

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



5TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

When it was evening, after sunset, they brought to him all who were ill or possessed by demons. The whole town was gathered at the door. He cured many who were sick with various diseases, and he drove out many demons, not permitting them to speak because they knew him. - Mk 1:32-34

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 412-751-0663
Email: TBA

Church Buildings

+
Saint Eugene (StE)
3210 Liberty Way
McKeesport, PA 15133

+
Saint Michael (StM)
101 McLay Drive
Elizabeth, PA 15037

+
Queen of the Rosary (QoR)
530 Michigan Avenue
Glassport, PA 15045

February 07, 2021

Faith Formation

Adult - Children - Youth

101 McLay Drive

Elizabeth, PA 15037

Phone 412-754-0886

Email: 213FaithForm@gmail.com



Mary of Nazareth Catholic School
1640 Fawcett Ave. White Oak, PA 15131
Pre-3, Pre-4, Kindergarten, First-Eighth Grade
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 Administration Center.

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.
elizabethsalleghenybulletin@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

February 7-14, 2021

Saturday, 6, Vigil, Fifth Sunday in Ordinal Time

StM 4:00 pm M Emil & Shirley Wargo - 65th Wedding Anniversary - Family

StE 6:00 pm T Annette Glaser - Family & Friends

Sunday, 7, Fifth Sunday in Ordinal Time

StE 8:00 am T Joseph Stipanovic - Family & Friends

StM 9:00 am M Al Lantz - Formica Family

QoR 10:30 am T Ruth Rushe - Family & Friends

StM 12 Noon M Marsha Dubos - Mary Briggs

Living & Deceased of the Parish Family

Monday, 8, Weekday

QoR 8:30 am Joseph & Stella Delia - Family

Novena - Infant of Prague

StM 9:00 am Tom Gossman - Astrab Family

Tuesday, 9, Weekday

StM 9:00 am Robert Dobrich - Children

StE 6:30 pm Bob & Helen Petro - Partyka Family

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

Wednesday, 10, Scholastica, virgin

QoR 8:30 am Duane 'Dunny' Molinaro - Mary Jean & Duane Molinaro

StM 9:00 am Ruth & Andrew Edwards - Sam & Linda George & Family

Thursday, 11, Our Lady of Lourdes

StE 8:30 am Carmen & Giovanna Marchetti - Ernie & Helen Buccini

StM 9:00 am Mary DeRubeis - Kevin & Beth Mitnik

Friday, 12, Weekday

QoR 8:30 am Caroline Moranelli - Family & Friends

StM 9:00 am Patrick Stetar - Audrey Benz & Casey Wagner

Saturday, 13, Vigil, Sixth Sunday in Ordinal Time

StM 4:00 pm T Marguerite Oeler - Bob & Marge Dietrick

StE 6:00 pm M Clifford Hoak - Family & Friends

Sunday, 14, Sixth Sunday in Ordinal Time

StE 8:00 am M Susan Minkus - Family & Friends

StM 9:00 am T Shirley Gates Noll - Pat Gates

QoR 10:30 am M Virginia Panchak - Family & Friends

StM 12 Noon T Linda Booth - Jim & Sandy Ginosky

Living & Deceased of the Parish Family

Low Gluten Hosts available - please see Priest before Mass.

Used Palm

Please bring your used palm from Palm Sunday to the Gathering Space of our churches.

The palm will be burned and used for the distribution of ashes on Ash Wednesday. Thank you for your help.

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

Music Ministry

Celeste Cafasso
 Carol Gioia
 Pamela Whitney

Pastoral Secretary

Jan Kunkel
 Amy Megahan

Facilities

Tony Hutskow
 Kevin Hopkins
 Darla Losteter
 Patricia Muic

Business Manager & Safe Environment

Jeannie Premozic

Advisory Councils

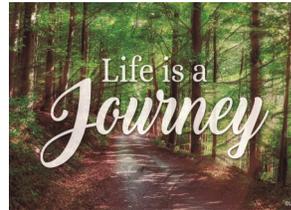
Pastoral Council

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



**5th Sunday in Ordinal Time
 February 7, 2021**

If I only knew then what I know now, how different life would be. This sentiment, expressed in myriad ways, is found on every human being's lips at one point or another. Life may have brought us to a vulnerable place where we see some of the poor choices we made and the effects they are having. Perhaps we fell into some destructive and dysfunctional relationships or behaviors and are finding how they held us captive. Our zeal and passion for life may have drifted away and we are waking up to the reasons apathy has taken hold. Life can be hard. In fact, some would describe their lives as a drudgery. They walk through each day with an anxious unsettledness, wondering when their restlessness will cease. There is a temptation to believe that what I see is all I will get. Mortality and hopelessness await the dawn. If I could only have known what would come in the future, I could have made better choices and avoided all of this misery!

Really? While we can certainly give into weakness, sin, impulsiveness, and idiosyncrasies that cause us to stumble over ourselves, life is really a journey. If we don't make the mistake of wallowing in the mire of self-pity and realize the new life God is calling us to, then there are thrills, adventures, surprises, and soul-searching graces we can surely miss. We are not tethered to our past nor are we bound to the ills life can bring upon us. We are never hopeless or helpless. The problem is that our myopic vision only allows us to see the misery and misfortune that is before us, not the potential that can come from choosing healthier and more life-giving options. Jesus came that we might have fullness of life. We need to learn how to reach for Jesus' hand and let him help us to our feet.

We need to allow God into our pain and heal our past. We have to wrestle with our histories, agonize and search and cry out for the Divine healing we need to restore our faith, hope, and love. Job could not see how his story would end or trust the guidance of the God who called him. We live in that same blindness and suffer from the same lack of confidence. Once we allow ourselves to be touched by God's healing power, we begin to see that all of the pieces of our lives are necessary parts of a greater whole. Along the way of our lives, God uses our omissions and failures to create new things and possibilities. When doors close, others open and we can be amazed by the joyful and unexpected surprises we receive. Once we know the power of God's creative, healing, life-giving, forgiving, and dynamic presence, it is no wonder we want to put ourselves at the service of others and show them what life can be.

©LPi

We remember . . . In your charity,
 please remember all those who have died,
 especially: **William 'Bill' Wilson, Jean Capozzoli,
 Amelia Mendicino, Norbert Piekut,
 Paul Fedorka, David Boden, Dorothy Onder,
 Sr. Margaret Boes, CDP, Fr. Donald Bischof,
 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.**

February Rosary Intention

We pray for women who are victims of violence,
 that they may be protected by society
 and have their sufferings considered and heeded.

**Everyday Stewardship -
Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments
The Audacity of Holiness**

Do you know a holy person? I'm not talking about piety — that's important, too, in its own way. But right now, I'm speaking of holiness.

Saint Therese of Lisieux called holiness a **disposition of the heart that makes us humble and little in the arms of God, aware of our weakness, and confident — in the most audacious way — in His Fatherly goodness.**

The holy person sees a storm on the horizon of life, and rather than give themselves over to fear and despair (natural and understandable reactions), regards the gathering winds as an opportunity to rely more fully on God. The holy person takes a bad situation and sanctifies it with charity and understanding that defies our fallen human nature.

Peter's mother-in-law was still in the throes of a fever when Jesus grasped her hand. It wasn't until she took his hand and allowed him to help her up that **the fever left her and she waited on them.** Before the fever could leave her, she had to commit to holiness — to put her trust in him in a most audacious way. She had to find it within herself to lift her weakened hand to grasp his — and as soon as she did, she was rewarded. Her bodily health restored, she gave thanks, and attended to his needs.

God's hand is always outstretched to us. Will we take it, even if the fever of sin and pride and worldly concerns rages in our souls? Will we muster the strength? Will we be audacious enough to have confidence in His Fatherly goodness?

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi

**Saints Joachim and Anne Parish
Food Bank Sunday**



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

Items needed 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!

Bagged Lunches For the Homeless

Thank you for your support of the Youth Group.

Twenty-eight students, with their adult volunteers, packed 120 hot **Thanksgiving Casseroles**, sandwiches, cookies, crackers, pudding & chips, to serve the less fortunate in Pittsburgh. **Thank you for all your support.**

Parishioner Financial Statements

have been mailed. If you have not received yours please call, 412-751-0663.

Our records show what the parish received in the Offertory Contribution Envelopes and Parish Share Program. All contributions to the Campaign for the Church Alive will come under a different mailing.

Thank you for your sacrificial giving!

New Envelope Numbers

All Saints Joachim and Anne Parishioners have received a New Envelope 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

The **New Monthly Envelope** replaces the **Capital Improvement, Building & Grounds, Upkeep** and the **Utility & Energy or Fuel.**

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. **Thank You!**

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 Cor 9:11**

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!**

Fifth Sunday in Ordinal Time



© Annika Nelson

Our readings today summon the Church to embrace its calling, to join in God’s healing of the world. As we hear of Job’s anguish, in which all hope and purpose have

disappeared, we are reminded of the depth of suffering in the world around us, and perhaps also within our own hearts. We hear of Jesus bringing healing and hope to Simon’s mother-in-law and to the community around Capernaum. And we hear of Paul’s commitment to **become all things to all**, that is, to walk alongside all kinds of people, offering good news of the love of God. We need to be a people who do not hide from broken hearts, including our own. We are to share in the suffering of our world, but also to live as those who can tell the world of a God who brings hope. At our best,

we the Church embody God’s great desire to heal the brokenhearted.

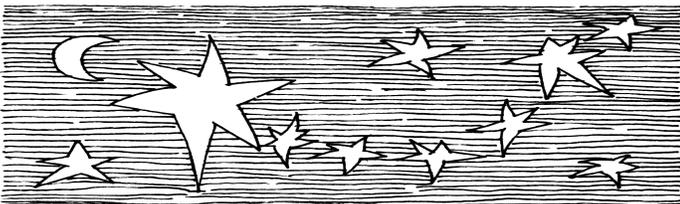
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A Time To Lament

The poignant description of human suffering in our reading from the book of Job echoes the cries we have heard throughout the world with the coming of the coronavirus. We grieve many losses: of life and health, of jobs and security, of freedom to be with those we love. We are reminded that many of the psalms are prayers lamenting that the world is often not what it ought to be. In these coronavirus times, we the Church are first called to prayerfully lament: to weep with those who are weeping and to ache for a better world. Our prayer can remind us that, as Paul described in Romans 8, **all creation is groaning, and the Holy Spirit is groaning in wordless, shared suffering.**

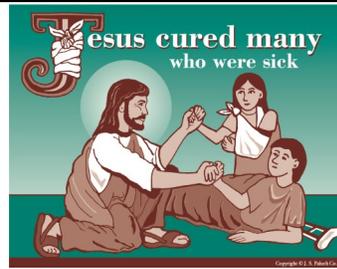
We also live in God’s promise to transform our tears into joy. God is eager to bring healing to the world, and we are God’s instruments in doing so. We bring God’s gifts of creativity, resourcefulness, and perseverance to the task. Our prayerful lamentation reminds us of the urgency of God’s work through us.

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The LORD tells the number of the stars and calls them by name. — Psalm 147:4



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The Good News

Today’s readings begin with a few verses from the book of Job. First, Job complains that his nights drag on endlessly. Then, worse yet, **My days are swifter than a weaver’s shuttle; they come to an end without hope** (Job 7:6). Not exactly encouraging, these lamentations, not when taken alone.

Most of us have been there, though, and the antidote is the **good news** that Paul found so compelling that **an obligation has been imposed on me, and woe to me if I do not preach it!** (1 Cor 9:16). Paul felt driven to announce the gospel to as many people as possible, **to save at least some** (9:22).

This good news is the mystery of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, who lifted Simon Peter’s mother-in-law from her sickbed with a mere touch of his hand. **The whole town was gathered at the door. He cured many who were sick with various diseases, and he drove out many demons** (Mark 1:33–34). Our woes and demons are as real as Job’s, and Jesus is our savior.

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Freed To Serve

The first chapter of Mark’s Gospel is very fast-paced, as Jesus begins his ministry on the move. The first scene in today’s passage happens so quickly that it’s easy to miss: Jesus heals Simon’s mother-in-law, and she promptly begins to serve Jesus and the disciples. This woman is never named, and only noted by her relationship with Simon. But she is the first person in Mark, once healed by Jesus, to clearly respond as a disciple. Her healing frees her to serve Jesus and others, and sparks the healing of many others.

Throughout the Gospels, Jesus’ healings restore health, dignity, and a place in the community. They are also a summons to service. Mark’s brief story highlights that God is always raising up persons and communities, healed of illness or sin or sadness, to join in God’s healing work for others.

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Jesus cured many who were sick with various diseases.

—Mark 1:29-39

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.

Marriage Moments by Susan Vogt

If you're too busy to have a weekly date with your spouse, you may be too busy. Tonight, choose several hours next weekend that you can devote just to each other. This time, the wife plans what to do, next time it's the husbands turn.

Parenting Pointers by Susan Vogt

So how are we to understand the scripture, **Although I am free in regard to all, I have made myself a slave to all** (1 Cor 9:19). Who wants to be a slave? Isn't parenting a form of being a slave to the needs of your child?

A Family Perspective by Bud Ozar

In today's gospel, Jesus went to the **house of Andrew and Simon** to relax but discovered that **Simon's mother-in-law was very ill**. Like Jesus we come home to relax but are confronted with problems. Take a tip from Andrew and Simon who **told Jesus about it at once**.

Feast of Faith: The Gloria (1)

The Gloria, or Glory to God, follows the penitential rite. Both are acts of praise. In the penitential rite, we sing of the mercy of Christ. In the Gloria we praise God's saving action in the universe.

The Gloria is a relatively late addition to the Mass. It first appeared in the Roman liturgy in the sixth century, and then it was sung only by the pope—and only on Christmas! With time, the hymn came to be sung by bishops on major feasts, and then by priests; finally, it became the song of the entire assembly. With the advent of more elaborate musical settings, the people gradually stopped singing the Gloria, until this song of the people became the exclusive domain of the priest and the choir. But the liturgical reforms have restored it to its place as primarily the song of the assembly.

The language of the Gloria echoes the New Testament canticles. It may be begun by the priest, the cantor, and the entire assembly in varied combinations. The Gloria is sometimes called the **greater doxology**, and in some ways it is like an extended, ecstatic version of the familiar doxology (**Glory be to the Father**) prayed in the Divine Office and the rosary.

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

MARY OF NAZARETH CATHOLIC SCHOOL
1640 FAWCETT AVE. WHITE OAK, PA 15131

Open Enrollment



One-to-One Technology

Students attend classes brick and mortar

Real time teaching when virtual

Call the school office at 412-672-2360
to schedule a tour

Visit us at maryofnazarethschool.org



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.

Faith, Fellowship, & Food
Adult Education Series for Lent 2021
The Lamb's Supper with Scott Hahn
Lent Series - February 16 - March 23, 2021

For this Lent we will be journeying with Scott Hahn's book **The Lamb's Supper**. We will begin on the **Tuesday** before **Ash Wednesday, Tuesday, February 16**, and will run for **6 weeks** and conclude on **Tuesday, March 23**. Our Tuesday evenings begin at 6:45 pm in Saint Michael - Archangel Hall with a light meal, prayer, a video presentation, and a small group discussion. Donation for materials is \$10 per person. Please contact Sue at sformicaym@comcast.net or 412-926-8412 to register, and joins us as we learn more about our Catholic Faith.



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, 2021
 Sponsored by Youth Ministry

First Holy Communion
Sunday, April 11, 2021
Confirmation
Monday, April 12, 2021

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 11, 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.

Show the Love
 Jesus commanded us to love our neighbor as we love ourselves, and that can be difficult especially amid this Covid-19 pandemic. Now through Palm Sunday, we are asking for different items for different charity groups so that we can continue to help our neighbors near and far. Please place your gifts in the Bins at the altar.

Warming Station
Items Needed: Gloves & Underwear (especially men), Razors & Shaving Cream, Shampoo & Soap, Toilet Paper, Adult Backpacks, and (for both men & women) Thermals, Hats & Scarves, Socks

Blessing Bags For The Homeless
Items Needed: Packs of crackers & granola bars, hard candy, Travel Size toothpaste, lotion, deodorant & soap, toothbrushes, Chapstick

Thank you for your kindness and support!

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.

**Sunday, Feb 7:****5th Sunday in Ordinal Time**

Job 7:1-4, 6-7; 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23;
Mark 1:29-39

Game on—The odds for Super Bowl Sunday 2021 were available last February. Tickets for the game have been on sale for as long. But things don't always happen the way we plan them. Last year, when the Chiefs were pitted against the 49ers, no one imagined how the world would change between one Super Bowl and the next. Still, Jesus comes into our midst wherever we are, whatever our circumstances, and grasps us by the hand. We can't be sure of the game plan for the future. But we can trust that Jesus will be there for us. **Simon's mother-in-law lay sick with a fever. . . . [Jesus] grasped her hand, and helped her up.**

Monday, Feb 08; Jerome Emiliani, priest

Genesis 1:1-19; Mark 6:53-56

Share the love to feel the love—Who hasn't felt all alone before? Perhaps let down or left by a loved one. Perhaps in such dire straits that you thought even God abandoned you. Jerome Emiliani is the saint for those low points. He found God in ultimate isolation—prison. Once free, he became a priest and devoted himself to the abandoned of 16th century Venice—especially orphans and prostitutes. When you feel stricken with an orphan spirit, remember that you are a beloved child of a loving Creator who will never let you go. Show that same love to those who need you most. **They laid the sick in the marketplaces and begged him that they might touch only the tassel on his cloak.**

Tuesday, Feb 09; Weekday

Genesis 1:20—2:4a; Mark 7:1-13

Be the change—Gregory XV became pope by **popular acclaim** on this day in 1621—interesting, because he changed the tradition soon after. Instead, Gregory made the case for the first secret ballot when electing a pope. He also did other remarkable things, considering his papacy lasted barely two years. He established the first missionary organization of the Vatican, the **Congregation for the Propagation of the Faith**. And he canonized these beloved saints: Ignatius of Loyola, Teresa of Avila, Francis Xavier, and Philip Neri. Is there a change you've been meaning to make in your own practice of the faith? Begin today. **The Pharisees and scribes questioned him, Why do your disciples not follow the tradition?**

Wednesday, Feb 10; Scholastica, virgin

Genesis 2:4b-9, 15-17; Mark 7:14-23

God's assistance rains down—There are few details of Saint Scholastica's early life, but we do know that this sister of Benedict of Nursia entered religious life and lived in a women's monastery a few miles from her brother's in Monte Cassino. Perhaps the most enduring story about Scholastica is one that pits her will against her brother's when she begs him to extend their yearly visit and spend the night in prayer and conversation. Benedict resists, not wishing to break his own rule with a night

away from home. Determined, Scholastica asks God for assistance, and a torrential rainstorm ensues that settles the matter in her favor—Benedict will spend the night. Never doubt that you are worthy to ask for God's help. Trust your heart to know what will draw you closer to God. **When you send forth your spirit, they are created, and you renew the face of the earth.**

Thursday, Feb 11; Our Lady of Lourdes

Genesis 2:18-25; Mark 7:24-30

Turn to Mary—Much of Jesus' ministry had to do with some form of healing, and today's memorial, Our Lady of Lourdes, recognizes Mary's 18 reported appearances in Lourdes, France, a place of pilgrimage known for healing powers. Millions of people a year travel to Lourdes in search of healing; many report spiritual peace and transformation, and a handful even report experiencing cures without medical explanation. Today is also World Day of the Sick. It's an ideal day to ask Mary to intercede on behalf of healing that we need—or that our friends and loved ones desire. **Soon a woman whose daughter had an unclean spirit heard about him. She came and fell at his feet.**

Friday, Feb 12; Weekday

Genesis 3:1-8; Mark 7:31-37

Say their name—This day, falling between **World Day of the Sick** and **Valentine's Day**, brings thoughts of how many are left alone after COVID deaths. Advertisers are pushing candy, cards, and flowery bouquets, but the countercultural church also counsels that we pay kind attention to those who are grieving. Practical actions are often most helpful: not only shoveling a driveway or baking some bread, but also reaching out and just listening to whatever is on the grieving person's heart. Sometimes all a grieving person wants is to name the beloved and talk about them again. Being a good listener is a welcome gift. **They were exceedingly astonished and they said, 'He has done all things well.'**

Saturday, Feb 13; Blessed Virgin Mary

Genesis 3:9-24; Mark 8:1-10

Saturdays belong to Mary—For more than a thousand years, the Catholic Church has dedicated most Saturdays to the Blessed Virgin Mary. The reason for choosing Saturday above all other days has been lost to antiquity. But according to tradition, Saturday has been set aside to celebrate the maternal example of Mary and witness to her dedicated discipleship as a woman of God and a follower of Jesus. The weekly memorial serves as a reminder that she is continuously present and operative in the life of the church. Reflect on how the Blessed Virgin Mary has been present and active in your life. **My heart is moved with pity for the crowd.**

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Scripture citations from the New American Bible Revised Edition

On Love —Benjamin Franklin
If you would be loved, love and be lovable.

Mary Garden Beautification Project



The **Mary Garden Beautification Project** is being inspired by our parish Youth Group. The **Mary Garden Project** is being planned for the right side of Saint Michael Church (Bell Tower Side).

Currently there are a few different options, (a new Virgin Mary statue, stone & concrete work, water feature, various plants & flowers) and your thoughts and ideas about what should be done within that space are valuable and important.

Also anyone with landscape design experience and is willing to assist with the planning and preparation of the layout of the garden would be greatly appreciated. This will be an extensive facelift to the church grounds.

All support, time, talent, and treasure, for the **Mary Garden Project** will be greatly appreciated.

If you have any ideas or suggestions or would like to volunteer your time, talent, and treasure to this **Mary Garden Project**,

please email the Faith Formation office at 213FaithForm@gmail.com or call 412-754-0886.

Please keep the Mary Garden Project in your prayers.

Thank you for your support and prayers.

Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel. I have become all things to all, to save at least some.
—1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23

Time, Talent, and Treasure

January 31, 2021

Weekly Offering	\$8,688
First Offering	\$ 28
Monthly Offering	\$ 840
St. Anthony School	\$ 85
Religious Education	\$ 45
Children's Offering	\$ 10
2021 Parish Share	\$3,400
2021 Parish Share to Date	\$7,888

Thank You For Your Sacrificial Giving!

Please make all checks payable to

Saints Joachim and Anne Parish

Coming Soon...

A Fish Fry Near You... Take-Out Only
February 19 - March 26

This year Fish Fry will be Take Out only with curbside delivery.

Saint Michael Fish Fry
Fridays of Lent - 4:00-7:00 pm

Queen of the Rosary Fish Fry
Fridays of Lent - 11:00 am - 7:00 pm

Fish Fry is accepting donations of cases of soda pop and water.

Please leave donations in the Gathering Space marked Fish Fry.

Fish Fry Volunteers

For the annual Parish Fish Fry to be a success, a great number of hands are needed to carry the load. If we all work together as a family, the Fish Fry will continue to be such a great success.

If you are able to work the Fish Fry, please complete the Volunteer Form below and return to the Parish Office as soon as possible.

Thank You for making our Fish Fry Special!

See you at the Fish Fry!

Fish Fry Volunteer Form, 2021 (Please Print)

Name _____

Phone Number _____

_____ St. Michael _____ Queen of the Rosary

I am available to work on Fridays:

Feb 17 _____ Feb 24 _____ Mar 03 _____

Mar 10 _____ Mar 17 _____ Mar 24 _____

I would like to work:

_____ Fish Fry Prep (Friday morning)

_____ Kitchen Help (Must be 18 +)

_____ Food Runners

_____ Order Taking

_____ Other Duties (Parking Lot etc.)

_____ Clean Up (Washing Dishes)

Please return completed form to the Administration Center.



Patriotic Rosary
Monday Evening
February 8, 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.*

Coming Soon...Spring Fling TICKET

Benefits Saints Joachim and Anne Parish

Try a chance at winning a total of
\$4000.00 in the month of April.

Minimum payout is \$100.00.

\$10.00 per ticket with 30 chances to win!

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

If you would like to request a number for the April Spring Fling ticket, please contact Cathy, 412-980-2918 on or before February 7, 2021.

All requested numbers are on a first-come, first-served basis.

Thank You for your support!

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

Festival Specialty Baskets

Thank you so much for your generosity!

We continue to receive items in our labeled specialty baskets. All these donations will start us on our way to designing the beautiful baskets that are an important part of our Saints Joachim & Anne Community Parish Festival. P.S. Look in the clearance aisle. Save money while you donate!

BASKET THEMES:

- ◆ **Holiday Themes:** New Year's Day, Valentine's Day, St. Patrick Day, July 4th, Thanksgiving, Christmas, etc
- ◆ **Cleaning:** cleaner, sponges, soaps, dusting items, etc
- ◆ **Going Green:** environmentally friendly products
- ◆ **Puzzle Basket:** crossword, word search, sudoku, etc
- ◆ **Toys:** Hot Wheels Basket, etc
- ◆ **Gardening:** hose, shovels, watering can, hoe, etc
- ◆ **Car Spa:** car shine, sponge & chamois, wax, wheel & window cleaner, wiper fluid, etc

If you are interested in being involved with the festival please contact Cathy, 412-980-2918 or 412-672-8666.

Thank you for your generosity!

We couldn't do it without your help.

CALLING ALL CRAFTERS!!!!

Our craft basket area needs your talent!

What better way to spend a cold, snowy winter day than by creating your special crafts for our **Saints Joachim and Anne Community Parish Festival.** Floral arrangements, wreaths, wood working, afghans, baby items, etc.

Donations can be dropped off at each church in the gather space. If you have any questions, please call Cathy, 412-980-2918.

**Thank you for you time, talents and support
of our parish festival!!!**

**Saints Joachim & Anne Parish
50/50 Winner**

Congratulations January Winner

Rita Cross - \$375

Saints Joachim & Anne Parish 50/50 Envelope
In your offertory packet, there is a special envelope marked 50/50 Drawing--Donation \$5.00.

Thank you for your on-going support!