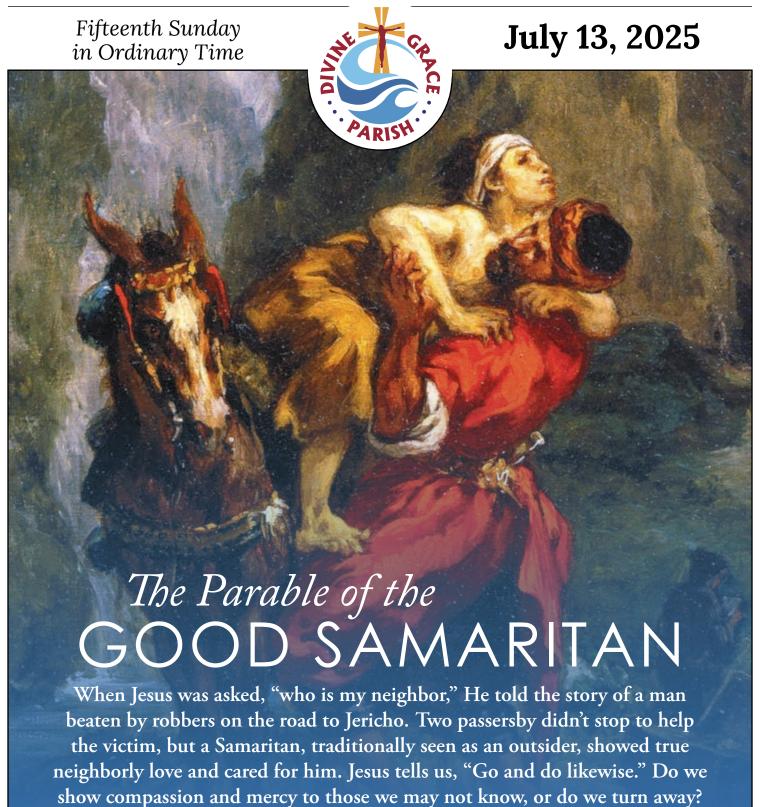
Divine Grace Parish



Saint Ferdinand

2535 Rochester Road Cranberry Twp., PA 16066 Saint Gregory
2 West Beaver Street
Zelienople, PA 16063

Holy Redeemer 415 4th Street Ellwood City, PA 16117



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Pastor jwehner@diopitt.org

Father John P. Gallagher

Senior Priest ipgallagher@diopitt.org

Father Joseph M. Freedy

Senior Parochial Vicar ifreedy@diopitt.org

Father Daniel T. Kushner

Parochial Vicar dkushner@diopitt.org

Deacon Donald C. Pepe

dpepe@diopitt.org

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jludwikowski@diopitt.org

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You shall love the Lord, your **God**, with all your heart...and your neighbor as yourself.

— Luke 10: 27

Congratulations Bishop Mark Eckman

Evening Prayer will be prayed at Saint Paul Cathedral in Oakland at 4:00 pm on **Sunday, July 13**. The ceremony is open to the public. We will offer a holy hour at Holy Redeemer and Saint Ferdinand churches at the same time to pray for our new bishop. The Archbishop of Philadelphia will install Bishop Mark on **Monday, July 14** at 2:30 pm at Saint Paul Cathedral. Congratulations!

Happy Anniversary Divine Grace

Divine Grace Parish will celebrate its third anniversary since being created on July 1, 2022. Our patronal feast will be celebrated on **Saturday**, **July 19** at the 5:00 pm Mass at Saint Gregory; **July 20** at the 9:00 am Mass at Holy Redeemer, and the noon Mass at Saint Ferdinand. Our Patronal Feast Day is **July 23**, Our Lady, Mother of Divine Grace.

Ellwood City Festival

Thanks to all those who helped out at the Ellwood City Arts & Crafts Festival, both in preparing and selling our famous pepperoni puffs. What a great way to build community and celebrate our nation's birthday!

Parish Festival Is Almost Here

As one of the largest festivals in western Pennsylvania with origins dating to the 1960's, in less than a month we will host the 4th Divine Grace Parish Family Festival. Thanks for your support of the festival through the purchase of raffle tickets, by volunteering, and attending the festival on **August 8-10**.

Holy Redeemer Youth Core Team

We are beginning now to build up youth ministry at Holy Redeemer which serves our young people from 7-12 grade. If you are interested in serving on a team that

coordinates weekly events, email Hannah, our assistant youth coordinator, at hrepasky@divinegracepgh.org.

Ways to Avoid Spiritual Warfare

Do you or your family ever feel you are being attacked by the demonic? To remain in the state of grace, go to confession regularly, attend Sunday Mass, make sure the Crucifix is displayed in your home, bless yourself with holy water each morning, and pray daily. Do not use horoscopes, visit so-called psychics, or purchase spiritual candles, incense, charms, stones, etc., from stores that claim these help your spirituality – all of this can invite the demonic.

Did You Receive Your Parish Magazine?

As was announced on several occasions, we now have our own monthly parish magazine that is mailed to every household in the parish. If you have not received the July 2025 edition, please email Jason Gawaldo, our director for evangelization, at jgawaldo@divinegracepgh.org. If any parishioner or anyone you know who would like to advertise in the magazine please contact Jason.

DIVINE GRACE PARISH FINANCIAL REPORT



Sunday Collection total for **June 28-29, 2025 = \$31,342**

Second Collection = \$4,950

(for our Catholic School Contribution)
Parish Members = 18,742

Parish Households = 7,080

This weekend's second collection is for Maintenance/Building Upkeep.

Thank you for your generosity.

4 Mass Intentions Divine Grace Parish

I ask that...prayers, petitions, and thanksgivings be offered for everyone — 1 Timothy 2:1

Saturday, July 12 - 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 pm, Saint Ferdinand † Julia Eckman (Terri Bernath [Wagner])5:00 pm, Holy Redeemer † Norberta Modlisewski (Dr. & Mrs.

Doug Lockawich)

5:00 pm, Saint Gregory † Alexander Dorsch (Jean & Nancy

Flick)

6:00 pm, Saint Ferdinand † Raymond Nowak (Sons Drew &

Kevin & Grandson Jasper)

Sunday, July 13 – 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am, Saint Ferdinand † David Rohm (Steve & Patty Rohm)

8:00 am, Saint Gregory † Joanne Leitholf (Diann Reiche)

9:00 am, Holy Redeemer † Linda Cistola (Donna & Mike Hajduk) 10:00 am, Saint Ferdinand † Andrew Fornadel, Jr. (Wife & Children)

10:00 am, Saint Gregory † Mrs. Cabrina Woodruff (Carol Martin)

11:00 am, Holy Redeemer † Nick Nardone, Sr. (Family)

12:00 pm, Saint Ferdinand † Donald Plunkett (Cruttenden Family)

5:00 pm, Saint Ferdinand † Joey Sklarsky (Dad, Brothers &

Sister)

Monday, July 14

8:00 am, Saint Gregory † Cheryl Shirley (Frank LaGrotta) 8:30 am, Saint Ferdinand † Kathryn Lowder (Tom Streicher) 9:00 am, Holy Redeemer † Gail Frisk (Dave & Vicky Manzo)

Tuesday, July 15

8:00 am, Saint Gregory † Scooter Soltesz (Jim & Joanne) 8:30 am, Saint Ferdinand † Richard Glassbrenner (Maureen &

Bruce Frenica)

9:00 am, Holy Redeemer † Jeri Ann Rough (Bill & Beverly

Rutter)

Wednesday, July 16

8:00 am, Saint Gregory † Kathy Ligday (Mary Ann Thompson)
8:30 am, Saint Ferdinand † Jeffrey Papst (Marlene & Denny)
9:00 am, Holy Redeemer † Lee Nocera (Virginia Ottaviani)
7:00 pm, Holy Redeemer † Dorothy Pogozelic (Tony & Karen Woloszyn)
7:00 pm, Saint Ferdinand † Mary (Noble) Murphy (Noble Family)

Thursday, July 17

8:00 am, Saint Gregory † Theodore Ciccozzi (David & Susanna

Schaffer)

8:30 am, Saint Ferdinand † Florence Listwak (Salvatore Family)

9:00 am, Holy Redeemer † Helen Mantz (Dave & Vicky Manzo)

Friday, July 18

8:00 am, Saint Gregory † Thomas Russiello (Bob & Elena

Punzell)

8:30 am, Saint Ferdinand † William Marquart (Dolores Marquart)

9:00 am, Holy Redeemer † Andrew & Catherine Lample (Mary

Oprisu)

Saturday, July 19 – 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 am, Holy Redeemer † Darren Jevcak (Donor)

4:00 pm, Saint Ferdinand † Bob Meinert (Lovette Family) 5:00 pm, Holy Redeemer † Jim & Mary Scialdone (Family)

6:00 pm, Saint Ferdinand † Amelia Massimino (Stephen &

Laurette Bentz)

Sunday, July 20 - 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am, Saint Ferdinand † Bill Foerster (Family)

8:00 am, Saint Gregory † Josephine DiTano (Janet White)

9:00 am, Holy Redeemer † Deceased Members of the Betz

Family (Bill & Rosina Betz)

10:00 am, Saint Ferdinand For The Parishioners of Divine

Grace Parish

10:00 am, Saint Gregory † Georgina Chunka (Slusser Family)

11:00 am, Holy Redeemer † Warren & Dena Ottobre (Virginia,

Warren Anita & Deanna)

12:00 pm, Saint Ferdinand † David Pliskaner (Mom & Dad)

5:00 pm, Saint Ferdinand † Ludwig, Mary, Dominic Bryan (Family)

† = deceased









Faith in Action at Ellwood City Festival

Thanks to our volunteers who helped make and serve our famous Pepperoni Puffs, and all who attended!

Marriage Prep Weekend

If you are planning a wedding, we invite you to join us for our next Marriage Prep Weekend on October 17 & 18 at Saint Ferdinand. Engaged couples will spend the weekend meeting other couples at our parish and learning more about their own relationship and the sacrament of marriage. There is no fee to attend, but registration is required. Sign up at https://divinegracepgh.org/marriage.

The Search

What are you searching for? *The Search* leads people to the deepest questions of the human heart, exploring the meaning and purpose of life through a visually stunning, intellectually stimulating approach. Hosted by Chris Stefanick, *The Search* guides viewers through seven episodes examining life and death, sorrow and happiness, and science and faith. Astrophysicists, psychologists, astronauts, neuroscientists, professors, athletes, artists, and the beauty of the cosmos all point to one big conclusion: Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church. Who in your life do you wish knew Jesus better or was more connected with His Church? Consider inviting them to attend this experience with you. The Search will take place on Wednesdays, September 24 through November 5, 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm in Oldenski Hall at St. Ferdinand. Sign up at https://divinegracepgh.org/thesearch.



Saint Ferdinand Church

2535 Rochester Road Cranberry Twp., PA 16066

 Monday - Friday
 8:30 am

 Wednesday
 7:00 pm

 First Saturday
 8:30 am

 Saturday (Vigil)
 4:00 pm

 6:00 pm
 8:00 am

 10:00 am
 Noon

 5:00 pm

Holy Redeemer Church

415 4th Street Ellwood City, PA 16117

Monday - Saturday 9:00 am Wednesday 7:00 pm Saturday (Vigil) 5:00 pm Sunday 9:00 am 11:00 am

Saint Gregory Church

2 West Beaver Street Zelienople, PA 16063

Monday - Friday 8:00 am Saturday (Vigil) 5:00 pm Sunday 8:00 am 10:00 am



Divine Grace Parish



Bishop Eckman is ordained an auxiliary bishop in January 2022. (Photo courtesy Pittsburgh Catholic Magazine)

Bishop Eckman Ordination

The faithful will gather on Monday, July 14 at Saint Paul Cathedral in Pittsburgh's Oakland neighborhood to celebrate the ordination of **Bishop Mark Eckman**, succeeding Bishop David Zubik in the Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh.

Mass will begin at 2:30 pm at Saint Paul Cathedral in Oakland. The ordination is open to the public but seating is limited so arrive early, and carpooling is encouraged. A livestream also will be available at the diocesan website, www.diopitt.org.

Faith Formation Registration is Open

Online registration for fall Faith Formation programs is now open! Visit https://divinegracepgh.org/formation to read about programs being offered, see full schedules, and register your children and family. We exist to help parents pass on the faith to their kids, and so we offer a variety of options from fully in-person to fully at-home and even a hybrid option. And we offer modifications for families with special needs. If you have questions about how best to address your family's faith formation needs, please reach out to Jason Gawaldo (jgawaldo@divinegracepgh.org).

EUCHARISTIC

-MONDAY-

Holy Redeemer Church 8:00 am

-WEDNESDAY

Saint Ferdinand Church 9:00 am to 6:30 pm

Holy Redeemer Church 9:30 am to 7:00 pm

—THURSDAY—

Holy Redeemer Church 8:00 am

Saint Gregory Church (will resume in August)

—FRIDAY—

Holy Redeemer Church 8:00 am

Saint Ferdinand Church 9:00 am to 10:00 am

—SUNDAY—

Holy Redeemer Church 12:15 pm to 5:00 pm





—WEDNESDAY—

Holy Redeemer Church 6:00 pm to 6:45 pm

—THURSDAY—

Saint Gregory Church 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm

—SATURDAY—

Holy Redeemer Church 9:30 am to 10:30 am

Saint Ferdinand Church 10:00 am to 11:00 am

Saint Gregory Church 10:00 am to 11:00 am



This week on Comment of July 12, 2005

Week of July 13, 2025

St. Kateri Tekakwitha God's Princesses

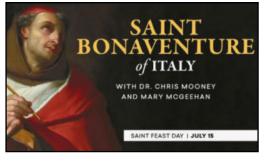
Follow along with Sister Imelda as she tells the inspiring journey of Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, a young Mohawk girl who comes to know the Gospel with the help of pioneering priests. Choosing to



follow Jesus, Kateri is faced with great challenges as she does her best to bring God's love to her own people! A fun and inspiring example of not giving up!

Saint Bonaventure, Catholic Saints

A Franciscan cardinal-bishop and contemporary of Saint Thomas Aquinas, Saint Bonaventure is an excellent example of saintly humility. Known as the "Seraphic Doctor," Saint Bonaven-



ture loved God above all else. Join Dr. Chris Mooney and Mary McGeehan as they explore the life of this great saint.

Carmelite Spirituality

On July 16, we celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. Learn more about Carmelite Spirituality and how you can live it in this incredible series on Formed.



Looking to grow in your faith on your own schedule? Divine Grace Parish offers a free subscription to Formed, an online platform packed with Catholic content for all ages, including movies, audio talks, studies, and children's programming. To start exploring, visit https://signup.formed.org, enter our parish name, and gain instant access to inspiring resources that bring the beauty and depth of our faith to life.

Divine Grace Parish

This week at Saint Ferdinand Church

Monday

July 14:

9:15 am Flame of Love, Church 7:00 pm K of C Living Rosary, Church

Tuesday

July 15:

9:30 am Contemplative Prayer, Holy Family Room

Wednesday

July 16:

9:00 am Bible Study, Nursery

10:00 am Summer Storytime, Holy Family Room

6:30 pm Finance Council, McAndrew-Biller Hall

7:00 pm St. Vincent de Paul, Library



Saint Ferdinand Office Hours

Monday - Friday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm 724-776-2888, ext. 1101 Fax: 724-776-2378

Thursday July 17:

Join us for Morning Mass



Sat / SUN July 19 & 20:

Join us for Mass

Celebrating Divine Grace Parish

This month marks the third anniversary of the establishment of Divine Grace Parish. Join us to celebrate in Masses scheduled for 5:00 pm on Saturday, July 19 at Saint Gregory; 9:00 am on Sunday, July 20 at Holy Redeemer; and 12:00 noon on Sunday, July 20 at Saint Ferdinand. The Feast Day of our patron, Our Lady, Mother of Divine Grace, is Wednesday, July 23.



Living Rosary on July 14

The Knights of Columbus Council 11838 invites you to join them in praying a Living Rosary at Saint Ferdinand Church on Monday, July 14 at 7:00 pm. A 90-foot rosary will be laid down the main aisle of the church and everyone will be asked to hold a bead and help recite the holy Rosary. Prayer handouts will be available. Families are welcome!

Thanks for Giving Blood

A word of appreciation from the Knights of Columbus and Faith on Fire to all who participated in the Divine Grace Parish Blood Drive this past Sunday at Saint Ferdinand. Thank you for giving the gift of life.



REBOOT

a life-changing event

Wednesday, September 10 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Saint Ferdinand Church, Divine Grace Parish

This high-energy talk with internationally acclaimed speaker **Chris Stefanick** will awaken your faith, reignite your joy, and equip you with the tools to live the life God created you for: A life of JOY!

Space is limited! For more information or to register, scan the QR code or visit https://tickettailor.com/events/reallife-catholic/1662908





This week at Holy Redeemer Church

Monday July 14:

Join us for Eucharistic Adoration

Tuesday July 15:

6:30 pm Seasons of Hope group meeting in Catholic Center

Wednesday

July 16:

6:00 pm Social Club

Holy Redeemer Office Hours

Mon - Fri: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm Closed for lunch (12:30pm to 1:00pm) 724-758-7587, ext. 3002 Fax: 724-752-1466

Thursday July 17:

Join us for Eucharistic Adoration



Saturday July 19:

Join us for Confession

Sunday

July 20:

Join us for Mass

Summer Book Discussion with Father Joe

Living Joy by Chris Stefanick: Pick up the book from Lou in the Holy Redeemer office for just \$5. Then join Father Joe for a discussion on Wednesday, July 30 at 7:30 pm in the Catholic Center.



Annual Parish Appeal

Divine Grace Parish continues to enjoy strong support of the Annual Parish Appeal. The campaign funds formation, outreach and pastoral care of parishioners and those in need across our diocese. Additional support last year helped parish youth and young adult ministries, growth in religious education, and upkeep of our properties. To date, 1,221 donations have been received. To give to the 2025 Parish Appeal, click on https://bit.ly/4h5LNvW.

Why Be Catholic?

A series of talks by Deacon Erik Pintar, a former Evangelical Nondenominational Protestant:

Talk 1: Understanding the Bible as God Intended on Monday, July 28 from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm at Holy Redeemer Catholic Center and Tuesday, July 29 from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm at Saint Ferdinand Church (Cry Room).

Earlier Submissions for Bulletin

With our new bulletin design comes a new deadline for submitting information. Announcements now must be submitted two Wednesdays before the date you would like it published. For the July 27 bulletin, please email Bob DeWitt by 3:00 pm on Wednesday, July 16 at rdewitt@divinegracepgh.org. Thanks for your help!

– Ministry Spotlight –Divine Grace Parish Social Club

The Divine Grace Social Club is rooted in over 60 years of ministry. Its mission is to bring our parish and community together in a spirit of Christ-led fellowship.

The Social Club sponsors various events throughout the year including the New Year's Eve Bingo and the Children's Christmas Party. They also host a weekly Bingo which draws parishioners and community members alike to our Holy Redeemer Catholic Center. Funds raised go toward sponsoring three generous scholarships for high school seniors, one at each of our church sites. They also support Saint Gregory School, the Christian Mothers and other Divine Grace ministries. In a spirit of fellowship and sense of community, the group has hosted various social activities including bus trips to Niagara Falls, parks and plays.

If you are interested in joining or learning more, we welcome you to call 724-776-2888, ext. 1210 or email socialclub@divinegracepgh.org us.

Parish News and Events

Divine Grace Parish

This week at Saint Gregory Church



Tuesday July 15:

Join us for Morning Mass



Saint Gregory Office Hours

Mondays -8:30 am to 12:00 pm Closed: Tuesday - Friday 724-776-2888, ext. 1101 Fax: 724-452-4064



Thursday July 17: 7:00 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal, Church



Saturday July 19: 3:30 pm

Adult Choir Rehearsal, Church



Sunday

Parish Picnic Fun

Join us on Saturday, July 26 starting at 6:15 pm on the lawn in front of the Saint Gregory Parish House. The parishioners Mark Wilmett Duo, Zimmerman, a father-daughter combo, will play pop and country songs from the sixties through the nineties. Bring a chair and picnic food. We will provide bottled water, beer, wine, and snacks. See you there!

Neighbor Meeting Neighbor

We continue to reach out in our communities with the Truth and Good News of the Gospel. Stop by our Divine Grace Parish table Thursday evenings from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm at the Zelienople Open Air Market, and at Wander Ellwood monthly open street nights. Our next event is Wednesday, July 16, 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm on Lawrence Ave. in Ellwood City. To learn how you can get involved contact Jason at jgawaldo@divinegracepgh.org or Jennifer at ilivorse@divinegracepgh.org.

Funeral Luncheons at Divine Grace Parish

Our funeral luncheons are back parish-wide, but we need volunteers at Saint Gregory. Luncheons will be held in the school Blue Room when school is not in session. Also, you can reserve Oldenski Hall and McAndrew-Biller Hall at Saint Ferdinand or the Holy Redeemer Catholic Center. The parish provides hospitality, help with set up and clean up, as well as coffee, tea, water and paper products. For Saint Ferdinand and

Saint Gregory funeral luncheons, call 724-776-2888, ext. 1101. Holy Redeemer 724-758-7587, ext. 3002.

Supporting Divine Grace Parish Year-Round

These busy summer months can affect our parish ministries. YOU CAN HELP US! As you make your summer travel plans, please prayerfully consider signing up for Faith Direct online giving to help consistently sustain our ministries all year long.

It's a way to simplify your giving and help provide the parish with consistent support, which is especially Support during the summer when many parishioners are away. Visit https://bit.ly/4h5LNvW to fill out the Faith Direct form or call 866-507-8757 to enroll. Thank you!



KIDS (UP TO AGE 5) can enjoy stories, crafts, and snacks, while parents sip coffee and relax. Join us for Storytime every Wednesday from 10:00 am to10:45

am at Saint Ferdinand, now through August 20! Scan the QR code or visit www.divinegracepgh.org/storytime sign up for our weekly updates.





White Elephant Sale Donations

Items are now being accepted at Saint Ferdinand's Oldenski Hall until noon on Friday, July 25. Please gather up your new or gently used treasures that are ready for sale. NOTE that we no longer accept indoor furniture. Also, we cannot take full-size appliances, large exercise equipment, non-portable musical instruments, mattresses and box springs, pillows, TVs and monitors that are not flat screens or that have any functions that don't work, and car tires.

For complete Donation Guidelines, please visit https://divinegracepgh.org/white-elephant-sale. *Thank you!*

Festival Set Up

Do you have a strong back and have some time to help out? Festival Grounds Set Up will begin with Tent Set Up on Saturday, July 26 at 9:00 am. Set Up will continue Monday, July 28 through Wednesday, July 30, and again Monday, August 4 through Wednesday, August 6 from 5:30 pm to sunset to set up the White Elephant, Kiddie Land, Game Booths and outdoor Food Booths. Whatever time you can offer is appreciated! Please call Brendan Scott at 724-766–5840 to sign up or if you have any questions.

Festival T-Shirts on Sale

This year's color is **Sapphire Blue!** Fill out the form online at https://bit.ly/3VAhhBF.

Other Volunteer Opportunities

With the festival less than a month away, activity is ramping up and all help is appreciated. There are lots of fun activities to choose from. You can meet some great people, learn new skills, and help our parish. To learn more and sign up, visit https://bit.ly/3VAhhBF.

Baskets Needed

The Basket Raffle Booth is in need of baskets for this year's Festival. If you have an empty basket that you're not using, please consider donating it. Baskets can be dropped off at the parish office marked, "Small Basket Raffle" Thank you! We are also looking for volunteers to help assemble baskets.

Please email bonny.eppinger@icloud.com.



The Country Kitchen at the festival is need of homemade treats. Festival favorites include chocolate chip cookies, small loaves of zucchini or banana bread, brownies, pizzelles, homemade pies, individually packaged cupcakes, and gluten-free baked items.

Package your goodies for easy, on-the-go enjoyment when possible. Please label everything with allergen information, and a full ingredient list is appreciated. Please do not donate anything that requires refrigeration or freezing.

Donations may be dropped off at the Country Kitchen tent outside the dining hall during the festival. Thank you for making this summer party a little bit sweeter!

Boutique Booth Donations

The festival Boutique Booth is in need of donations.

Ideas include purses, jewelry, bathy and body lotions, perfume, candles, hand-crafted items, Afghan blankets, home décor, and kitchen items. They should be new or like new. Please drop off your donations at church offices at Saint Ferdinand or Holy Redeemer marked "Festival Boutique," or contact Peggy at peggyw919@gmail.com to arrange a pickup. Thank you!

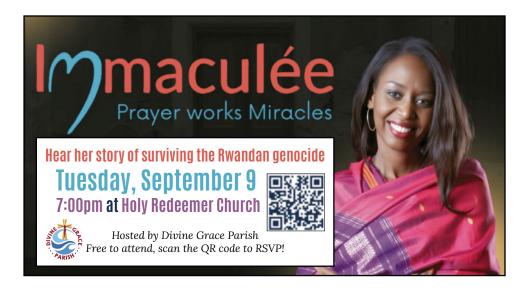
Unpacking the Word

— Deuteronomy 30:10-14 —

The Book of Deuteronomy is Moses' farewell address to Israel before he died on Mount Nebo and then Israel inherited the Promised Land under Joshua's leadership. The book as a whole is a reminder of God's laws, an intensification of some of them, and a few concessions to Israel's hardened heart. And so it is presented as a new covenant in addition to the covenant sworn at Mount Sinai forty years earlier. Our reading this week comes from the end of the section of Covenant Sanctions found in 27:1-30:20.

In Moses' final appeal for Israel to be faithful, he cuts to the core of Christian morality: God's clear commands. You may recall that in the Garden of Eden, the serpent's primary move was to make God's clear command suddenly blurry: "Did God really say..." (Genesis 3:1). How can we follow God when we can't even be clear on what He said? Our culture today, with its rejection of authority and institutions and absolutes, tempts us with a similar line of reasoning. But Moses speaks with a clarity and simplicity that we need to hear again and again: Following the Lord is not too mysterious; we just have to do it. We have to build up the habit of doing the Lord's will.

All habits take time to form and involve setbacks. The same is true of habitual dispositions to do good, known as virtues. They require returning to the Lord with all your heart and all your soul every time you fail, to build back even stronger moral muscle memory so that it's even easier to do good the next time. None of this is possible by our efforts alone; it requires God's grace. But it's also not possible without our effort. God will not force His grace upon us. He wants us to cooperate with Him. And He reminds us today that it can in fact be as simple as carrying out what He's already told us to do.



Jason Gawaldo

Director for Evangelization & Catechetical Ministries



"Heed, the voice of the Lord, Your God."

Deuteronomy 30:10

Growing in Faith:

REBOOT with Chris Stefanick

Wednesday, September 10, at 7:00 pm in Saint Ferdinand Church (see page 8 for details).

Summer STORYTIME for Kids

Wednesdays through August 20, at 10:00 am in Saint Ferdinand (see page 10 for details);

ove your neighbor



Michael Assaf

Ministry Coordinator of Youth and Young Adults



Live the Liturgy

Inspiration for the Week

Everyone is our neighbor
— those we love and those we can't stand, the people we agree with and the people whose opinions we hate. In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us that we must not only see ourselves in every person we meet — we must see Him, too.





What is LifeTeen?

The goal of *LifeTeen* is to provide a safe and fun place for youth in grades 7-12 to find a solid Catholic community, get answers to questions, and most importantly, strengthen their relationship with Christ.

We get together for weekly meetings, fun outings, service opportunities, retreats and more. **All in grades 7-12 are welcome!**

Our regular meetings are held Wednesdays in the summer from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm at the Saint Ferdinand's field behind the maintenance annex. Meals are provided.

Upcoming *LifeTeen* schedule – Saint Ferdinand Youth Room: **July 16, 23 and 30**

——Sunday, July 20——PICNIC at the PARK

Noon - 3:00 pm Ages 21 – 39



Overlook Pavilion Knob Hill Park

Faith on Fire invites young adults for an afternoon of fellowship, fun, and Catholic trivia. Whether you're new to the group or a regular face, **bring your own beverages and a chair** for a chance to connect, share laughs, and soak in the summer sun.



Catholic Kennywood Day

This Wednesday, July 16, youth from around the diocese will enjoy a day of fun at Kennywood Park. Youth from 6th to 12th grades are invited. We have a good number of young people from our parish attending.

The special day includes youth activities, confession, praise and worship, music, Mass, community dinner, and bottomless Pepsi fountain drinks.



Benefits of a Catholic Education - Part Two -

6. Gospel values taught in Catholic schools promote respect, compassion, and service.

Students learn of their responsibility to respond to the needs of others because they are members of God's family, called to use their talents and opportunities for the greater good. They may come from different backgrounds, have different experiences and personalities, but are all made in God's image. Students learn to love and respect themselves and others, serving the less fortunate.

7. Schools set and meet high standards for student achievement. Rigorous academic programs lead to success in higher education, with the goal of developing a lifetime love of learning. Catholic school students earn higher scores than their peers in public schools on standardized tests in every subject area, according to the National Catholic Educational Association. The graduation rate from Catholic high schools is 99 percent, and 86 percent of Catholic high school graduates go on to college, compared with 49 percent of public high school graduates.

8. Emphasis on critical thinking skills, problemsolving, and decision-making.

Catholic schools provide opportunities for students to take upper-level coursework, including Advanced Placement (AP) or dual-credit courses. Young people engage in critical thinking exercises and develop strong analytical and problem-solving abilities.

9. Shared purpose and identity

The shared faith and values of teachers and students create a common purpose and sense of unity, promoting a feeling of belonging. Educators seek Five Marks of Catholic School Identity: Created in the Image of God, Share a Catholic Worldview, Integrate faith in all Learning, Gospel Witness, and Spirit of Community.

10. All learning and activities are focused on the full development of young people, for the welfare of society, and for building up the Kingdom of God.

Catholic school teachers are devoted to helping students understand, accept, and spread God's love. Beyond merely gathering and applying knowledge, students understand they are meant for more than what this earthly life can offer.



In Celebration, In Prayer

As a parish family, we lift up the names and needs of those in our hearts through prayer. If you would like to submit a prayer request or have the sanctuary flowers dedicated in honor or memory of a loved one, please call 724-776-2888. These offerings are a beautiful way to celebrate, remember, and support one another in faith.



Sanctuary Candle

A candle burns this week at:

Saint Ferdinand IN MEMORY OF Harold & Gerri Webb from their Family

Saint Gregory IN MEMORY OF Iim Martin. requested by Alan & Stephanie



Sanctuary Flowers

Holy Redeemer Altar Flowers: In Memory of Caroline Andino, Pete Ferrario, Renzo Ferrario and Jenny Douds, donated by brother Lou. Tabernacle Flowers: In Memory of Tom & Caroline Andino, Pete & Mary Ferrario, Renzo & Dorothy Ferrario, and Jim & Jenny Douds. Donated by brother Lou.

Saint Gregory Altar and Tabernacle Flowers: for the living and deceased members of Divine Grace Parish



Prayer Garden

A candle burns this week for:

Lynda R. Stevens from The Stevens Family

> Robert Karlik from wife Carole

Arlene France Coligiano from Kathy & Michael

Joseph Goral from Mary & Tom Mion



Christopher Abrahamsen Beth Amos Zachary Cook Lisa LaCava Corsello Michael Fulmer & Family Lori Grim Iames Hackett Iim Hackett **Joyce Hackett** Johnny Hickey

Kayla Hickey Kelly Hickey John Humensky Beth Jensen Bill Kelmickis George Kotuby Steven Lagrydin Taylor Lagrydin Paula Maochi Butch Marotta Amara Mason

Nicole Miller Donna Rickert Frank Sbarro James Winfield æ This list will appear every other week.

For all Prayers, Flowers and Candle Requests, please call 724-776-2888

Be a Light for all to see. - Matthew 5:16



Northern Regional Roman Catholic Bible Study

In commemoration of the 1,700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea, we invite you to join us for our fall study: The Bible and the Church Fathers by the Saint Paul Center. As Christians, we should want to know our family tree—who has gone before us in the faith, where they came from, and what they believed. You'll learn about the early Church Fathers and how they shaped the way we read Scripture. The cost is \$21 and includes streaming for six months and a study guide. Virtual or in-person classes are held Thursday mornings 9:30 am to 11:00 am from September 11 to November 20. In-person classes are held at Saint Luke the Evangelist Parish (Saints John & Paul Church) Upper CDC. To register, contact Pam at bakersforlife@gmail.com by August 15.

Catholic Men's **Fellowship**



of Western Pennsylvania

A Gathering of Faith and Hope

The 17th Gathering of Catholic Men Conference will take place on Saturday, September 13, at the Duquesne University Power Center Ballroom, located at 1015 Forbes Avenue in Pittsburgh. This year's gathering, themed "HOPE," coincides with the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross and features an inspiring lineup of speakers inculding: Mark Hartfiel, Michael Gormley, Jon Leonetti, and Bishop Waltersheid. Early

bird registration is available for \$25 per person, with the price increasing to \$35 after August 31. Students may attend for \$10, and clergy are welcome at no cost. For more details or to register, scan the QR code or visit www.cmfwpa.org.



Employment Opportunity: Join St. Ambrose Academy's Team

St. Ambrose Academy, a hybrid school operating Mondays and Wednesdays from 8:45 am to 2:35 pm, is hiring for the 2025–2026 school year. The academy offers flexible scheduling options, with opportunities to teach one or two classes, whether half or full days. Available paid positions include Science (8th & 9th Grade), Math (4th-9th Grade), Classroom Aide, (Co)Administrator, CGS Catechists, and Nursery Staff for children ages 0-3. Training is provided for some roles, and CGS positions are also paid. Substitutes are needed throughout the year. For more information or to schedule an interview, email info@saintambroseacademy.org or visit their website at www.saintambroseacademy.org/employment.

Operation Healthy Ellwood

Operation Healthy Ellwood is a no-cost health services event open to all, with no



income or residency requirements. Organized by military personnel, it will take place at Lincoln High School (501 Crescent Avenue, Ellwood City, PA 16117) from July 23-26 and July 28-August 1. Services include medical, dental, optometry, behavioral health, and veterinary care, along with



on-site eyeglasses fabrication. This initiative offers an invaluable opportunity for individuals and families to receive comprehensive while fostering care, community support and wellness. Scan the QR code to learn more.

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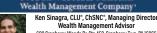
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