



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.



March 24, 2024

**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.

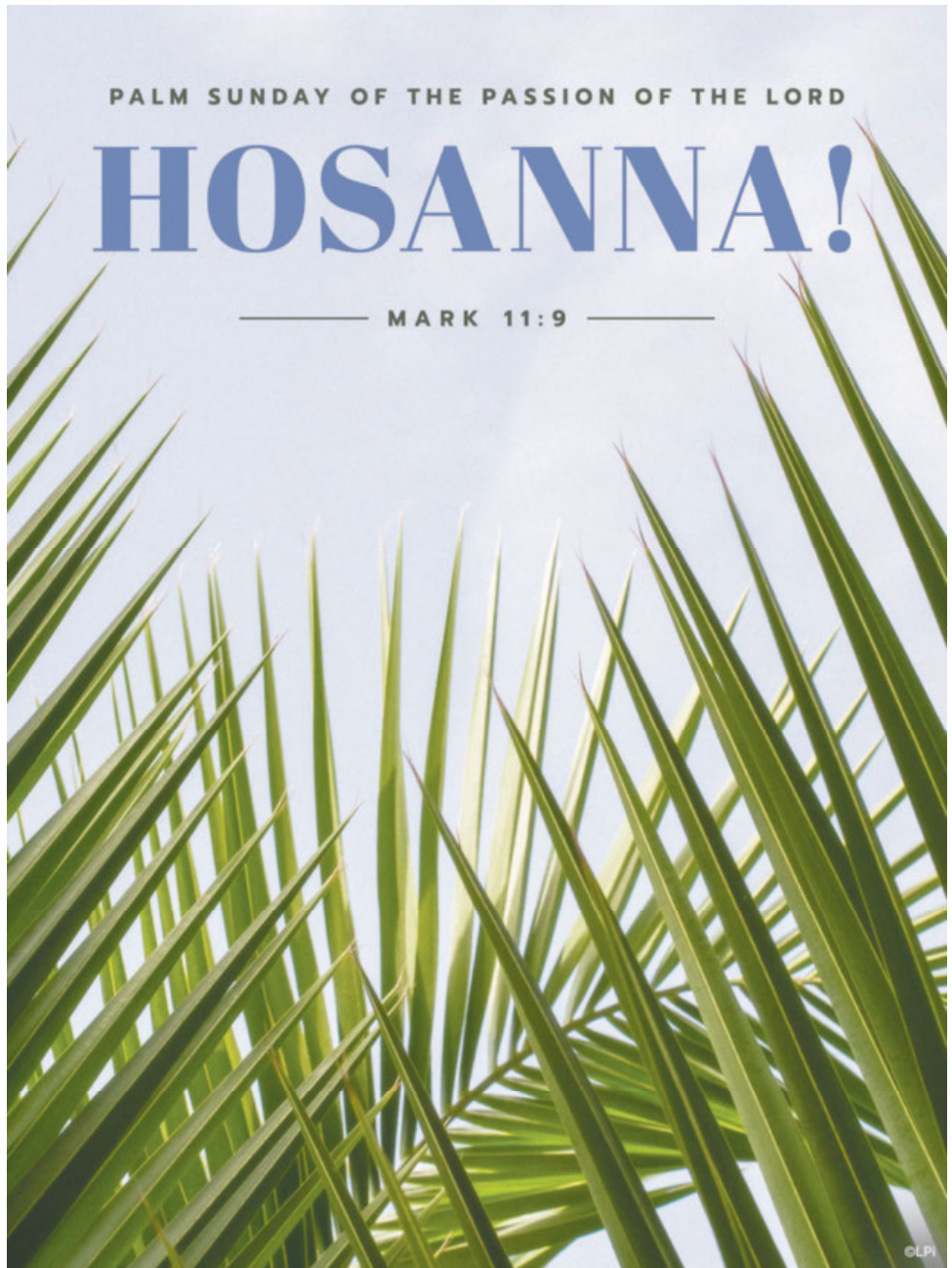
Communion to the Homebound is
provided on a regular basis. Call the
Parish Office to be added to our list.

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



Thoughts from Father Anthony - Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord - Year B



We begin today the Holy Week, days of intense spiritual reflection and activity. It is ushered in by an account of Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem where He will meet His death and fulfill His mission of saving us from damnation and regaining eternal life once and for all. The atmosphere will be tense and full of threats and commission of violence. At the center will be Jesus, the Son of God, the Messiah - calm and collected - and focused in His mission.

Today's readings give us three important virtues which every Christian must have; prudence, humility, and commitment.

The first reading opens with *"The Lord has given me a well-trained tongue, that I might know how to speak to the weary a word that will rouse them."* Communicating your message is a gift. There will be distractions, challenges, resistances, and threats. Jesus, in spite of those hindrances, was focused and committed to His mission. He tried to communicate His message as clearly and as concretely as He could. Only the blindness and hard-heartedness of the Jews made them miss Jesus' message but we can learn from the Lord. He was meek, mild, and prudent to perfection.

The Second Reading is Saint Paul's ultimate recognition of Jesus' humility. He was God yet He humbled Himself to be one like us. This should not be lost in the reflection of the passion. He was without sin and of divine state. Saint Paul was telling the Philippians what God had done in order for us to have the fullness of life. Though God needed no appreciation, it is for our own good to realize the sacrifice He had made when He decided to save us by sending His only begotten Son. There is nothing God would not do to take us back to Himself.

Finally, the Gospel. The account of the passion of the Lord Jesus Christ, gives us a vivid and almost detailed depiction of what happened more than two thousand years ago. It is both a historical and a religious message. Jesus went through so much suffering and pain beginning with His entry into Jerusalem where people gathered and waved their palms as a sign of recognition and honor, but it will be short lived. The influence of the religious leaders and the envy of the Romans transformed it to a prelude to His shaming, torture, and death. The one they hailed, later, they put to death. The one they welcomed, they crucified. The one they honored as the Messiah, they treated as a criminal.

The passion and death of the Lord Jesus will challenge our faith. Nevertheless, let us be inspired by the commitment of God in Jesus. God will allow nothing to separate us from Him. Jesus, even through great suffering and extreme death, obeyed His Father. His love for us was just too much to make Him endure the pain. It was a perfect commitment. This is the time of year we stop to remember and relive the events which brought about our redemption and salvation. What we commemorate and relive during this week is not just Jesus' dying and rising, but our own dying and rising in Jesus, which will result in our healing, reconciliation, and redemption. Attentive participation in the Holy Week liturgy will deepen our relationship with God, increase our Faith, and strengthen our lives as disciples of Jesus.

Today's liturgy combines contrasting moments, one of glory, the other of suffering: the royal welcome of Jesus in Jerusalem, and the drama of the trial, culminating in crucifixion, death and burial for the Christ. Remember to have prudence, humility, and commitment. These three virtues should make us celebrate the meaning of Holy Week which is new life in Jesus risen.

Meditation based on today's Gospel - Mark 14:1-15:47





Today we enter into the most sacred week of the year. There is no other time, no series of feasts, that begins to compare with these next few days. There was a time when our entire schedule changed for this week, when the world slowed down (and actually stopped on Good Friday) and we could enter these mysteries in deep prayer and reflection. Today the world does not stop, nor do we have the luxury of vacation and so **we must make the time, take the initiative and avail ourselves of every opportunity** to center in upon the events - the suffering, passion, death and resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

HOLY THURSDAY

Before the feast of Passover, Jesus celebrates the Last Supper in which He gives us His Body and Blood.

The **Chrism Mass** is celebrated this day at 10:00 am in Blessed Sacrament Cathedral in Greensburg. During this Mass, Bishop Kulick will bless the Sacred Oils used in the Sacraments: the **Oil of Salvation** for Baptism; the **Oil of Chrism** for Baptism, Confirmation and Ordination; and the **Oil of the Sick**.

All are welcome. Parking at the Cathedral is limited.

You may park at Our Lady of Grace Parish where a shuttle will be available to drive you to the Cathedral.

At Saint Francis of Assisi, the solemn **Mass of the Lord's Supper** will be celebrated at **6:00 pm** at both worship sites. This Mass calls to mind the Last Supper, the First Mass and the Institution of the Holy Priesthood.

GOOD FRIDAY

The traditional Three Hours that Jesus hung upon the cross (Noon/3:00 pm) should be kept in quiet prayer. The **Good Friday Liturgy** will be celebrated at **3:00 pm** at both worship sites and will consist of: Liturgy of the Word (Readings); Veneration of the Cross and Reception of Holy Communion consecrated the night before.

For all Catholics between the ages of 18 and 59, Good Friday is a day of Fast and Abstinence.

Fasting requires limiting oneself to one full meal, with light nourishment taken on two other occasions (no eating between meals). This fast is minimal; if your health permits, you might wish to consider a more intense fast.

Abstinence - all Catholics, age 14 and over, are bound to abstain totally from meat on Good Friday.

HOLY SATURDAY

The beautiful tradition of blessing Easter food baskets takes place at **11:00 am in Masontown and 12:00 in Footedale**. Following the blessing in Footedale, there will be an **Easter Egg Hunt** in the parking lot.

The most important, most beautiful liturgy of the entire Church year is found in the **Easter Vigil which takes place in Footedale beginning at 8:00 pm**.

In the early hours of the final night of our Easter journey, we pause to keep watch. A fire begins to flicker, the Easter Candle is lit from the new fire, carried prominently into the midst of the assembly and we begin to tell the story of who we have been and are becoming.

The Easter Vigil is comparable to sitting around a campfire listening to the stories of generations past.

Easter water is blessed, bells ring out, *Alleluias* and *Glorias* are sung for the first time in six weeks. It is the night of all nights, the heart of Christianity. It is Easter!



The Paschal Candle is a symbol of the risen body of Christ and the fire of the Spirit. It is decorated with a cross (*Christ yesterday and today, the beginning and the end*); the Greek Alpha and Omega; and the numbers of the current year (*All time belongs to Him and all the ages to Him be glory and power through every age forever*).

Four grains of incense, sealed with red wax nails, are inserted at the ends of the

crossbars and one is inserted where the crossbars meet (*By His holy and glorious wounds, may Christ our Lord guard us and keep us. Amen.*)

The candle remains lit throughout the fifty days of Easter and is extinguished on Pentecost. It is then used for its resurrection symbolism at baptism and funerals.

Our grateful thanks to the following who donated this year's Paschal Candles in memory of:

Masontown - In memory of **Mary & Victor Salek** by their children and grandchildren

Footedale - In loving memory of **Judy Bashour Scola** by Joanne & Mary Jo Bashour

PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE

The Parish Office will be closed Holy Thursday (March 28) through Easter Monday (April 1).

The Parish Office will operate on a limited basis Tuesday, April 2 through Friday, April 5

A Blessed Easter to all!

ENCOUNTER WITH THE CROSS

The journey of Lent brings us to an encounter with the cross. During Lent, we have been led more deeply into questions at the heart of our faith: Who is God? . . . and . . . who are we, the Church?

The Gospel of Matthew indicates that, in the crucifixion, God's true nature is most fully revealed in Jesus. In Jesus, God is the self-emptying One, who embraces humility and suffers rejection, as Paul tells the Philippians. God's power is redefined, present not in coercion and violence, but in Jesus' unbounded love.

We, the Church, can learn who we are - the followers of the Crucified One - when we bear crosses that offer life and hope to the world. We more fully become "the Church" when we empty ourselves by sharing in others' sufferings, rejecting violence, and taking risks for justice and reconciliation. Like Jesus we may reveal God's power as compassion and mercy.

We should glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, in whom is our salvation, life and resurrection; through whom we are saved and delivered.

- Entrance Antiphon, Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper

Easter Flower Memorials: Please use the Easter Flower Offering envelope from your packets to list the names of those you wish to remember in prayer throughout the fifty days of Easter. Funds collected are used to purchase the Easter flowers and decorations as well as the plants used to decorate the parish grounds.

Easter Offering: We rely upon your generous support every Sunday. Your love of the parish and response to its needs is evident and deeply appreciated. Please prayerfully consider your Easter gift to the parish.

Easter Publications: Copies of *The Word Among Us* (Easter edition) and the *Little White Book for Easter* will be available next weekend at both worship sites.

Easter Egg Hunt, hosted by Youth Ministry, takes place at 12:30 pm on Saturday, **March 30**, in Footedale. The group is in need of filled eggs and ask your help. If you have these items to donate, please drop them off at the church no later than March 24. Thank you!

Never Miss a Bulletin! Sign up to have our weekly bulletin emailed to you at www.parihesonline.com

Lifetime PA150270

Awnings

John P. Banasick - Owner
724-554-6067
www.lifetimeawnings.com

MADE IN THE U.S.A.

Veteran Owned And Operated



RECEIVE AND Share

2024 Diocesan Lenten Appeal



Promote Eucharistic Revival

You can help transform faith formation in the Diocese of Greensburg. When you share your gifts through a donation to the 2024 Diocesan Lenten Appeal, you help our youth establish a personal relationship with Jesus through groundbreaking and immersive activities that form future disciples of Christ.



Diocese of Greensburg

Donate today at DioceseofGreensburg.org/DLA2024

DLA - Receive and Share

Diocesan Target \$48,893; total pledged \$32,847 from 158 gifts. We have reached 67.2% of our diocesan target and our participation is 32.2%

Thank you to all who have made pledges.

If you haven't made a commitment to this year's appeal, please *prayerfully* consider a donation to assist our parish. Many thanks and may God bless you!

The Practice of Stewardship

Good stewards strive to conform their lives to that of Christ - emptying themselves of all pride and putting themselves at the service of others.

Stewardship of Treasure

March 17: \$5,936; loose \$486; monthly \$275; online \$865; Accent \$319; totaling \$7,881

Our parish is grateful for your support!

CASH BASH - Many thanks to all who supported our Cash Bash last Sunday. Special thanks to the Cash Bash Committee and volunteers who pulled it all together enabling us to realize a profit of \$13,613.

The winning numbers: 013, 930, 228, 618, 191, 308, 052, 895, 020, 588, 449, 385, 792, 400, 045, 620, 753, 851, 104, 521, 094, 293, 022, 435, 016, 799, 602, 588.

Our next Cash Bash takes place Sunday, July 7.

MASS SCHEDULE ©LPI

Saturday, March 23 -- Vigil: Palm Sunday

4:00 pm-F *Jama Revak (Social/Hospitality Committee)*
 6:00 pm-M *Pro Populo*

Sunday, March 24 -- Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

8:00 am-M *Irene O'Brien (Anna Horne)*
 9:45 am-F *Deceased Members Suba/Shuba Family*
 11:30 am-M *Aura Lozar (Gary & Patty Ball)*

Monday, March 25 -- Monday of Holy Week

8:00 am-M *Deceased Members Zatlokovicz Families*

Tuesday, March 26 -- Tuesday of Holy Week

8:00 am-F *Renne Kremposky (Paul & Laura Buckel)*

Wednesday, March 27 -- Wednesday of Holy Week

8:00 am-M *Jerry Solomon (His Neighbors)*
 5:00 pm-M *Adoration*
 6:00 pm-M *Stations of the Cross*

Thursday, March 28 -- Holy Thursday

6:00 pm-M *Mass of the Lord's Supper*
 6:00 pm-F *Mass of the Lord's Supper*

Friday, March 29 -- Good Friday

3:00 pm-M *Good Friday Liturgy*
 3:00 pm-F *Good Friday Liturgy*

Saturday, March 30 -- Holy Saturday

11:00 am-M *Blessing of Easter Food Baskets*
 12:00 pm-F *Blessing of Easter Food Baskets*
 12:30 pm-F *Easter Egg Hunt*
 8:00 pm-F *Easter Vigil: For All Parishioners*

Sunday, March 31 -- Easter Sunday

8:00 am-M *All Living & Deceased Parishioners*
 9:45 am-F *All Living & Deceased Parishioners*
 11:30 am-M *All Living & Deceased Parishioners*

Mass Readings for the Week Ahead

Monday: Is 42:1-7; Jn 12:1-11
 Tuesday: Is 49:1-6; Jn 13:21-38
 Wednesday: Is 50:4-9a; Mt 26:14-25
 Thursday: Ex 12:1-14; 1 Cor 11:23-26; Jn 13:1-15
 Friday: Is 52:13-53:12; Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9;
 Jn 18:1-19:42
 Saturday: Gn 1:1-2:2; Gn 22:1-18; Ex 14:15-15:1;
 Is 54:5-14; Is 55:1-11; Bar 3:9-15, 32-4:4;
 Ez 36:16-28; Mk 16:1-7
 Next Sunday: Acts 10:34-43; Col 3:1-4; Jn 20:1-9



Humbling Himself out of love for us, Jesus did not shield His face from buffets and spitting, but offered His life on the cross. He relied on His Father's love.

We greet the Lord today with palm branches and hosannas, welcoming Him to the holy city of Jerusalem.

His missionary journey and our Lenten journey are nearing their completion. Soon Jesus will celebrate the Passover with His closest disciples here in the center of the Jewish world. Before the sun rises, He will be betrayed by one of His friends, arrested and taken away. He will be tortured, put on trial and sentenced to death. He will die on the cross, be taken down and be buried. From there He will be raised and will ascend to the holy city that is our eternal home. Today, as we shout our hosannas and wave our palm branches to welcome our Lord into Jerusalem, we look forward to the day when we will all be welcomed into the new Jerusalem.

The Blessing of Palm, the tree branches used to greet Jesus, takes place at each Mass today.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches us that Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem is to be celebrated as a manifestation of the coming of the kingdom of God. It is this celebration of Palm Sunday that the Church's liturgy solemnly opens Holy Week. (CCC 560)

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

- † **Sanctuary** - *All Living & Deceased Parishioners of Saint Francis of Assisi Parish*
- † **Blessed Mother** - *For our Priests as we honor the Institution of the Holy Priesthood*
- † **Saint Joseph** - *For the Diocese of Greensburg as we are placed under his powerful patronage*
- † **Saint Anthony** - *For all who have left the church, that they may find their way home*
- † **Sacred Heart** - *Personal Intention requested by Caroline Marella*





"Your Family Owned Funeral Home"
JOHN S. MAYKUTH JR.
FUNERAL HOME
 LOCALLY OWNED & OPERATED
724-583-8811

Marshall's Monuments
 THE AREA'S OLDEST MONUMENT COMPANY
 50 E. FAYETTE ST., UNIONTOWN, PA 15401
438-5200

J & J MECHANICAL
 Residential Heating & Cooling
 Your Local, Authorized Lennox Dealer
 ~ 724-583-2687 ~
 201 North Main Mason Town

NICKMAN'S DRUG
 1878 McClellandtown Rd
 Masontown • 724-952-1040
FREE DELIVERY
 Store Hours:
 M-F 9-9 Sat-Sun 9-5

CROSSKEYS
 Human Services, Inc.
Serving the Elderly & Chronically Mentally Ill
785-6180

Compliments of
Kathleen Packroni
 TAX COLLECTOR
 407 N. Main St. • Masontown

BRODAK BEER
724-583-2222
CARMICHAELS BEER
724-966-1777
 Please Drink Responsibly.

DEARTH FUNERAL HOME
 New Salem, PA
 Clark B. Dearth Since 1900

STRICTLY DUCTLESS
FAYETTE FURNACE
 4 Monroe Street Uniontown, PA 15401
 Carrier turn to the experts
724-438-5400
 fayettefurnace.com

Jerry's Catering Service
"Where Our Noodle is Always A'Dente"
 Kathleen Ward Hughes, Owner
 16 Legion Street, Republic, PA 15475
724-246-8889 or 724-785-3036
 Like us on Facebook

Ralph's Garage Doors
 Sales • Service • Installation
 Doors & Parts • Electric Openers
 (724) 966-2879 **Carmichaels**

R&D WATERS
 SEPTIC SERVICE
724-966-2477

STRICTLY DUCTLESS
FAYETTE FURNACE
 4 Monroe Street Uniontown, PA 15401
 Carrier turn to the experts
724-438-5400
 fayettefurnace.com

Uniontown Dental Associates
 7829 NATIONAL PIKE
 UNIONTOWN, PA 15401
 Telephone (724) 438-0241
 Office Hours By Appointment

compliments of
TYGART INDUSTRIES

BERISH AGENCY, INC.
 Insurance - Real Estate
"Celebrating 87 Years of Service"
 1937 to 2024
 12 South Main St.
 Masontown, PA 15461
724-583-7767
 berishagency@atlanticbb.net

LaFayette Manor, Inc.
 & Beechwood Courts
 147 LaFayette Manor Road
 Uniontown, PA 15401
724.430.4848

Ben's Auto Parts SINCE 1976
 For all your body shop supplies and mechanical needs!
 107 River Avenue • Masontown, PA 15461
 Phone: 724-583-8335 Fax: 724-583-7766 Email: bensautopa@gmail.com
 1-800-446-8335

Lifetime Awnings PA150270
 John P. Banasick - Owner
 724-554-6067
 www.lifetimeawnings.com
 Veteran Owned And Operated

WE APPRECIATE OUR ADVERTISERS!
 They allow us to print this bulletin. Thank you!

Fayette Heating & Air Conditioning
 2100 University Dr. • Uniontown
 724-439-2323 • fayetteheatingac.com

SUPPORT OUR PARISH

Terravecchia-Haky
 HOME FOR FUNERALS, INC.
Family Owned & Operated
 Michael K. Sauritch SUPERVISOR John S. Terravecchia OWNER/FUNERAL DIRECTOR
724-583-7777
 www.terravecchiahakyfh.com • 515 N. Main Street • Masontown, PA 15461

EQ MUFFLER & AUTO CENTER
 COMPLETE CARBURETOR & FUEL INJECTION SERVICE
 COMPLETE BRAKE, EXHAUST & SUSPENSION SERVICE
724-439-3669
 Route 40 East • Uniontown, PA 15401

NEW SALEM MINI MART
 Fresh made Subs and Sandwiches
 724-245-7335 • 88 West Main St., New Salem
 www.newsalemminimart.com

LAKESIDE VENUES
 Your Event Specialist
 • Room for 600 guests allows for social distancing
 • Situated on 60 picturesque acres
 • Perfect for your event, big or small
 400 Old Rt. 21 Rd • McClellandtown, PA 15458
 Call for updates. **724-439-3111** www.lakesidevenues.com

PENN PLUS, LLC
Ready Mix Concrete & Supplies
 313 State Route 166 - Masontown, PA 15461
724-583-8844 | www.PennPlusServices.com

John M. Fabry
 CFSP, CPC, Funeral Director
Robert T. Kish - Supervisor **John P. Duke - Supervisor**
 1 Legion Street Republic, PA 15475 O: 724.246.9466 F: 724.246.9467
 20 N. Mill St. New Salem, PA 15468 O: 724.245.9261 F: 724.245.2909
 john.fabry@verizon.net

Kish-Fabry Funeral Home, Inc.
 ...the compassionate professionals.
LET'S GROW YOUR BUSINESS
 Place Your Ad Here and Support Our Parish!
CONTACT ME Sue Novosel
 snovosel@4LPi.com
 (800) 477-4574 x6318

SWEET PEAS
 TEXT "JOB" TO 888-62-SWEET (888-62-7338)
 NOW HIRING Cashier Maintenance Management Seasonal
 Or you can visit our store at 301 North Main Street Masontown, PA 15461

Compliments Of
Dan Shimshock

FAY-WEST GLASS
 VETERAN OWNED AND OPERATED SINCE 1992
 Installing, Repairing & Replacing Glass in Homes, Business & Industry
 724-439-8600 • www.FayWestGlass.com

Ansel's Tire Outlet ATO INC
 For all your automotive and truck tire needs!
 1708 McClellandtown Rd, McClellandtown, PA 15458
 724-737-5556

PATTERSON'S AUTOMOTIVE
 354 Ronco Rd. • Masontown
724-322-2403
 Complete automotive repair services.

KOPEC INSURANCE AGENCY
 Lud Kopec • Cristy Kopec-Frantz
 An Independent Agency Representing the Erie Insurance Group
 211 S. Main St. • Masontown • (724) 583-2634

Watters pools Quality Inground & Above Ground Pools
 1564 E. Roy Furman Hwy. • Carmichaels
724-966-2040

Knights of Columbus #4261
 Masontown, PA
 Charity, Unity, Fraternity, Patriotism
 New Members Welcome! 724-583-8210

TRI-COUNTY HVAC
TRANE Sales • Service Installations
-FREE ESTIMATES-
Call Terry or Tyler 724-785-7171