



Saint Francis of Assisi of Western Fayette County

ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

101 West Church Avenue, Masontown, Pennsylvania 15461

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email: sfoafayette@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Website: www.sfoafayette.org



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



September 22, 2024

Very Rev. Anthony J. Klimko, VF
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aklimko@dioceseofgreensburg.org

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Rev. Alien Z. Rocamora
Parochial Vicar
arocamora@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Rev. Robert F. Smith
Parochial Vicar
rsmith@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.



25th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Whoever receives one child such as this in my name,
receives me.” - Mk 9:37a

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time - Year B



The apostles argue, each one claiming to be the greatest of Christ’s followers, but Christ shows them who is truly the greatest - a child, one who has no thought of his own importance, one who has no ambition. Let’s seek to be like that child.

Childlike Wonder: “What were you arguing about?” Who is the greatest and most important? In our time, we see how fleeting fame is. Today Jesus asks us to humble ourselves, become childlike, and welcome God into our hearts and lives. Then we become a reproach to hypocrisy, wickedness, and getting ahead at all costs. The change makes us like children. In welcoming Jesus, we welcome the one who sent Him, the heavenly Father and the life-giving Spirit. Now there is a childlike wonder and real importance!

Whoever receives one child such as this in my name, receives me.
- Mark 9:30-37

Prayer of the Week

O God, who founded all the commands of your sacred Law upon love of you and of our neighbor, grant that, by keeping your precepts, we may merit to attain eternal life. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

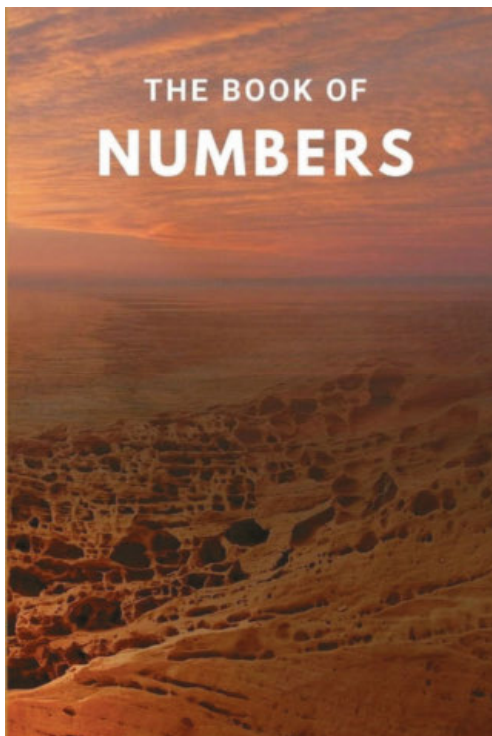
The View from the Back of the Line

Have you known that person? The one who leaves every person they encounter feeling a little more blessed for having met them? They’re the friend you can count on when nothing is going well. They’re the one who’s always “doing” for others. They’re never gossiping or sniping or complaining. We wonder how they do it, how they have it in them. We’re a little envious, even if we don’t let ourselves acknowledge it. That, folks, is what the view is like from the front of the line, gazing at those suckers in the way back and wondering why they’re smiling so much.

We’ve all been at the front of a line and felt no shame about it. We show up early, we put in the time and the legwork, and we “earn” whatever it is we came for - sports tickets, the latest Apple product, whatever. That’s how it works here on Earth, where the fastest win the race, the fittest survive and the first shall be first, always. It’s exactly why stewardship is such a tall order.

Stewardship calls us to play by the rules of another kingdom - one where the richest have the least amount in their bank accounts and the happiest don’t seem to have anything to show for it, at least materially. If you have a person in your life who always seems happy “doing” for others, it’s because by a boatload of God’s grace, they play by the rules of the other place. Watch and take notes - and don’t be afraid to join them at the back of the line.

- Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



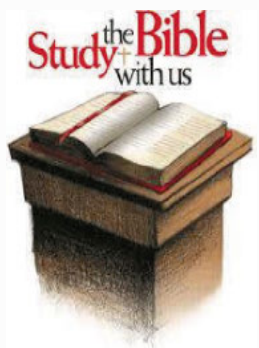
BIBLE STUDY INVITATION

Fr. Andrew Hamilton offers a **monthly Bible Study** at Saints Cyril & Methodius Church in Fairchance.

The studies take place in Saint Helen Hall (basement area beneath the church sanctuary).

Since we are now a unified eight churches, he extends the invitation to us to join him.

This month’s study takes place at **6:30 pm on Wednesday, September 25**, and will focus on *The Book of Numbers*. Please join us!





Faith Formation Begins Today - September 22

Faith Formation begins with four-year olds (Pre-K) and continues through the eighth grade Confirmation Class.

New this year is the ability to attend *any* Faith Formation program within our region if this time does not work. They will be conducted as follows:

Grades K-5: Tuesdays 6:15 to 7:30 pm
at Saint Mary Nativity Parish Center

Grades K-8: Sunday mornings 10:00 to 11:30 am
at Saints Cyril & Methodius Annunciation Center

Grades Pre-K / 8th Grade Confirmation Class:
10:30 to 11:45 am at Saint Francis of Assisi
Footedale Worship Site

We welcome **Regional Faith Formation Director, Theresa Mazur** who will be available at the Parish Office Wednesday mornings 9:30 am to 12:00 pm.

Our Faith Formation Program seeks individuals interested in being substitute or classroom assistants. Contact kstavish@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is a program for children age 3-6 that revolves around the Parable of the Good Shepherd. The child enters the mystery of the Eucharist by first learning the names of the articles used on the altar then the gestures (preparing the chalice, etc.)

Through this experience, the Mass emerges. Our Region is interested in offering this program and is in need of catechists. If interested, please contact Theresa at TMazur@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Interested in Joining the Catholic Church?

We offer an opportunity to meet and learn more about our faith. Focusing on the teachings and experience of the Church, we prepare individuals to celebrate the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist during the Easter season.

You are welcome to participate in the process with your questions, insights and faith story in a warm, accepting setting. Although the Inquiry Period has begun, it is not too late! If you or someone you know is interested in learning more, please contact the Parish Office 724-583-7866 / sfoafayette@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Faith Formation Support

The Family (the Domestic Church) is very important to the church and society. As the Catechism states: *“the Christian family is a sign and image of the communion of the Father and the Son in the Holy Spirit.”*

The greatest time spent as a family is at the dinner table sharing stories and being with each other. If you are able, please take time this Monday, September 23, and share a meal as a family at the Texas Roadhouse (dine in or take out). This will also be a fundraiser for our Faith Formation Program, as a percentage of your bill will be given to the program.

Please use the **special envelope** provided in your packets to support our Faith Formation Program. Your gift helps to provide the books and materials needed for this program which teaches our faith to the young people of our parish at no cost to them.

ServSafe Food and Beverage Safety Training and Certificate Program. Parishes that serve food may be interested in a free ServSafe training for adults ages 55 and up on Friday, October 4, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm at PA CareerLink Westmoreland County, 151 Pavilion Lane, Youngwood. Pre-registration is required by calling 724-430-6421 or emailing jhajak@fcca.org



Start by doing what is necessary then what is possible. Soon you are doing the impossible.
- Saint Francis of Assisi

Communion to the Homebound

is provided on a regular basis. Please 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.

Prayer Chain

To request prayer, please call Patty 724-245-9746 or Valeria 724-583-9460

Protecting God's Children

If you have a suspicion about sexual or other abuse of a minor child by anyone, contact PA *Childline* immediately at 1-800-932-0313. If the alleged abuser functions in any parish, school, or diocesan position, either paid or volunteer, also contact the Bishop's Delegate for Matters of Sexual Misconduct at 724-837-0901, ext. #1221, *after* making the *Childline* report.

rest in peace

Parish Sympathy is expressed to the families of
† **Joyce Angelo**

who was buried Friday, September 13

† **Anita (Mojock) Nolle**

who was buried Saturday, September 14
May God grant them eternal life and comfort
their families. May they rest in peace.



Rosary Devotions

Saturday, October 5: Bishop Kulick invites the faithful to Blessed Sacrament Cathedral for the **Diocesan Rosary Rally**. The rally will begin with Eucharistic Adoration at 10:30 am, include the opportunity for confession and close with Benediction.

Monday, October 7: The **Living Rosary** will be prayed in Masontown at 6:00 pm at the newly refreshed Marian Shrine. Please plan to join us as together we honor our Blessed Mother.

Mount Saint Macrina House of Prayer Offers

Thursday Bible Study: October 3, 10, 17, 24
10:30 am/12:00 pm - In person and Online.
Complete Overview of the Bible presented by Sister Melita Marie, OSBM. Offering \$20 per session.
Registration due September 30

A Day to Call Your Own: October 8 & November 12
10:00 am to 2:00 pm. A simple opening and closing prayer frames the day. This unstructured day belongs to you to pray, reflect, relax and “just be” in God’s presence. Free will offering.

Overnight Silent Retreat for Women: October 25-26
7:00 pm Friday to after lunch on Saturday. Presented by Sister Carol, OSBM. Offering \$45. Space is limited and registration is due October 18.

Mother Daughter Retreat: Saturday, November 9,
10am to 1pm. Presented by Sister Ruth, OSBM.
Conference, reflections, Prayer Service. Offering of \$45 includes Lunch. Registration due November 2.
For information and registration, contact Mount Saint Macrina House of Prayer - 724-438-8644



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The Practice of Stewardship

Today’s second reading warns that a heart consumed with avarice and envy leads to jealousy, strife, conflicts, and disputes. A giving heart, in contrast, can sing instead with the psalmist, “Freely will I offer you sacrifice; I will praise your name, O Lord, for its goodness.” See Psalm 54

Thank you for donations to Saint Francis of Assisi that were given **in memory of Anita Nolle** by Frank & Priscilla Michalik & Mary A. Michalik

Stewardship of Treasure

September 15: \$5,415; loose \$492; monthly \$680; children \$5; online \$505; totaling \$7,097

We also collected \$1,144 for the care of our cemeteries:
Saint Thomas \$352; OLPH \$300; Saint Agnes \$212; Madonna \$115; Saint Procopius \$105; Holy Rosary \$60

Bingo/Cash Bash Profit \$12,010

Our parish is grateful for your support!

Next weekend is the **Seminarian and Clergy Formation Collection**. Please prayerfully consider supporting our Seminarians, men preparing for the Permanent Diaconate, the ongoing formation of our Clergy and our International Priests. You may respond with the tear-off portion of the letter that you received last week, the envelope in your parish packet, or online at Dioceseofgreensburg.org/SCFC. Also, please remember the clergy of our diocese who have *Hearts for the Mission* in your prayers.



MISSION CO-OP APPEAL

A representative of the North American La Salette Mission Center will join us next weekend for the annual Mission Co-Op Appeal. The work of the center provides economic and spiritual assistance in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Special green mission co-op envelopes will be provided.

OCTOBER CALENDAR TICKET

Cost of \$20 per ticket gives you a chance to win \$400 each day during October.

Winning numbers will be determined by the PA Daily Lottery Evening Number.

A number of tickets still remain available.

Please call or stop by the Parish Office Monday through Friday 9:00 am to 4:00 pm and choose your lucky number. Thank you!



MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, September 21 -- Vigil: 25th Ordinary Sunday
 4:00 pm-F *George & Mary Matis (Children)*
 6:00 pm-M *Patrick Krokus (M/M G Dragich & Family)*

Sunday, September 22 -- 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time
 8:00 am-M *Joseph B. Spak (Dtr. Kathy Pleban/Fam)*
 9:30 am-F *Adeline Kiec (Jim & Roseanne Kret)*
 11:30 am-M *Pro Populo*

Monday, September 23 -- Saint Pius of Pietrelcina
 8:00 am-M *Cecelia Kaparic (SFOA Christian Mothers)*

Tuesday, September 24 -- Weekday
 8:00 am-F *Art Bucchaineri (Golden Group)*

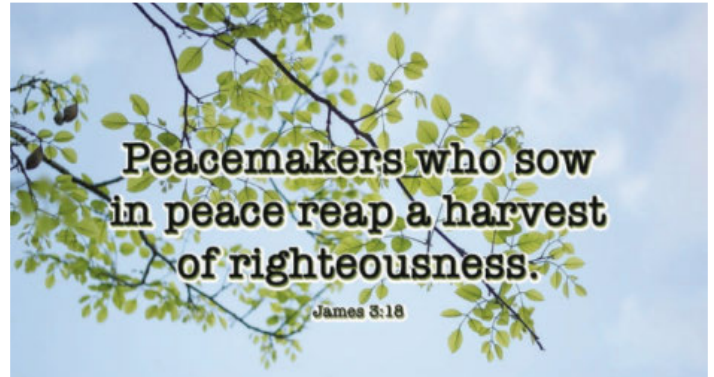
Wednesday, September 25 -- Weekday
 8:00 am-M *Joseph Sabatelli (Wife, Rosalie)*
 12:30-2:00 pm-F *Adoration / Confessions*

Thursday, September 26 -- Saints Cosmas & Damian
 8:00 am-F *John & Bridget Berisko (Sons)*

Friday, September 27 -- Saint Vincent de Paul
 8:00 am-M *Greg Cox (Mom & Dad)*

Saturday, September 28 -- Vigil: 26th Ordinary Sunday
 3-3:30 pm-F *Confessions*
 4:00 pm-F *Wallace R. Frost (Eugene/Roseanne Thomas)*
 5:00-5:30 pm-M *Confessions*
 6:00 pm-M *Mary Anne Maykuth Villecheck*

Sunday, September 29 -- 26th Sunday Ordinary Time
 8:00 am-M *Special Intention of Jumbo Stoffa (Family)*
 9:30 am-F *Frank Palo (Chip & Eva Giannetti)*
 11:30 am-M *Walter Malesky (Friends from Pals Club)*



As summer transitions to fall, farmers' thoughts turn toward the coming harvest. Speaking of harvesting, in the second reading Saint James declares that those who cultivate peace will sow the fruit of righteousness. Besides the traditional fall harvest of apples and pumpkins, may we all also savor the fruit of righteousness - that is, of moral goodness and justice - which in turn brings peace to our world, our nation, and our communities. Let us praise the God who makes all this possible.

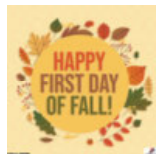
Cardale Property

The Diocese of Greensburg has granted permission to St. Francis of Assisi Parish (Masontown, PA) to offer for sale the Madonna of Czestochowa Church, Rectory and Social Hall Complex in Cardale, PA (lots 30-27-0050; 30-27-0051; 30-27-0052; 30-27-0053 totaling 2.155 acres)

If interested, contact the Parish Office **no later than September 30, 2024** at 724-583-7866 to obtain the details of the sealed bid process and deadline.

Mass Readings for the Week Ahead

Monday: Prv 3:27-34; Lk 8:16-18
 Tuesday: Prv 21:1-13; Lk 8:19-21
 Wednesday: Prv 30:5-9; Lk 9:1-6
 Thursday: Eccl 1:2-11; Lk 9:7-9
 Friday: Eccl 3:1-11; Lk 9:18-22
 Saturday: Eccl 11:9-12:8; Lk 9:43b-45
 Next Sunday: Nm 11:25-29; Jas 5:1-6; Mk 9:38-48



Sunday, September 22, marks the Autumnal Equinox, the official First Day of Fall.

Eucharistic Adoration

Wednesday, September 25, in Footedale

12:30-1:30 pm: Adoration & Confessions
 1:30-1:45 pm: Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena
 1:45-2:00 pm: Benediction

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

† **Sanctuary** - *Mary M. Mehok*
 requested by son, Fred Mehok

† **Blessed Mother** - *Catherine Novasky*
Birthday Remembrance
 requested by daughter-in-law, Sheilah

† **Saint Joseph** - *Joseph Sabatelli*
 requested by wife, Rosalie
Michael Kovacic, Birthday Remembrance
 requested by his children

† **Saint Anthony** - *Ronald Wydra*
 requested by his cousins

† **Sacred Heart** - *John & Bridget Berisko*
 requested by son, Philip



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