

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.



November 12, 2023



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

Thoughts from Father Anthony





32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year A (Mt. 25:1-13)

The response of the bridegroom reveals a very important aspect of faith, "*Amen, I say to you, I do not know you.*" This was not the first time *knowing* was given great importance.

Do you know the Lord Jesus? The question really asks if you have a "relationship" with Him? We may know a lot "about Jesus" but we may not know Him experientially. It is a lot different hearing about a person than meeting the person. In the same way, following God's commandments is not enough. We also must have constant communication and encounters with the Lord.

Prayer is one good form of encounter and communication. A lot of our experiences do not need *knowing* people. We do not need to *know* presidents of insurance companies to get our benefits. We do not need to *know* personally the president to be served by government. We do not need to *know* sports officials to play the sport. In other words, we can receive benefits and participate in events without *knowing* the leaders and heads of companies, but not so with faith. Knowing God and being known by Him is a requirement.

We can begin by reading Scriptures and trying them out in our lives. That way, we can know the veracity and effectiveness of His words. Prayer, as I had stated above places us face to face with God and given the opportunity to talk to Him and listen to Him. We know how important communication is in human relationships. Much more so with God. His will is vital to our salvation.

It is unfortunate that we usually seek God's presence mostly when we are in need, in trouble, or in a desperate situation. That is not a healthy relationship. It is a relationship, a knowing out of need. We must relate to God in season and out of season, in good and bad times, for better for worse, or in sickness and in health. His presence gives us assurance and reminds us of our call to holiness.

To participate in God's banquet, we need to know who God is. The bridegroom in the Gospel personifies Jesus. The wedding feast symbolizes entry to heaven. God wants us to be with Him. He desires our union with Him. He does everything so that we can be with Him, but we must do our share. We must cooperate with God. We must collaborate in His plans. We must do our part and we can only participate in God's celebration of the heavenly banquet when we prepare for His work, persevere in His ways and willingly get to know God.



In our first reading it says, "resplendent and unfolding is wisdom, and she is readily perceived by those who love her, and found by those who seek her. She hastens to make herself known in anticipation of their desire; whoever watches for her at dawn shall not be disappointed."

Let us, therefore, seek God like in the responsorial psalm "My soul is thirsting for you, Oh Lord My God."

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.





To know neither the day nor the hour, but to nonetheless remain prepared, is to live in hope. In all the readings for today, the emphasis is on waiting and watching for a promised event or advantage unfolding through time, one we will share in from our position within salvation history. Although we place our hope in the Christ who is to come, we must strive to understand that Christ is already here. If we do not recognize Christ among us, will we recognize Him when He comes again?

Faithful from the Diocese of Greensburg are invited to participate in **Solemn Vespers at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral** on Sunday, **November 12**, at 6:00 pm. Evening prayer will include adoration and benediction.

Our Diocese annually takes up the collection for the **Diocesan Poverty Relief Fund and Catholic Relief Services** on the Sunday before Thanksgiving. This appeal will take place on **November 18/19**.

The Giving Tree will arrive the weekend of November 18/19. All are invited to take a tag, purchase the appropriate gift, attach the tag to the gift and return it to the Church by December 10. Please note: when taking a tag, please list your name next to the tag number on the sheet provided. Thanks!

Annual Wigilia Dinner - Friday, December 15

The Polish Heritage Club, Inc. invites you to relive the tradition of an authentic Polish Wigilia (Christmas Eve Dinner). Learn the meaning of the customs, traditions and folklore of Old Poland. Wigilia begins at 6:00 pm on Friday, December 15, at the Uniontown Polish Club, 229 S. Mount Vernon Ave., Uniontown. For information and reservations, call 724-438-1036. All are invited to come and enjoy this annual tradition.

This month's Faithful Challenge is to remember those who have died. You can accept Bishop Kulick's Faithful Challenge by lighting a candle, offering a Mass, visiting graves, volunteering at or donating to a cemetery, attending Mass and receiving the Eucharist. These rituals

of memorial can unite us to our departed loved ones.

restinpeace

Parish Sympathy is expressed to the families of

† Thomas Stephen Piszczor buried Monday, October 30 † Joseph Glad buried Saturday, November 4 † George Rantovich

buried Thursday, November 9



May God grant to them eternal life and comfort their families. May they rest in peace.



What is an Anointing Mass? Why should I attend it? As human beings every day we face the realities of sickness, accidents, old age. Sometimes they happen very unexpectedly. We know that God journeys with us through His Church and the Sacraments from the womb of our mothers to our tombs. One of the seven Sacraments of the Catholic Church is the **Sacrament of Anointing**. This sacrament addresses these very human realities and is considered a sacrament of healing. As a sacrament, it is one of the ways that Jesus assists us in life and offers His divine help. In this case, He offers His courage, strength, and healing - including spiritual healing in the forgiveness of sins. He is with His Church as members of His family face the difficulties inherent in being human. He can do this with empathy because of His own human experiences.

This sacrament promises the presence of the Lord in His healing power. Sometimes that does include a restoration of physical, emotional or mental health, sometimes it does not, but even when it doesn't, we can often experience a true healing of a sort that we did not expect. Faith tells us that our good Lord sometimes answers our prayers in ways that are good for us, rather than in the ways we want. So we are asked, in faith to trust in the goodness of God. We know that the Lord is working in the life of the sick person and also in our lives because of the assurance of the sacrament, for sacraments do what they say that they do because they are guaranteed by God.

If you are in need of prayer for healing in body, mind or spirit, we encourage you to come for this Mass at 10:00 am on Saturday, November 18, in Footedale. A luncheon will follow in the social hall.

Masses for 2024

are ready to be scheduled. Please help us to serve you better by observing the following:



- 1. All Mass requests must be submitted *in writing* in order to save time and avoid mistakes. Mass intensions will *not* be taken over the phone or after Mass. *Send* or *drop them off* to us *in writing*.
- 2. Five Masses per year may be scheduled by any one person. Two of these may be scheduled on a weekend or holy day of obligation.
- 3. No Mass intentions will be taken for Easter weekend, Mother's Day, Father's Day, Thanks-giving Day and Christmas.
- 4. If there are any Mass intentions for your loved ones here (from funerals), we already scheduled a Mass on or near the anniversary date of death.
- 5. Masses must be paid for at the time of scheduleing. According to Diocesan guidelines, the offering for each Mass is a minimum of \$10.
- 6. Please remember that Mass Intentions are a *request*. We reserve the right to make changes to the Mass schedule if need be due to circumstances beyond our control such as retreats, illness, etc. In this case, the next available date will be scheduled. Please note: we don't always have time to call you when a Mass needs to be rescheduled - please refer to the bulletin.
- **Please note:** Church Law requires the pastor to offer one of the Mass intentions each weekend (Saturday Vigil or Sunday) and each Holy Day of Obligation for "All the people entrusted to his care." In 2023, the
- Pro Populo Mass (All Living & Deceased Parishioners) will alternate between worship sites each weekend.

Mass Intention Request Form

| Intention for: |
|-----------------------------------|
| Requested by: |
| Phone Number: |
| Date Requested: Mass Time: |
| Alternate Date/Time: |
| |
| Worship Site: Footedale Masontown |

Payment is due at the time of scheduling. Please make checks are payable to: Saint Francis of Assisi Parish

The Practice of Stewardship

All of us one day will need to give an account to the Lord of the gifts that we have been given. Did we make use of the blessings we were given and share them with others? Did we allow our lives to burn brightly for the world to see our witness to Jesus? Being a good steward requires us to always be prepared to use our gifts well.

Stewardship of Treasure

November 5: \$6,021; loose \$663; monthly \$820; online \$327 totaling \$7,831 All Saints Day \$1,622; All Souls Day \$1,573 Retired Religious/Diocesan Priests Appeal \$817 Our parish is very grateful for your support!

CASH BASH NEWS: We wish to thank everyone who supported last Sunday's Cash Bash enabling us to realize a profit of \$12,355. Special, most grateful thanks to the Cash Bash Committee for their hard work and dedication in seeing that every detail is in place and to the many volunteers who never let us down. Congratulations to the winners and thank you for your support!

Winning Numbers: 210, 868, 446, 302, 656, 737, 041, 013, 684, 813, 540, 711, 390, 490, 017, 099, 936, 132, 739, 875, 199, 538, 187, 448, 310, 474, 433, 182

CHRISTMAS WREATH FUNDRAISER So many of us honor our loved ones during the Christmas season by beautifying their gravesites. This fundraiser offers convenience to you and helps to defray cemetery maintenance costs.
Items available for purchase include: decorated pine grave blankets, pillows, crosses and wreaths. Order forms are available at the entrances of both worship sites. Payment must accompany the orders and can be mailed, dropped in the collection basket or delivered to the Parish Office no later than November 19. Pick up will be the weekend of December 2/3 after all Masses at both worship sites. Thank you for your support of our cemeteries!

God knows that, sooner or later, we all face a night that is long and dark. He has given each of us exactly what we need to make it through. If we keep Him with us, the light will not go out.



AMASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, November 11 -- Vigil: 32nd Ordinary Sunday 4:00 pm-F Mass of Thanksgiving with Bishop Kulick Intention: Baby John & Edward Kopec Jr. (Family)

NO Saturday Evening Mass / Confessions in Masontown

Sunday, November 12 -- 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am-MWilliam/Stella/Bob/Marilyn/Cathy Raho (Bill Raho)9:30 am-FEdward Czuchan 100th Birthday Remembrance11:30 am-MJoe & Sally Coll (59th Anniversary Remembrance)

Monday, November 13 -- Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini 8:00 am-M Carla Howard (Lisa Chatlak)

Tuesday, November 14 -- Weekday

8:00 am-F Greg Cunningham (Bozak Family)

Wednesday, November 15 -- Saint Albert the Great 8:00 am-M Deceased Parish & Richnafsky Families (M Hritz)

Thursday, November 16 -- Saint Margaret of Scotland8:00 am-FScott Casterwiler (Joe/Theresa Mohar)

Friday, November 17 -- Saint Elizabeth of Hungary8:00 am-MSylvia Krofcheck (Gary & Patty Ball)4:30-6:00 pm-MAdoration / Confessions

Saturday, November 18 -- Vigil: 33rd Ordinary Sunday

| 3-3:30 pm-F | Confessions |
|----------------|----------------------------------|
| 10:00 am-F | Healing Mass with Anointing |
| 4:00 pm-F | Alfred & Julia Palo (Son, Frank) |
| 5:00-5:30 pm-M | Confessions |
| 6:00 pm-M | Michael Shine (Nancy Zapotosky) |

Sunday, November 19 -- 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am-MAnn & Steve Deli (Michele & Betti)9:30 am-FLouise B. DelSignore (Tom/Patty Torrey)11:30 am-MPro Populo

Mass Readings for the Week Ahead

| Monday: | Wis 1:1-7; Lk 17:1-6 |
|--------------|---|
| Tuesday: | Wis 2:23-3:9; Lk 17:7-10 |
| Wednesday: | Wis 6:1-11; Lk 17:11-19 |
| Thursday: | Wis 7:22b-8:1; Lk 17:20-25 |
| Friday: | Wis 13:1-9; Lk 17:26-37 |
| Saturday: | Wis 18:14-16; 19:6-9; Lk 18:1-8 |
| Next Sunday: | Prv 31:10-31; 1 Thes 5:1-6; Mt 25:14-30 |

This Saturday we are honored to welcome **Bishop Larry J. Kulick**

who will preside at a Mass of Thanksgiving

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at the Footedale worship site at 4:00 pm. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. Refreshments will follow in the social hall.

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## 32<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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"'Lord, Lord, open the door for us!' But he said in reply, 'Amen, I say to you, I do not know you.'" - Mt 25:11-12

On this day in the middle of November, the month in which we remember in a special way all those who have died, let us reflect on our baptism.

When we were baptized in Christ, we were baptized into His death; therefore, we are with the Lord in life and in death. Those who have died in the Lord are with Him eternally while we here today gather to receive Him in the Eucharist.

Let us take consolation that we are always with the Lord, in life and in death.



#### **Eucharistic Adoration Friday, November 17, in Masontown** 4:30-5:30 pm: Adoration & 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 - All Veterans♥

+ **Blessed Mother** - *Debbie Luckas* requested by Priscilla Michalik

Anniversary Remembrance Frank & Adeline Kiec requested by daughters & family

> + **Saint Joseph** - *Scott Casterwiler* requested by Joe & Theresa Mohar

> > *Marty & P.J. Magerko* requested by their family

+ Saint Anthony - Frank & Mary Ann Kordella requested by sons, David & Frank Jr.

> *Daniel Fronczek* requested by wife, Carletta

+ **Sacred Heart** - *Greg Cunningham* requested by Bozak Aunts & Uncles

*Teofilio Pates* requested by Dave & Cindy Madison



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