

Saints Joachim and Anne Parish

Elizabeth, Glassport, South Allegheny Roman Catholic Community

Established January 4, 2021

A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust

One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic

Website: joachimandannediopitt.org



THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

This is what John the Baptist proclaimed: "One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." - Mk 1:7-8

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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Administration Center

101 McLay Drive
Elizabeth, PA 15037

Phone 412-751-0663

Fax 412-751-2161

Email:

Church Buildings

+

Saint Eugene Church (StE)

3210 Liberty Way
McKeesport, PA 15133

+

Saint Michael Church (StM)

101 McLay Drive
Elizabeth, PA 15037

+

Queen of the Rosary Church (QoR)

530 Michigan Avenue
Glassport, PA 15045

January 10, 2021

Faith Formation
Adult - Children - Youth
101 McLay Drive
Elizabeth, PA 15037
Phone 412-754-0886

Email: FaihtForm@joachimandannediopitt.org
Facebook: FaithForm-



Mary of Nazareth Catholic School
1640 Fawcett Ave. White Oak, PA 15131
Pre-School 3 & 4, Kindergarten, First - Eighth Grade
please call the school office, 412-672-2360.
Webpage: www.maryofnazarethschool.org

The Pittsburgh Catholic is now Online.
thepittsburghcatholic.wpccomstating.com

Looking For A Faith Community? Wherever you are on your faith journey,
we welcome you to join our community. You may register by calling the Faith Community Office.

Sacraments

Baptism of Infants & Children

Baptism is a joyous event in the life of the church. Baptism is celebrated any Sunday after Mass. **Parents are required to attend a Pre-Baptism Class.**

Previous arrangements are necessary.

Instruction in the Faith - R.C.I.A.

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults Program is offered for those interested in the Catholic Faith. For more information, please contact Fr. Wagner.

Reconciliation

St. Eugene Church, Liberty

Tuesday, 7 - 7:30 pm

St. Michael Church, Elizabeth

Saturday, 11-11:30 am

Queen of the Rosary Church, Glassport

Saturday, 1-1:30 pm

St. Michael Church, Elizabeth

Saturday, 3:15-3:45 pm

St. Eugene Church, Liberty

Saturday, 5:15-5:45 pm

Marriage

The prospective bride and groom are to make arrangements with the priest or deacon at least 6 months prior to the proposed date of the wedding. Diocesan regulations require all couples to attend an approved pre-marriage preparation program.

Anointing of the Sick

the Anointing of the Sick is celebrated communally on the Second Sunday of the Month.

Ministry to the Sick and Shut In

Homebound members of the Parish should call the Parish Office to make arrangements to receive Holy Communion at home.

Sponsorship Forms

Only registered, practicing, fully-initiated Catholics are eligible for sponsor certificates. Please call the Parish Office.

Bulletin Information Deadline

2 weeks in advance of publish date.
elizabethsalleghebulletin@gmail.com

Moving

Please call or email your new address to the Parish Office.

Child Abuse Hotline 1-888-808-1235

Mass Intentions For The Week

StE St. Eugene Church, Liberty StM St. Michael Church, Elizabeth

QoR Queen of the Rosary Church, Glassport

January 10-17, 2021

Saturday, 9, Vigil, Baptism of the Lord

StM 4:00 pm M Emil Raynak - Raynak Family

StE 6:00 pm T Louise Kyslinger - Family & Friends

Sunday, 10, Baptism of the Lord

StE 8:00 am T Phyllis Bator - Family & Friends

StM 9:00 am M Jean & Rich Vezzani - Choir

QoR 10:30 am T Clara Palumbo - Family & Friends

StM 12 Noon M Ollie Merletto & Family - Yurkovich Family
Living & Deceased of the Grouping Family

Monday, 11, First Week of Ordinal Time, Weekday

QoR 8:30 am Violet Kovtun - Family & Friends

Novena - Infant of Prague

StM 9:00 am Beth Wargo - Parents, Emil & Shirley

Tuesday, 12, Weekday

StM 9:00 am Frank & Mildred Chovan - Fran & Stevie La Frankie

StE 6:30 pm Catherine Skrtic - Family & Friends

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions - 7:00 - 7:30 pm

Wednesday, 13, Weekday

QoR 8:30 am David Shyosky - Brian & Michelle Savko

StM 9:00 am Dick Eichner - Audrey Benz

Thursday, 14, Weekday

StE 8:30 am Steve Lasica - Family & Friends

StM 9:00 am Tom Gossman - Astrab Family

Friday, 15, Weekday

QoR 8:30 am James Megahan - Mom & Dad

StM 9:00 am Duane & Louise Kennedy - Family & Friends

Saturday, 16, Vigil, Second Sunday in Ordinal Time

StM 4:00 pm T Joseph Gioia - Carol

StE 6:00 pm M Bob & Donovan Komarnisky - Mary Komarnisky & Family

Sunday, 17, Second Sunday in Ordinal Time

StE 8:00 am M Julia Perkoski - Family & Friends

StM 9:00 am T Geraldine Sabol - Knights of Columbus, #10077

QoR 10:30 am M Marie Grantz - Family & Friends

StM 12 Noon T Richard Collins - Beth Ballint & Family
Living & Deceased of the Grouping Family

Low Gluten Hosts available - please see Priest before Mass.

All you who are thirsty, come to the water!

— Isaiah 55:1



Pastoral Staff**Clergy Team**

Reverend Thomas A. Wagner, Pastor
 Reverend Miroslaus A. Wojcicki, Senior Parochial Vicar
 Deacon Dale J. DiSanto, Permanent Deacon
 Deacon Jeffrey P. Formica, Permanent Deacon
 Deacon Stephen C. Pikula, Permanent Deacon
 Deacon John E. Ragan, Permanent Deacon

Mary of Nazareth Catholic School

Lynda McFarland, Principal, 412-672-2360

Faith Formation - Religious Education**Adult - Children - Youth**

Julie Fleckenstein, Facilitator
 Amanda Wilt, Co-Children, K-6 Grade
 Susan Formica, Youth, Junior & Senior High
 Darla Losteter, Family Support

Music Ministry

Celeste Cafasso
 Carol Gioia
 Pamela Whitney

Pastoral Secretary

Jan Kunkel
 Amy Megahan

Facilities

Tony Hutschow
 Kevin Hopkins
 Darla Losteter
 Patricia Muic

Business Manager & Safe Environment

Jeannie Premozic

Advisory Councils**Pastoral Council**

Jack Ferko, Facilitator	Patty Smith, Co-Facilitator	
	Zac Allan, Scribe	
Glenn Bonczek	Vickie Budd	Elaine David
Eric Davis	Denise DeCapria	Anne Laychak
Michael Ksiazek	Leah Meek	Brian Phillips

Finance Council

Judy Zajicek, Facilitator	Patricia Palmer, Co-Facilitator	
	Barry Bisogni, Scribe	
Kay Callear	Loretta Dabruzzo	Val McCarthy
Sandy Palmer	Judy Shriane	Donald Similo

We remember . . . In your charity,
 please remember all those who have died,
 especially: **Edward Matias, Mary Norelli,
 Wade Boyd, Frank Todaro, Hunter Shoben**
 grandson of Ron & Sandy Minnetti,
Sr. Rosemary Horvath, SDR,
all who will die today,
and those who have no one to pray for them.
Resting in Paradise.
Eternal Rest grant unto them O Lord.

January Rosary Intention

May the Lord give us the grace to live in full
 fellowship with our brothers and sisters of other
 religions praying for one another, open to all.

**The Baptism of the Lord
January 10, 2021**

We need history. We need it in order to understand ourselves, personally and collectively. The pieces of our histories may not have always been the most positive, honest, exemplary, dignified, proud and best moments of our lives, but they are ours. We have to acknowledge, remember, accept, and often heal them. We cannot forget them or pretend that they never existed. As horrible as the atrocities of events like Auschwitz, brutal injustices committed throughout the human journey, or personal painful experiences in our own stories, we need to remember. These times when humanity in general or people in particular have lost their way are times that need to be reconciled and redeemed.

If we lose the memories, we will make the same mistakes again. The human soul needs a strong sense of affirmation, direction, and clear purpose. Without these essentials, we will easily run amuck and repeat the sins of our past. God's voice throughout history has spoken precisely about this! We are reminded through the voices and example of many prophets and witnesses not to make the same mistakes again, come back to center, discover the purpose given to us by God, maintain a sense of proper direction, seek healing for wounds and be reconciled to our Creator.

Baptism is so incredibly important for the salvation of humankind, not only eternally but here and now. Our existence depends upon it. It gives us the affirmation we need from God by gifting us with the same intimate relationship Jesus had with the Father. We are blessed with the direction and clear purpose we need in order to be productive stewards and faithful Christians. Baptism calls us to remember, accept, and deal with the sins and inequities of our past regardless of how hurtful and serious. We consciously choose to turn away from them and put on the new life of Christ. To do this well, we must look hard and long at our sins and failings, listen to what they are saying and learn from them. If we ignore the past, collectively or personally, or pretend that it never happened, we will never grow. We will surely die.

People need to hear the message, lived and spoken, delivered by the baptized members of the Body of Christ. It is an essential message of hope that is layered with visions of justice, peace, reconciliation, redemption, blessing, and healing. It is a message that helps us remember what has gone before, the graces and the sins, and bring ourselves by God's help where we need to be. We are called to do much more than sit home behind our closed doors. We have a message to deliver. Are we ready to do so?

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Saints Joachim and Anne Parish
Elizabeth, Glassport, South Allegheny
Roman Catholic Community

Epiphany Proclamation

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, February 17, 2021

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
March 28, 2021

Easter Sunday, Resurrection of the Lord
April 4, 2021

First Holy Communion
Sunday, April 11, 2021

Confirmation
Monday, April 12, 2021

The Ascension of the Lord
Thursday, May 13, 2021

Pentecost Sunday
May 23, 2021

Our Lord Jesus Christ,
King of the Universe
November 21, 2021

A Family Perspective by Bud Ozar

The gospel today points to Jesus' humanity; like us
He needed **Recognition (You are my Son),**

Affection (My Beloved Son) and

Affirmation (With you I am well pleased).

In our families it is easy to focus on irritating behaviors and take for granted all the positives.

This New Year take a lesson from God the Father,

be an **AFFIRMER** and not a **BLAMER**.

Rehearsal

Psalms are sung in the home
and rehearsed in the streets.

—St. Ambrose

Safety First

Morning or Evening Mass Snow Cancellations

For everyone's safety, a delay or cancellation at **Elizabeth Forward or South Allegheny School Districts** is our notice of **Safety First**.

Mornings or Evenings with a delay or cancellation—**There will be no morning or evening Mass at Saint Eugene Church.** Please listen to the radio or watch TV for delays or cancellations. **Safety first! Be careful!**

Initial Offering Envelope

At the end of your December packet you will find your **Initial Offering Envelope**. Your donation of \$5 or \$10 will help to defray the cost of your Offertory envelopes throughout the year. Please place envelope in any collection. **Thank You!**

Parishioner Financial Statements

will be mailed prior to January 31, 2021.

Our records show what the parish received in the Offertory Contribution Envelopes and Parish Share Program.

Your contribution to the Campaign for the Church Alive will come under a different mailing.

Thank you for your sacrificial giving!

New Envelope Numbers

Beginning with the **Saints Joachim and Anne January Envelope packets,**

All Parishioners have been received
New Envelope Numbers.

With the combining of the St. Mark, St. Michael, and Queen of the Rosary census data, it became necessary to eliminate all duplicate numbers. The Parish Data System automatically assigned the new numbers.

Please make all checks payable to
Saints Joachim and Anne Parish

Mailing Offertory Envelopes:

Saints Joachim and Anne Parish
101 McLay Drive
Elizabeth, PA 15037

New Monthly Envelope

Beginning with the **January Envelope packets** the **Capital Improvement, Building & Grounds, Upkeep** and the **Utility & Energy or Fuel** envelopes will be replaced with a **New Monthly Envelope**.

Each Family is asked to contribute **\$20** to the Monthly Envelope. These monies will be used to assist in the upkeep of parish property and help cover the cost of energy and utilities.

Saints Joachim and Anne Parish 50/50

In your offertory packet, there is a special envelope marked **50/50 Drawing--Donation \$5.00.**

Thank You For Your Support!

You will be enriched in every way
for your great generosity.

—2 Corinthians 9:11

This is My Beloved Son



The Baptism of the Lord

It may seem obvious that the theme for the Baptism of the Lord is **water**, but when one spends time with the readings today, one can see many different connotations for that water and its power. Isaiah calls the poor who are thirsty and tired to come to the water and take the spiritual food and drink that will be provided if we but seek the Lord. Here, God is both destination and consolation. The responsorial psalm follows suit with the image of drawing water from the springs of salvation. 1 John takes us to the reality of Christ as eucharist: not only Jesus' birth and baptism, but his death, as we hear that Jesus came **by water and by blood**. The Gospel depicts John baptizing Jesus with water, and the Spirit baptizing Jesus. We experience both the humanity and the divinity of Christ. Indeed, water has much power to save us.

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The Waters of Baptism

When new sod is put in, it needs constant saturation with water. Landscapers say that this **knits** the sod to the soil. The same when a branch is grafted onto a tree: the poultice that joins them at the splice must be kept wet at all times. Water is the stuff that binds the very cells of our bodies together. No wonder religions throughout all times and cultures have used it so prominently. When Jesus stepped into the Jordan for baptism, he **knit** himself to what had come before him. By going to the Jordan, he made himself one with the people of Israel who had crossed it into their Promised Land. With John the Baptist, Christ wove himself into the prophetic tradition that heralded the coming reign of God. He had become fully human in the waters of Mary's womb, and by partaking in the rite of the baptism of repentance, Jesus identified himself with our sinful, frail humanity. It is through the waters of baptism that Christ continues to graft new members onto his Body, the Church; through these waters we are cleansed from sin and filled with the promise of grace, given our destiny for eternal life.

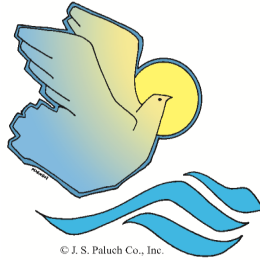
**For us, as for Jesus,
it is also the waters of baptism
that inaugurate our mission
to proclaim the Good News.**

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God anointed him with the Holy Spirit.

—Acts 10:34-38

He will baptize
with the
Holy Spirit



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Being the Messenger

When we go to a pop music concert, there is often an opening act. Usually they are a young group on their way up, or older musicians who are past their prime and still hanging on in the business. This is indeed a hard job. In the comedy world it is the same thing. You have to warm up the crowd. You are not who they are coming to see, and audiences may be unresponsive, come in late, or not pay a lot of attention. Yet John had no problem being the opening act, the messenger, the harbinger of faith for Jesus. He was very devout in his faith and knew what his role was. Many Jews were actively seeking a messiah, and he was quick to let them know that he was not the one for whom they were waiting. **I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.** Yet he conducted his ministry with faith and hope.

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Being the Message

As John humbly carried out his mission and Jesus accepted this simple baptism by John, the Holy Spirit indeed came down upon Jesus, and God proclaimed for the first time, **You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.** Thus Jesus began his formal ministry. There must have been much that he already knew, but also much that he uncovered each day in his encounters with the disciples and the crowds. As he responded **yes** to the Father over and over, his thirst was quenched and his spirit strengthened.

How many times do we witness baptisms in the parish? The priest ministers with simple elements of water and oil, but the Spirit is called down each time. Every time we participate, we are experiencing the message, experiencing the call again. How many times have we blessed ourselves with holy water, or participated in a sprinkling rite? Yet in these days, when church fonts are empty due to safety precautions, we need to remember those other times, trust in God, and sing the prayer of Isaiah in our hearts about drawing the water joyfully.

**We must trust in the message.
We must become the message of God's
saving action through our baptism and our lives.**

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You are my beloved Son,

with you I am well pleased. —Mark 1:7-11

When God Whispers

You don't need to shout.

My hearing works just fine.

Are you a parent that has used that one on your kids? I'm not sure at what age they realize that the volume of their voice doesn't correlate to the likelihood of receiving a favorable reply — it might be sometime in the teenage years, when the talking slows down altogether.

But I've got to admit, it would be nice if God always gave us a loud and dramatic sign when He wanted something — the booming voice and the torn-open heavens (**This is my beloved Son!**) really get the message across. Sometimes I find myself envious of the Apostles, who were able to witness such things in person.

The fact of the matter is, in the year 2021, God is more likely to speak in a whisper than in a shout. The prophet Isaiah forewarns that Christ himself will not be a noisemaker — for all his preaching, he will not cry out or shout to bring forth justice to the nations. His way is altogether different than that.

We are not the Apostles, and we do not have the privilege of seeing the Holy Spirit descend on Christ like a dove. But here's the good news: God doesn't need to shout. Our spiritual hearing works just fine. We just have to be listening.

Let's wake up each morning ready to hear God's whispers throughout the day. Let's make a conscious effort to invite those whispers into our hearts, where they can become a catalyst for grace in this world.

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi

An Ancient Baptism

One of the most ancient and enduring sites for baptism in Rome is the church of San Giovanni in Fonte. This church is in fact a baptistery, and houses the font for the Lateran Basilica, the cathedral of Rome. The Emperor Constantine sponsored its construction in the year 315, and it is therefore the oldest baptistery in the world. It is the model for nearly all later baptisteries, including perhaps the font in your own parish church.

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Marriage Moments by Susan Vogt

You who have no money, come, receive grain and eat (Isaiah 55:1). In these uncertain times, perhaps you are the one with no money. May your faith community feed you. If you are among those who have enough food, may your faith lead you to feed another. Talk with your beloved about how.

God anointed him with the Holy Spirit.

—Acts 10:34-38

Feast of Faith: The Liturgy of Emmanuel

The assembly has gathered from near and far, on foot, by bus, by car, by subway, singly and by twos and threes: single people, couples, families. Now that movement is ritualized and made visible in the liturgy's entrance procession.

We are not alone on this journey; Christ is with us. The procession is led by the cross, with the image of Christ upon it. Candles, signs of a living presence, are carried around the cross. Candles also accompany the Book of the Gospels, another sign of Emmanuel, God-with-us. The priest presider is likewise a sign of Christ's presence in our assembly; he will act in persona Christi, in the person of Christ, who presides at every Eucharist.

As the procession begins, we stand and sing together in our first act as a community. The joining of our voices begins to turn many into one. The songs we sing range from ancient chants to contemporary hymns, but they have the same purpose, to foster our unity and turn our thoughts to the mysteries we gather to celebrate. We may feel that we can't sing well, but **Christ always invites us to enter into song, to rise above our own preoccupations, and to give our entire selves to the hymn of his Paschal Sacrifice** (USCCB, *Sing to the Lord*, 14).

—Corinna Laughlin, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Feast of Faith: The Sign of the Cross

At the beginning of our prayer, we make the sign of the cross together. This sign, simple and powerful, operates on many levels. We trace the sign of the cross over our bodies, reminding ourselves that the cross of Christ has become our source of resurrection, life, and grace. With this sign, we also profess our faith in the Trinity: the presider does not say **in the names**, but **in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit**—three persons, one God. The sign of the cross is also a baptismal reminder, for every sign of the cross echoes the words spoken over us at our baptism, which marked our entry into the saving mystery of Christ. This many-layered sign is also our primary sign of blessing: the cross is traced over people, places, and things upon which we ask God to impart divine benediction.

In blessing ourselves with the sign of the cross at the beginning of Mass, we acknowledge the mystery that has gathered us together: that Christ, the crucified and risen One, is living, and that we are members of his Body. Our response, our **Amen**, is our **yes** to all this, our first profession of faith.

—Corinna Laughlin, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



Faith Formation

Faith Formation Adult - Children - Youth Religious Education

101 McLay Drive Elizabeth, PA 15037
412-754-0886 Email: 213faithform@gmail.com
Facebook: FaithFormation-EGSA

Faith Formation Sessions have begun.

Parents are reminded that children must complete two consecutive years of formation before receiving any sacraments (Holy Communion or Confirmation).

If you have any questions or concerns,
please email 213FaithForm@gmail.com
or call the Faith Formation Office, 412-754-0886
and leave a message.



For more information or to register,
please email 213Youth@gmail.com
or call Mrs. Formica, 412-754-0886

Save the Date

Family Fun Night & Car Cruise
Friday, June 18, 2020
Sponsored by Youth Ministry

Bereavement Ministry

This group, led by Deacon Dale DiSanto, is for people Who have lost a loved one and are experiencing grief.

This is a Support Group, not counseling.

If you need assistance in moving through your grief, this is an ongoing way to be supported during this difficult time. The weekly session begins with suggested topics, open discussion and ends with prayer.

Parenting Pointers by Susan Vogt

Pose this question to your child -

My favorite Christmas gift was _____.

Consider that some people in the world didn't get a Christmas gift. Be grateful. Are they old enough to write a thank you note?

Pre-Baptism Class

Are you expecting? Is this your first child?

Pre-Baptism Class is for expectant parents and Godparents or anyone who is seeking a Catholic Baptism for their child.

Pre-Baptism Class - Deacon Dale DiSanto

Thursday, March 17, 2021 at 7:00 pm

St. Michael Meeting Room

Grandparents are also welcome at these classes.

Please register by calling the **Faith Formation - Religious Education** office, 412-754-0886 or emailing 213FaithForm@gmail.com.

Prior to scheduling a Baptism, parents need to attend the Pre-Baptismal Seminar.

Protecting God's Children Safe Environment for Children

To take reasonable measures to assure that Church personnel comply with all required certifications and background checks for the purpose of providing a safe environment for children.

Diocesan Database & Regulations for all Ministries

All parish staff and volunteers including: Faith Formation - Catechists, Class Aides, R.C.I.A. Team, Youth Ministry; Liturgical and Music Ministry - Adult Servers, Cantors, Choir, Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, Ushers; Parish Organizations - Christian Mothers/Women's Guild, Holy Name Society, Knight's of Columbus, Ladies of Charity, Rosary Society; Fund Raising - Festival, Fish Fry, Fund-Raising Worker, etc. are required by the USCCB, the Diocese of Pittsburgh and Saints Joachim and Anne Parish to be cleared in the following ways:

- 1. Be registered on the Diocesan Data Base.**
- 2. Sign the Code of Pastoral Conduct.**
- 3. Be cleared by the Department of Public Welfare.**
- 4. Be cleared by the Pennsylvania State Police.**
- 5. Attend Protecting God's Children Seminar.**

The **Protecting God's Children Seminar** (an online 3 hour seminar) is a requirement of the National Conference of Bishops, Diocesan and Parish for all adults 18 years of age or older who are involved in the public ministry (work) of the church.

For more information, questions,
or to begin the process of certification,
please call Jeannie, 412-751-0663,
Parish Safe Environment Coordinator.

**Sunday, Jan 10 The Baptism of the Lord**

Is 55:1-11 1; Acts 10:34-38; Mk 1:7-11

Do justice—We sometimes imagine it's about collecting sacraments. Or stockpiling mountains of prayers. Writing fat checks to charities. Or being nice to people we don't like. But the prophets relentlessly insist that what God desires from us is a just world. Where there's a privileged class, abominable wage gaps, racist systems, and deeply disproportionate outcomes for a nation's citizens, the peaceable reign of God can't gain a foothold. Contemplate categories of injustice—education, health care, employment opportunities, criminal justice—to name a few. Make one your special cause, learn all you can, and educate others about it. **A smoldering wick he shall not quench, until he establishes justice on the earth.**

Monday, Jan 11; First Week in Ordinal Time

Hebrews 1:1-6; Mark 1:14-20

Nothing ordinary about the reign of God—Today is the first weekday of Ordinary Time—that period in the church's liturgical year after the close of the Christmas season that stretches until Ash Wednesday (and then picks up after Pentecost until Advent begins again). This time after the holidays can indeed seem **ordinary**, when all the commotion dies down and all the decorations are put away. Some people, especially those who live with long, cold winters, might even feel a little blue. But while sacred seasons are important, getting down to business is too. After all, there's a reign of God to help build. Think about everything Jesus did between the bookends of his life that we celebrate—and roll up your sleeves for some extraordinary work. **Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men.**

Tuesday, Jan 12; Weekday

Hebrews 2:5-12; Mark 1:21-28

The power of a name—The Holy Name of Jesus is a devotion that was championed by Saint Bernardino of Siena in the 1400s—with the Holy Name Society dating to the 1200s. As a feast day, it's been celebrated during the first week of January by various Christian denominations and by Catholic religious orders, most notably the Jesuits, who use a monogram of the name (IHS) as their emblem. For Catholics, the entire month of January is dedicated to the Holy Name of Jesus. Pray the Litany of the Holy Name of Jesus today, recalling how even the unclean spirits of Jesus' day recognized his name. **What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth?**

Wednesday, Jan 13; Hilary, bishop & doctor of the church

Hebrews 2:14-18; Mark 1:29-39

Be gracious in your disagreements—Catholics of the 21st century profess the belief that Jesus is both human and divine every time we recite the Nicene Creed at Mass. However, that profession of faith was challenged mightily in the fourth century when followers of Arius argued that Jesus was a great man—but not God. The conflict involved bishops and emperors on both sides and it went on for years. Hilary of Poitiers converted to Christianity at the age of 35 and was elected a bishop three

years later. Hilary was a friendly and courteous man who persistently championed belief in Jesus' divinity. Even exile did not silence his voice. In our own times of conflict and division, Saint Hilary, guide us to God's grace. **For this purpose have I come.**

Thursday, Jan 14; Weekday

Hebrews 3:7-14; Mark 1:40-45

Reach out and touch an outcast—Jesus heals a leper in today's gospel. Leprosy is relatively rare now in most regions of the world, so it's hard to understand the fear and revulsion that people with this disease triggered at one time. Even someone as close to God as Saint Francis struggled to be comfortable with touching a leper. Every age has its outcasts, and the Christian challenge has always been to learn to accept those others find unacceptable, love those others find unlovable. Prisoners, poor people, those with dark skin or foreign accents, the homeless—the list of modern lepers is long. Who do you avoid? Acknowledging your aversion is a step toward acceptance. **He . . . touched the leper, and said to him, I do will it. Be made clean.**

Friday, Jan 15; Weekday

Hebrews 4:1-5, 11; Mark 2:1-12

Color blind no more—Today in Guatemala, a major religious procession honors an image of Christ on the cross carved from dark wood and renowned throughout the region as the **Black Christ of Esquipulas**. The statue was commissioned by Spanish colonial leaders looking to convert the indigenous people who worshipped a dark-skinned deity. Today the image affirms the fact that in Latin America there has been a certain **fluidity between races through inter-marriage and more blending of cultures and religions when compared to the experience of Native Americans and African Americans**, as El Paso Bishop Mark J. Seitz wrote in a remarkable pastoral letter on the history of racism, **Night Will Be No More**. Today would be a good day to dip into this document for insights into the history and persistence of racism, regionwide. May the Black Christ be a symbol of hope! **They were all astounded and glorified God, saying, We have never seen anything like this.**

Saturday, Jan 16; Blessed Virgin Mary

Hebrews 4:12-16; Mark 2:13-17

Be present to the Presence—The great paradox of God's kingdom is often expressed in the teachings of Jesus: The blind see, the lame walk, the deaf hear, the last are first, the dead live. The first and most profound paradox is that the Virgin conceives. Our Blessed Mother experienced the coming Kingdom in her own body. She shares that experience with us in our communion with the Lord. We carry the Real Presence of the Savior in our own bodies. The ongoing paradox is that the Lord calls us, who are sinners, to be the vessels of his presence in the world. Express that presence today by lifting up the lowly. **I did not come to call the righteous but sinners.**

Second Collection - January 16/17, 2021**St. Anthony School and
DePaul School for Hearing and Speech**

St. Anthony and DePaul both fill a necessary role for special education within the Diocese of Pittsburgh. St. Anthony Programs offer an inclusive education to children ages 5-21 years with special needs and DePaul teaches children, birth to 14 years, who are deaf or hard of hearing to listen, speak, and learn. Both programs empower students to become active and contributing members of their respective communities.

Any help you can give is deeply appreciated and makes a tremendous impact on the students and families we serve.

On behalf of our students, families, and staff, we can't thank you enough for supporting these invaluable programs that benefit many members of the Diocese and local community.

Thank you for your generous support!

Time, Talent, and Treasure**December 25, 2020**

Christmas Offering \$16,649

Children Charities \$4,549

December 27, 2020

Weekly Offering \$14,992.50

January 1, 2021

Offering \$2,135

January 3, 2021

Offering \$6,849

First Offering \$979.10

Monthly \$477

Parish Share Received \$126,843

Parish Share Goal \$168,086

Thank You For Your Sacrificial Giving!

**Saint Mark, Saint Michael
and Queen of the Rosary 50/50**

In your offertory packet, there is a special envelope marked 50/50 Drawing--Donation \$5.00.

Congratulations December Winners

Saint Mark - Janice Matyasovsky

Saint Michael - Keith & Nora Kelley

Queen of the Rosary - Theresa Komondor

Thank you for your continual support!

Saints Joachim and Anne Parish**Intention and Memorial Requests**

Altar Bread & Wine, Altar Flowers, Sanctuary Lamp

St. Eugene Church:

___ Altar Bread & Wine ___ Sanctuary Lamp

St. Michael Church:

___ Altar Bread & Wine

___ Sanctuary Lamp Chapel ___ Sanctuary Lamp Church

Queen of the Rosary Church:

___ Altar Bread & Wine ___ Sanctuary Lamp

Please Print

___ Intention (Living) ___ Memorial (Deceased)

Date Requested _____

Alternate Date: _____

Please Print _____

Requested by _____

Donation \$ _____ **Phone #** _____

Please place your request and donation (\$15.00) in an envelope marked Altar Memorials and deposit in the collection or mail to, Sts. Joachim and Anne Parish, 101 McLay Drive, Elizabeth, PA 15037.

For Altar Flower Memorials please call the Parish Office, 412-751-0663, to check availability. Thank you for your kind support!

Available now...CUPID CIRCLE TICKET

Benefits Saints Joachim and Anne Parish

Try a chance at winning a total of

\$4000.00 in the month of February.

Minimum payout is \$100.00.

\$10.00 per ticket with 28 chances to win!

Pays out on the 7pm PA Daily Pick 3. No bonus numbers.

Numbers will be dispersed

on a first-come, first-served basis.

If you would like to help our Parish

with selling a few tickets or helping to sell

before and after Masses, please contact Cathy or Jan.

Thank You for your support!



Patriotic Rosary
Monday Evening
January 11, 2021 - 7:00 pm
Saint Michael Church
Elizabeth, PA

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Rosary, Patriotic Hymns and Benediction**

There will be **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** with **Benediction** to conclude the recitation of the Rosary.

The **Patriotic Rosary** will be prayed on the Second Monday of the Month.

All are invited and most assuredly welcome!

Mary, Queen of the Rosary, pray for us.



May God Bless Our Service Personnel

We pray for and remember our Service Men and Women who are serving on active duty in the Armed Services, especially: **Cpl. Peter A. Barrante, USMC; Maj. Damian Baskerville, USAF; Col. Richard Collage, PA NG; Staff Sgt. Nicholas DeLuca, Army; Ens. David DeMaio, USCG; Capt. Craig Dolhi, Army; Capt. Anthony Formica, Army; Jacob Formica, E-4, Army; 2nd Lt. John Formica, Army; SPC Samuel Formica, Army National Guard; Capt. Markus Gibson, USMC; 2ndLt. Miles Gibson, USMC; PO2. Mason Gibson, USN; T/Sgt. Michael Goodman, USAF; Lt. Col. James Hock, Army; E5 Sgt. Brian Imundo, Army; Sgt. Russ Langley, Marines; Staff Sgt. Raymond Massung, Jr., USAF; Sgt. First Class William Nellis, Army; Staff Sgt. Timothy Oeler, USAF; LTJG. Timothy Ragan, USN; Amn. Stephanie A. Reichenbach, USAF; PFC David R. Saunders, Army National Guard; Sgt. Brandon R. Smith, USAF Pararescueman; Amn. Adam Stitt, USAF; Capt. Andrew Tkac, Army.**

Thank you for your service!

May We Never Forget . . . Freedom is Never Free!

*May God Bless Our Health Care Workers
and All First Responders.*

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**Saints Joachim and Anne Parish
Community Festival 2021
is scheduled for
August 5, 6, 7, 2021**

Happy 2021! — The start to a new year is a reminder that our **Community Festival** is only 8 months away, **August 5th, 6th and 7th.**

Please remember that we need your donations for the **Specialty Baskets**. They are a big hit with all of our loyal patrons. They love how our baskets are so packed full with different themes from baking and kitchen items to children's toys and games. We create baskets for men's items, car wash baskets, summer grilling items, tools etc.. For the women we have gardening, candle, crafting, and decorating items. Please keep us in mind when you are shopping and remember to drop off any new items (**never been used**), at the back of our Gathering Spaces at each one of our churches. **Thank you for your generosity!**

We couldn't do it without your help.

**Saints Joachim and Anne Parish
Food Bank Sunday
Third Sunday of the Month**



We accept all non-perishable food items and paper products to administer to the needy of our local community.

Items for your consideration are pasta and sauces, tuna fish, rice, stews, cereal, canned fruits & vegetables, coffee & tea, hot chocolate mix, peanut butter & jelly, sugar, flour, crackers, Jell-O gelatin, puddings, powdered milk, cocoa, infant formula & baby food, juices, facial soap, shampoo, laundry detergent, diapers, facial tissues, paper towels, toilet tissue, cleansers, etc.

Please bring your donations to Mass with you and leave them in the **Gathering Space of the Church.** **Cash or checks are also welcome.**

Kind deeds change lives, Thank You!

Upcoming Events

Knights of Columbus will meet on **Monday, February 1, 2021 at 7:30 pm** in the St. Michael - Archangel Hall.

Glassport Sons of Italy Spaghetti Dinner
Sunday, January 2021 - 12 Noon to 6:00 pm
Homemade Gnocchi or Cheese Ravioli
with Meatballs, Salad & Dessert
Take-Out Only 412-673-3915