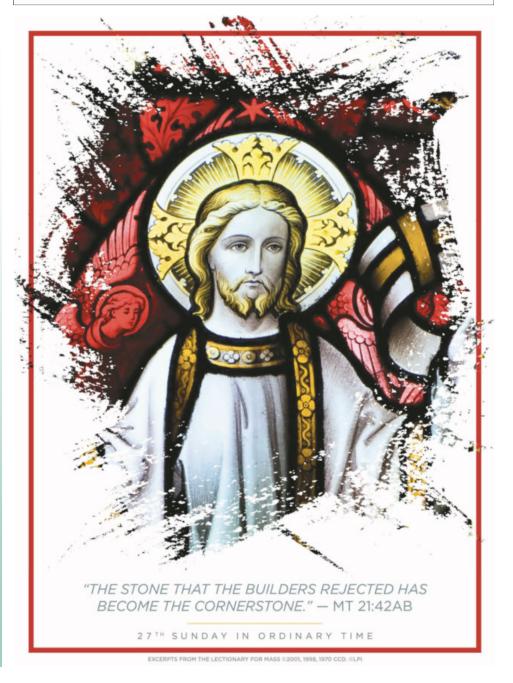
## ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

101 West Church Avenue, Masontown, Pennsylvania 15461 Phone: 724-583-7866 email: sfoafayette@dioceseofgreensburg.org Website: www.sfoafayette.org

> A Parish of the Diocese of Greensburg A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust Bishop Larry J. Kulick, J.C.L.



## **October 8, 2023**



## Thoughts from Father Anthony



## 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A (Mt. 21: 33-43)

It can happen that a farm is nonproductive for at least two different reasons; either because its soil is poor or because it is badly administered. The basic truth forms the background of today's first reading and the Gospel. In both readings a common metaphor is used, the metaphor of a vineyard representing a people. In both readings it represents the people of the land of promise. In the first reading the vineyard is nonproductive and brings forth only wild grapes because of its poor soil. In straight language the prophet Isaiah is saying here that, despite God's special care for the people of Israel, that people's response has been wholly disappointing.

In the gospel reading there is a slight shift in the lesson intended by Jesus. In his use of the metaphor of the vineyard, the problem is not the vineyard (that is, the people of God), but the tenant farmers who till the vineyard (that is, the religious leaders of Israel). They mismanage the vineyard by refusing to administer it honestly. They want to monopolize the grapes for their own selfish purposes instead of sharing them with the owner of the vineyard. In straight language Jesus is saying here that the leaders of His people have been unfaithful to their mandate: instead of welcoming the ministry of John the Baptist and the proclamation of Jesus they have rejected both. Therefore their leadership over the people will be taken over by the church and her leaders. Now no doubt this parable was aimed primarily at the enemies of Jesus, the chief priests and elders of the people, to whom it was addressed. However, a parable can have several applications. Perhaps this one can have something to say to us.

What can we see about ourselves? We are also the tenants in today's parable. We are called to work. We are given greater responsibility for service. But there is no difficulty of working. Why? The tenants have everything. The vineyard is well maintained. The tenants are well provided. There are already the hedge, the wine press, and the tower. Thus, everything is well taken cared of. Thus, we are all privileged workers. In our life, God is always giving us works to do. God is giving us all the means to accomplish those works like what he did for the tenants. God is always giving us loads to carry. But he also equips us with the necessary ways to carry and lighten our burdens. What a privilege? But what happened? Because of their violence and their mistreatment of God's messenger, the Kingdom of God will be taken away from the "tenants" who were challenged to produce the fruit that God expects. The parable challenges us also the necessity of bearing "Good Fruit". Bearing fruit means we advocate justice and peace, love and kindness, and being humble and compassionate, so that when people see our good deeds, they will glorify our Heavenly Father. There will be fruit by experiencing harmony. According to proverbs, " A harvest of Peace is produced from the seed of Contentment."

At any rate, "when we need to bear fruit, we need to be pruned". What does it means to be pruned? We need to be detached from the things unnecessary. We need to eliminate the blocks in the process of bearing fruit. We need to remote the destruction of being fruitful. We need to sacrifice. Accordingly, anything beyond what we need is poison. It can be power, laziness, food, ego, ambition, pride, vanity, fear, anger, hate, jealousy, dishonesty, lust, selfishness and whatever. We should remote the unnecessary and put on the necessary.

In the Second Reading, St. Paul admonishes the Philippians in these words: "Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing what you have learned and received and heard and seen in me. Then the God of peace will be with you." Therefore we need God and in doing so we will be fruitful and peaceful.



## **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.



## Feast of Saint John XXIII - October 11

Born of a farming family in Sotto il Monte in northern Italy in 1881, Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli was ordained a priest in 1904. After serving in World War I as a stretcher-bearer, he was later made national director of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. In 1925 he became a papal diplomat, serving in Bulgaria, Turkey and

France. With the help of Germany's ambassador to Turkey, he helped save an estimated 24,000 Jewish people during World War II. Named a cardinal and appointed Patriarch of Venice in 1953 by Pope Pius XII, he was elected pope in 1958 at age seventy-eight. He took the name John after his father and the two patrons of Rome's cathedral, St. John Lateran. He convoked (1959) the Second Vatican Council (1962-65). "Good Pope John" died of stomach cancer June 3, 1963. His feast day, October 11, recalls the day of the first session of the Second Vatican Council. Declared a Blessed in 2000, he was canonized, together with Pope John Paul II, by Pope Francis on April 27, 2014. Saint John XXIII, pray for us!

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.

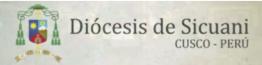
**BINGO - Sunday, October 29 -** 2:00 to 5:00 pm at the cafeteria in Masontown hosted by the Hospitality Committee. Admission of \$7 per person includes lunch. Come dressed in costume for a special "treat." Sign up sheets are located at the entrances of both worship sites. Deadline to register is October 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. Stewardship of Treasure October 1: \$6,501; loose \$570; monthly \$570; online \$307; totaling \$8,113 Social Ministry \$311 Our parish is grateful for your support!



## **October Food Collection**

During the month of October, we will be 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 project is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus who thank you for your support.



## **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

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.



# CHARISTIC SZOR October Faithful Challenge: Support the Unborn

2022

PEVINA

Bishop Kulick's October Faithful Challenge is to support the unborn. The parish is truly Catholic when it proclaims the Gospel, lives through service to others, as well as when each member of the faith community reflects on Catholic social teaching and puts that teaching into practice. Considering participating in Respect Life events throughout October, pray for the unborn and visit TheAccentOnline.org to read Bishop Kulick's Respect Life Message.

## **USCCB** Prayer for Life

Father and maker of all. you adorn all creation with splendor and beauty. and fashion human lives in your image and likeness. Awaken in every heart reverence for the work of your hands, and renew among your people a readiness to nurture and sustain your precious gift of life. Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit. God forever and ever. Amen

DioceseofGreensburg.org/EucharisticRevival

THE FAIL FRANK

# **MASS** SCHEDULE

## Saturday, October 7 -- Vigil: 27<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Sunday

4:00 pm-FJohn V. Shinsky Jr. (Parents Rob/Judy Carpeal)6:00 pm-MPaul Krokus Jr. (Mom & Dad)

## Sunday, October 8 -- 27<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am-MJames Maher (Bill & Elaine Hruska)9:30 am-FWanda Valusek (Nadia & Joe Novotny)11:30 am-MPro Populo (Youth Ministry Mass)

### Monday, October 9 -- Weekday

8:00 am-M Sam Bartoni (Regis Bozek/Becky Marin)

### Tuesday, October 10 -- Weekday

8:00 pm-F No Mass - Priest Convocation

Wednesday, October 11 -- Saint John XXIII 8:00 am-M No Mass - Priest Convocation

## Thursday, October 12 -- Weekday

8:00 am-F No Mass - Priest Convocation

### Friday, October 13 -- Weekday

8:00 am-M Charles Rohol (Family)

## Saturday, October 14 -- Vigil: 28<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Sunday

10:00 am-FFuneral Mass of Irene Kubica3-3:30 pm-FConfessions4:00 pm-FHelen Pollick (Jimmy,Bobby,Cindy,Sharon)5:00-5:30 pm-MConfessions6:00 pm-MPro PopuloSunday, October 15 -- 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am-MBeatrice Deli Dyer (John/Kathy Pleban)9:30 am-FRenne Kremposky (SFOA Faith Formation)11:30 am-MDonna Waslousky (Betti)

## Mass Readings for the Week Ahead

Monday: Tuesday: Wednesday:	Jon 1:1-2:2, 11; Lk 10:25-37 Jon 3:1-10; Lk 10:38-42 Jon 4:1-11; Lk 11:1-4	COLUMBUS
Thursday:	Mal 3:13-20b; Lk 11:5-13	-DAY-
Friday:	JI 1:13-15; 2:1-2; Lk 11:15-26	
Saturday:	Jl 4:12-21; Lk 11:27-28	
Next Sunday: Is 25:6-10; Phil 4:12-20; Mt 22:1-14		

# Please Note: There will be no morning Mass this Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

Father Anthony, along with the priests of the Diocese of Greensburg, will gather together with Bishop Kulick for the annual Priest Convocation.

Please remember them in your prayers.



Like the last few Sundays, the readings today speak of a vineyard. It is an excellent time of year to contemplate a vineyard, vines heavy with grapes waiting to be harvested but when Jesus speaks in parables each element stands for something else.

The vineyard we are invited to contemplate today is not just a large field planted with vines, but our very home in the Lord. The fruit it produces is not just grapes or wine, but the kingdom of God made manifest in our world. Let us resolve to be productive servants in the Lord's vineyard.

## *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** - *Sylvia Volk* requested by her family

*Irene Kubica* requested by her family

My dear sister, Marge Jacobs

+ Blessed Mother - *Hedwig (Edith) Horvath* requested by Bozak nieces & nephews

*Irene Kubica* requested by her family

+ Saint Joseph - Charles Rohol requested by his family

+ Saint Anthony - Mary Ann Suba requested by A.J., Craig, Denise, Caden, Cole

<sup>+</sup> **Sacred Heart** - *Bishop Kulick and the Clergy of the Diocese of Greensburg* 



4-D-5-3 For ad info. call 1-800-477-4574 • www.4lpi.com