

# Divine Grace Parish

Sixteenth Sunday  
in Ordinary Time

July 20, 2025



## *Luke's Gospel story*

of two sisters who welcome  
our Lord into their home  
can be viewed as learning  
how to balance service and  
prayer. While Martha focuses  
on hospitality, Jesus points  
out that Mary has chosen the  
“better part” by listening to  
His teachings.

It helps us understand  
the importance of active  
ministry while also  
building a relationship  
with Christ. *Are we  
able to do both?*



## *Jesus Visits with Martha & Mary*

**Saint Ferdinand**

2535 Rochester Road  
Cranberry Twp., PA 16066

**Saint Gregory**

2 West Beaver Street  
Zelienople, PA 16063

**Holy Redeemer**

415 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Ellwood City, PA 16117

Contact us † [www.divinegracepgh.org](http://www.divinegracepgh.org) † 724-776-2888 † [parishoffice@divinegracepgh.org](mailto:parishoffice@divinegracepgh.org)

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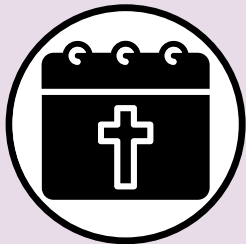
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The schedule of priests celebrating weekend Masses can be found at <https://bit.ly/3QnKf5w>

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*Mary* has chosen the better part  
and it will not be taken from her.

— Luke 10: 42

## Lesson from Martha and Mary

In the Gospel this weekend, we hear of how Martha and Mary, who are sisters, host Jesus in their home. The spiritual lesson is that we welcome Jesus into our lives every time we celebrate Mass. We open ourselves to hear the Word of God, to participate in the consecration, and to receive His Body and Blood. Like Martha who was attending to the details of welcoming Jesus, and to Mary who sat at the feet of Jesus to enjoy and contemplate His presence, we also ask for the Divine Grace to welcome the Lord into our lives and then to listen what He has to say to us.

## Festival Volunteers

A word of thanks to all those preparing for our annual Parish Family Festival. A lot of hard work has been going on for several months. This **Tuesday, July 22**, is the final festival meeting at 7:00 pm in McAndrew-Biller Hall at Saint Ferdinand. The meeting is open to all. If you have not yet signed up, there plenty of opportunities to volunteer at the festival: <https://bit.ly/3VAhhBF>.

## Parish Picnic

This **Saturday, July 26** at 6:15 pm in front of the parish house at Saint Gregory Church, The Wilmett Duo, our own parishioners Mark and Anna, will lead us in pop and country music. We will have some light refreshments. Bring a chair and picnic food and enjoy a relaxed evening of music.

## Celebrating the Saints this Week

On **Tuesday, July 22**, the Church celebrates the life of Saint Mary Magdalene, who was possessed by demons and cured by Jesus. In Saint Mark's Gospel, she is the first to encounter the Risen Lord. On **Friday, July 25**, we celebrate Saint James, brother of John, who was the first apostle to be martyred. On **Saturday, July 26**, we celebrate parents of the Blessed Mother, Saint Joachim and Saint Anne. They remind us to pray for parents today.

## Adoration & Confessions at St. Gregory

Starting on **Tuesday, August 5**, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will resume at Saint Gregory from 1:00-6:00 pm. In order to ensure that adorers are present, please sign up in the narthex. Confessions are being moved from Thursdays to Tuesdays at 5:00 pm. Confessions will continue as usual on Saturday mornings at 10:00 am.

## Saint Ferdinand Property Update

The finance council and the pastoral council recently convened to discuss Cranberry Township's interest in purchasing the nine acres where our ballfield is located. The township will be hosting meetings at the municipal building for the citizens of Cranberry. I will let you know how discussions are proceeding as information is available.

## Establishing a Youth Ministry Core Team

As you may have seen in the bulletin these past couple of weeks, our new assistant youth minister, Hannah, is responsible for supporting youth ministry at Holy Redeemer. She is presently working with several adults to serve on the core team that will assist in coordinating youth activities and events on a weekly basis. If you are interested in serving on this team, please email her at [hrepasky@divinegracepgh.org](mailto:hrepasky@divinegracepgh.org).

## DIVINE GRACE PARISH FINANCIAL REPORT



Sunday Collection total for  
**July 5-6, 2025 = \$44,716**  
Second Collection = \$10,260  
(for Parish Appeal)  
Parish Members = 18,742  
Parish Households = 7,080

There is no second collection  
for this weekend, July 19-20  
*Thank you for your generosity.*

I ask that...prayers, petitions, and  
thanksgivings be offered for *everyone*

— 1 Timothy 2:1



### Saturday, July 19 – 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 pm, Saint Ferdinand † Bob Meinert (Lovette Family)  
5:00 pm, Holy Redeemer † Jim and Mary Scialdone (Family)  
5:00 pm, Saint Gregory † Shirley & Andrew Depp (Family)  
6:00 pm, Saint Ferdinand † Amelia Massimino (Stephen & Laurette Bentz)

### Sunday, July 20 – 16<sup>th</sup> 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)

### Monday, July 21

8:00 am, Saint Gregory † Wayne Tepke (Tepke Family)  
8:30 am, Saint Ferdinand † Ceclia & Joe Wirth (Phyllis & Jack Wirth)  
9:00 am, Holy Redeemer † Mary Ann Burgess (Dave & Vicky Manzo)

### Tuesday, July 22

8:00 am, Saint Gregory † Matthew Sefscik (Family)  
8:30 am, Saint Ferdinand † Kathryn Lowder (Marlene)  
9:00 am, Holy Redeemer † Margaret Petrak (Jane Petrak)

### Wednesday, July 23

8:00 am, Saint Gregory † Frank & Carmella Arcadi (David & Susanna Schaffer)  
8:30 am, Saint Ferdinand † Robert Connolly (Kathy & Rick Lyons)  
9:00 am, Holy Redeemer † John & Dorothy Crowley (Jonathan, Claire, Maura & Ella Fauzey)

### Wednesday, July 23...continued

7:00 pm, Holy Redeemer † David Smith (Sharon & Family)  
7:00 pm, Saint Ferdinand † Thomas & Mary Bunni & Children (Fadia Bunni)

### Thursday, July 24

8:00 am, Saint Gregory † Richard Bachmann (Steve & Carolyn Miller)  
8:30 am, Saint Ferdinand John & Terry Knapton  
- 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (Family)  
9:00 am, Holy Redeemer † Ronald "Ronnie" Johnston (Lou Ferrario)

### Friday, July 25

8:00 am, Saint Gregory † Bill Knass (Wife- Marie Ellen)  
8:30 am, Saint Ferdinand Donald & Sandra Watts  
- 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (Family)  
9:00 am, Holy Redeemer † Jim Raybuck (Mary Anne Mansell, Godmother)

### Saturday, July 26

9:00 am, Holy Redeemer † Michael L. Santillo (Family)  
4:00 pm, Saint Ferdinand † David Rocco (Greg & Terrie Pecora)  
5:00 pm, Holy Redeemer † Julius & Rosemarie Ferrario (Lou, son)  
5:00 pm, Saint Gregory † Margaret Nancy Spochacz (Heide & Eric Resch)  
6:00 pm, Saint Ferdinand † Linda Naughton (Carol Fornadel)

### Sunday, July 27 – 17<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am, Saint Ferdinand † Victor & Arlene Murray (Family)  
8:00 am, Saint Gregory † Alfred & Elizabeth Langer (Butch & Patti Langer)  
9:00 am, Holy Redeemer † Joanne DeLuca (Family)  
10:00 am, Saint Ferdinand † Gloria Cecchetti (Tina)  
10:00 am, Saint Gregory † Nellie Skubak (Divine Grace Choir)  
11:00 am, Holy Redeemer † Fr. Raymond Boccardi (Mystical Rose Society)  
Noon, Saint Ferdinand † Mary Chavanne (Booher Family)  
5:00 pm, Saint Ferdinand † Elizabeth Batt (Brian & Linda Heery)

† = deceased

## † Stories of Faith †

### Longtime Volunteers are Happy Helpers

Staging a parish festival for upwards of 20,000 visitors takes a lot of planning and people. But why do many volunteer year after year?

**Vera Belfiore** and **Joan Rycheck** say they receive as much if not more than they contribute, and are blessed to help out with the White Elephant Sale.

Vera is in charge of “VMOS” items, which stands for “Video, Music, Office and School.” Three days a week she and her team of volunteers sort hundreds of donated items, preparing them for sale during the festival, set for **August 8-10**. She’s also busy in other volunteer roles at Saint Ferdinand—as sacristan, helping priests prepare for Mass, serving as an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, and leading an adult Bible study.



*Vera (left) and Joan take a break from their volunteering duties at the White Elephant Sale.*

Joan has volunteered for several years with her daughter Juley. They sort through donated jewelry and purses, preparing for the sale. “I enjoy working with my daughter,” Joan says. “And I love to see the faces of so many people light up when they know what wonderful buys they are getting. The sale benefits both the community and the parish, which makes our efforts so worthwhile.”

Vera has been a festival volunteer for nearly 20 years, and loves being at Divine Grace Parish. “Faith encourages us to do good works. I pray, ‘Lord, keep me going in your House.’ I just want to serve Him.”

Joan points to the lasting friendships she’s gained working at the White Elephant Sale. “Volunteering helps you to grow, it’s fun, and you’re doing God’s work,” she says. To anyone thinking of volunteering at the festival or other parish activities, Vera is encouraging. “Go ahead and do it. You will be so grateful.”

### Faith Formation Registration is Open

Online registration for fall Faith Formation programs is now open! Visit [divinegracepg.org/formation](http://divinegracepg.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@divinegracepg.org](mailto:jgawaldo@divinegracepg.org)).

## MASS Schedule

### Saint Ferdinand Church

2535 Rochester Road  
Cranberry Twp., PA 16066

<b>Monday - Friday</b>	8:30 am
<b>Wednesday</b>	7:00 pm
<b>First Saturday</b>	8:30 am
<b>Saturday (Vigil)</b>	4:00 pm
	6:00 pm
<b>Sunday</b>	8:00 am
	10:00 am
	Noon
	5:00 pm

### Holy Redeemer Church

415 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Ellwood City, PA 16117

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

### Saint Gregory Church

2 West Beaver Street  
Zelienople, PA 16063

<b>Monday - Friday</b>	8:00 am
<b>Saturday (Vigil)</b>	5:00 pm
<b>Sunday</b>	8:00 am
	10:00 am







### Great to See you at Community Days

A terrific turnout at Community Days presented by the Cranberry Township Community Chest at Cranberry Community Park from July 10-12. Many visitors at Divine Grace Parish's booth! The days were filled with lots of family fun including carnival rides and live music. Saturday featured a 5K race, Kids Day and fireworks. Thanks for stopping by and saying hi!



*Bishop Eckman shows the papal bull of appointment signed by Pope Leo.  
Inset: Bishop Eckman speaks to the priests and parishioners of the diocese.  
Photos courtesy of Diocese of Pittsburgh.*

### Bishop Eckman Installation at Saint Paul Cathedral

Bishop Mark A. Eckman was installed as the 13<sup>th</sup> Bishop of Pittsburgh on July 14. In his homily, he asked the faithful for three needs: to keep him in prayer, to be patient with him as he learns his new role, and to pray for all vocations in the diocese. Bishop Eckman succeeds Bishop David A. Zubik, who led the diocese for nearly 18 years.

## EUCCHARISTIC *Adoration*

### —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



## CONFESSION *Schedule*

### —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* **formed™** Week of July 20, 2025

### **Footprints: The Path of Your Life**

Eleven young men from the United States walk the Way of St. James pilgrimage. They are looking for answers, not beautiful scenery. How do you deal with pain and suffering? How much baggage is enough or too much?



### **Sts. Joachim and Anne, Catholic Saints**

Through they never appear in canonical Scripture, Sts. Joachim and Anne—the grandparents of Jesus—hold a place of great importance in the Church's tradition. Discover more about the parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary in this episode of Catholic Saints with Mary McGeehan and Augustine Institute professor Dr. Carl Vennerstrom.



### **St. Mary Magdalene, Catholic Saints**

Join Dr. Ben Akers and Taylor Kemp for a discussion on the life and witness of St. Mary Magdalene. Who was she, and why is she a saint? Find out in this conversation.



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.







## This week at Saint Ferdinand Church

### Monday, July 21

9:15 am Flame of Love, *Children's Liturgy Room*

### Tuesday, July 22

9:30 am Contemplative Prayer, *Holy Family Room*

7:00 pm Festival Meeting, *McAndrew-Biller Hall*

### Wednesday, July 23

10:00 am Summer Storytime, *Holy Family Room*

6:00 pm Life Teen, *Youth Room*

7:00 pm Bereavement Support Group, *Holy Family Room*



### Saint Ferdinand Office Hours

Monday - Friday

9:00 am to 5:00 pm

724-776-2888, ext. 1101

Fax: 724-776-2378



## 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>



## 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>.

## Help for Healing and Grace

Saint Peregrine is the patron saint of cancer patients and all illnesses. He is one of many saints we can turn to in times of need. Despite his pain, suffering and other difficulties he endured, he turned to the Lord for healing and grace.

You are invited to join others to pray to Saint Peregrine to intercede on your behalf. May our Lord in heaven bring His healing grace to you or your loved one who may be suffering from cancer or a traumatic illness.

We will meet on **Monday, July 28** at 7:00 pm in Saint Ferdinand Church.

## Why Be Catholic?

A series of talks by **Deacon Erik Pintar**, a former Evangelical Nondenominational Protestant. Talk 1 – Understanding the Bible as God Intended

**Monday, July 28** – 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm  
Holy Redeemer Catholic Center

**Tuesday, July 29** – 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm  
Saint Ferdinand Church (cry room)







## 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

## This week at Holy Redeemer Church



### Sunday, July 27

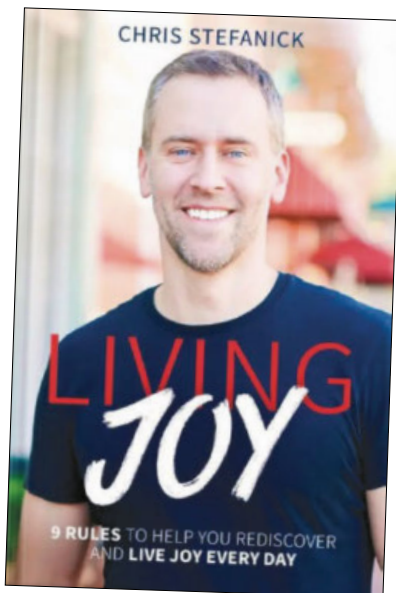
1:00 pm Knotted with Love, *Catholic Center Lunchroom*

### Why Not Create Your Catholic Will This Week!

Want to ensure that the most sacred part of your life is protected, while easily completing your will? Help pass on the faith to your loved ones through MyCatholicWill.

Divine Grace Parish is making this service available at no charge to registered parishioners.

➡ Sign up at <https://divinegracepgh.org/mycatholicwill>



## Summer Book Discussion with Father Joe

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.

**Immaculée**  
Prayer works Miracles

Hear her story of surviving the Rwandan genocide  
**Tuesday, September 9**  
7:00 pm at Holy Redeemer Church

Hosted by Divine Grace Parish  
Free to attend, scan the QR code to RSVP!

## Earlier Submissions for Bulletin

With our new bulletin comes a new deadline for submitting information. Announcements must be submitted two Wednesdays before the date you would like it published. Please email Bob DeWitt at [rdewitt@divinegracepgh.org](mailto:rdewitt@divinegracepgh.org). Thanks for your help!

## 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, 1,236 donations have been received.

To give to the 2025 Parish Appeal, click on  
<https://bit.ly/4h5LNvW>



## This week at Saint Gregory Church

### Wednesday, July 23

9:00 am Bible Study with Seminarian Chris Baker,  
*Church Cry Room*

### Saturday, July 26

6:15 pm Parish Picnic, *Parish House lawn*

### Volunteer This Week at Divine Grace Parish!

This week is a great time to get involved! Divine Grace Parish has many opportunities to lend a hand, from events and outreach to behind-the-scenes support. Contact the parish office or visit our website!



### Saint Gregory Office Hours

Mondays -8:30 am to 12:00 pm

Closed: Tuesday - Friday

724-776-2888, ext. 1101

Fax: 724-452-4064

### 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 Wilmett Duo, parishioners Mark and Anna 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!

### Meeting New Friends in Zelie

We are reaching out to our communities in service and prayer. Stop by our Divine Grace Parish table **Thursday evening, July 24** from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm at the Zelienople Open Air Market. We're located in front of NexTier Bank on West Main Street. To learn how you can get involved contact Jason at [jgawaldo@divinegracepgh.org](mailto:jgawaldo@divinegracepgh.org) or Jennifer at [jlivorse@divinegracepgh.org](mailto:jlivorse@divinegracepgh.org).

### Funeral Luncheons at our Parish

Our need continues for volunteers to serve at funeral luncheons at Saint Gregory. They are held in the school Blue Room when classes are 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.

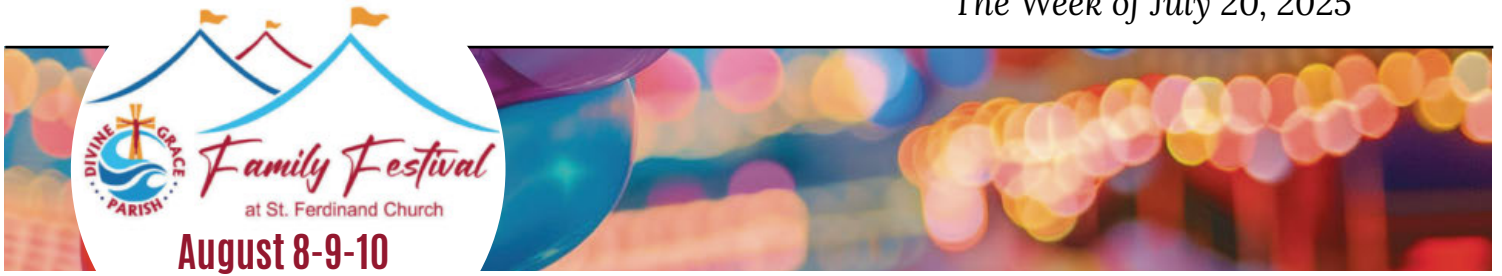
### Supporting Divine Grace Parish Year-Round

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://bitt.ly/4lx7VSl> to fill out the Faith Direct form or call 866-507-8757 to enroll. Thank you!

### 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 to November 5**, 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm in Oldenski Hall at St. Ferdinand. Sign up at <https://divinegracepgh.org/thesearch>.



## 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 the 28 through Wednesday the 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 contact Brendan Scott at 724-766-5840 to sign up or if you have any questions.

## 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 are no longer accepting indoor furniture. Also, we cannot take full-size appliances, large exercise equipment, non-portable musical instruments, mattresses and box springs, pillows, TV's 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!*

## Other Volunteer Opportunities

With the festival just a few weeks away, 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](mailto:bonny.eppinger@icloud.com).



## Calling all Bakers

The Country Kitchen at the festival is in need of homemade treats. 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!

Dessert donations for the Pork Chop Dinner are needed. Please drop them off at Oldenski Hall after 8:00 am on **Sunday, August 10**. Thank you!

## Boutique Booth Donations

The festival Boutique Booth is in need of donations. Ideas include purses, jewelry, bath 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](mailto:peggyw919@gmail.com) to arrange a pickup. Thank you!



# Unpacking the Word

## — Genesis 18:1-10a —

In our first reading from Genesis, Abraham experiences a theophany, an appearance of the divine. The Lord manifested himself as three men. This is often depicted in sacred art as three angels. The one God showing himself as three men is a fairly obvious wink toward the fuller Christian understanding of God as a Trinity, three distinct and divine Persons united as only one God.

In addition to its trinitarian overtones, this passage is especially revealing when read with this week's Gospel account of Mary sitting at Jesus' feet. Both episodes present a faithful follower resting with the Lord, relaxing together and enjoying refreshment and conversation. It's an image of Christian prayer, which is far more than mindless recitation of words. Prayer with the Lord is a personal encounter, a relationship lived out, an intimate conversation. It ought to involve rest, relaxation, and two-way conversation.

St. Therese of Lisieux described prayer in this way: "For me, prayer is a surge of the heart; is it a simple look turned toward heaven, it is a cry of recognition and of love, embracing for trial and joy" (quoted in CCC 2558). This is also an apt description of Abraham's discussion with the Lord. Though it doesn't appear that Abraham mentioned his lack of a child, the narrative leading up to this event describes in great detail the angst in his heart over having no son by which God could fulfill His promise of numerous descendants. This concern was foremost in Abraham's mind and heart, and it is exactly what the Lord speaks to during this restful encounter in his tent during the heat of the day.

What does resting and conversing with the Lord look like for you? Do you let Him into your tent in the heat of the day or leave Him in His church where you visit when you want to?



**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 to 10:45 am at Saint Ferdinand, **now through August 20!** Scan the QR code or visit [www.divinegracepgh.org/storytime](http://www.divinegracepgh.org/storytime) to sign up for our weekly updates.



## Jason Gawaldo

*Director for Evangelization  
& Catechetical Ministries*



“It is Christ in  
you, the *hope*  
for *glory*.”

*Colossians 1:27*

**GROW**  
*in faith*

**REBOOT with Chris Stefanick**

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

**Immaculée**

Tuesday, September 9,  
at 7:00 pm in Holy Redeemer  
(see page 9 for details);



## Michael Assaf

*Ministry Coordinator of  
Youth and Young Adults*



### What is Life Teen?

The goal of Life Teen 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 Life Teen schedule:  
Saint Ferdinand Youth Room  
**July 23 and 30**

# LIFE TEEN FALL KICKOFF



**SEPTEMBER 15**



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SPOT + SCORE A  
RAFFLE ENTRY**

### BUCKLE UP FOR OUR LIFE TEEN FALL KICKOFF:

Mechanical bull, bonfire, food, and a \$150 Amazon gift card up for grabs!

**READY TO RIDE INTO FALL?** Join us **Monday, September 15** @ Saint Ferdinand. All in Grades 6-12 welcome!

**HOLD ON TIGHT!** The longest mechanical bull ride wins a \$150 Amazon gift card + free food, fellowship, and a blazing bonfire.

### Youth Ministry Input Forms

As we begin to expand our Youth Ministry and host events at Holy Redeemer Church, we would like to get input from you and your child(ren) on what to include in the program. Please take a few moments together to complete the input forms by clicking on the link or scanning the QR code. Please fill out your own copy of the same form. Your feedback is greatly appreciated as it will help us shape the youth ministry in a way that best supports and serves your family. Thank you!



Scan the QR code  
with your  
phone camera

# 14 Donation Report & Project Update

Divine Grace Parish

Be still and know that I am *God*

## Your Parish Donations at Work

Your generosity allows the parish to maintain our buildings and grounds. This summary is in addition your support of all the ministries and organizations that promote the evangelization and faith formation efforts that are primary to our work. - Fr. Jim

### Saint Gregory Church Campus Projects

1. Church Lighting	\$100,461
2. Updated Church Bell System	\$ 23,440
3. New Flooring in the Sacristy	\$ 4,341
4. New Flooring in the Cry Room	\$ 3,480
5. New Sacristy Counter	\$ 3,472
6. New Cry Room Counter	\$ 1,000
7. Removal of Old Blinds in Skylight	\$ 1,800
8. Tinting Skylight Glass	\$ 31,256
9. Skylight Roof Repair	\$ 28,000
10. Scaffolding Rental for Skylight Work	\$ 6,580
11. Flooring in Organ Area	\$ 3,480
12. HVAC Wall Units in Sanctuary Area	\$ 14,980
13. Catch Basin Repairs (Parking lots)	\$ 9,350
14. Parking Lot Sealing	\$ 11,026

**Total \$242,666**

### Holy Redeemer Church Campus Projects

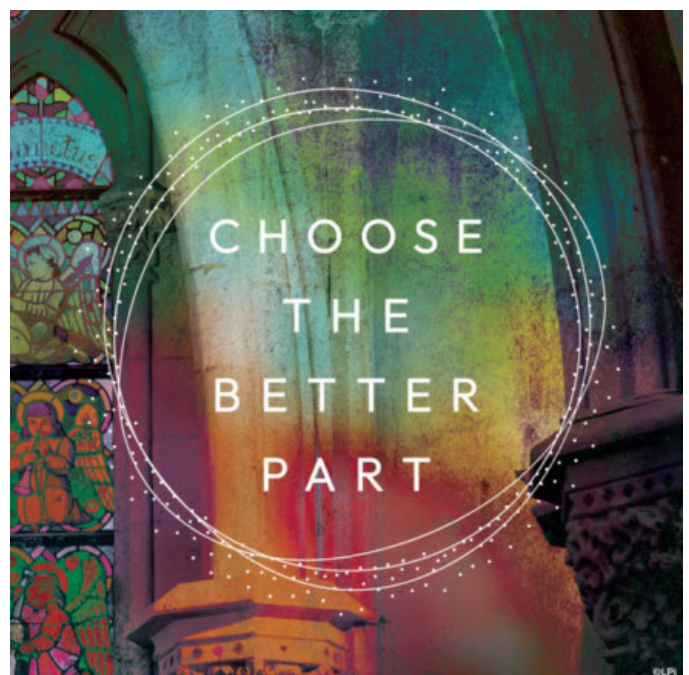
1. HVAC Church	\$ 57,950
2. Gas line repair Church	\$ 7,650
3. Security Cameras Outside Church	\$ 10,925
4. Catholic Center Parking Lot Repairs	\$ 3,900
5. Catholic Center Crack Seal & Stripping	\$ 9,100
6. Church Lot Cherry Way Crack Seal & Strip	\$ 2,205
7. Church Lot Park Ave. Crack Seal & Strip	\$ 5,768
8. Catholic Center Small Room Flooring	\$ 9,300

**Total \$106,798**

### Saint Ferdinand Church Campus Projects

1. Rectory Roof Replacement	\$ 66,206
2. Rectory Windows & Doors Replaced	\$ 66,400
3. Rectory Kitchen Remodel	\$ 21,545
4. Rectory Hall Bathroom Remodel	\$ 9,000
5. Festival Wiring	\$ 5,645
6. White Elephant Wiring (New Location)	\$ 6,605
7. Crucifix in Sanctuary	\$ 5,680
8. Parking Lot Paving	\$152,626
9. Concrete Curb Repair	\$ 9,253
10. Repairs to raised sidewalk areas	\$ 2,600

**Total \$345,560**





## 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, 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**  
**Paul F. Stanzaki, Jr.**  
from Karen M. Goldbach



### Sanctuary Flowers

*Holy Redeemer*  
Altar Flowers: **In Memory of**  
**Christina Santillo**  
Tabernacle Flowers: **In Memory of**  
**Jim & Mary Scialdone**  
from Family

*Saint Gregory*  
Altar and Tabernacle Flowers:  
for the Living and Deceased  
Members of Divine Grace Parish



### Prayer Garden

A candle burns this week for:

**Judie Marie**  
from Cindy  
  
**Maria Bey**  
from Carol & Rich Descak

## Please Pray for our Deceased Parishioners

Eileen Beuther	Michelle Picuch
Geroge Brendel	Russell Pelligrone
Dr. Wayne P. Burick	James Raynovich
Mary Anne Caputo	John Schilling
Richard Cancilla	Lu Ann Santillo
Suzanne Klemoff	Eleanor Soltesz
Joanne T. Lasso	Anthony J. Tomeo
Vicki Lucarelli	Donald Vasko
Louise P. Massung	Leona Wolfe
Dorothy Mellon	✠

## New Members

Mr. & Mrs. Joel Barbazzani  
Mr. & Mrs. Angelo DiNardo  
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Doyle  
Mr. & Mrs. Herman Flaminio  
Mr. & Mrs. Alexander Kay  
Miss Madyson Jones  
Mr. & Mrs. Zachary Kruger  
Mr. & Mrs. David Michalski  
Mr. Vincent Merlina  
Mr. & Mrs. Bradley Mueller  
Mr. & Mrs. Sam Namey  
Mr. & Mrs. Pallack

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Repasky  
Mrs. Carol Zakowski  
Mr. & Mrs. Sean Wolff



## Newly Baptized

Michael Joseph Abrahamsen  
Aria Jade Bellissino  
Tucker David Koman  
Kelly Hoang Nguyen  
William Charles Robinson IV  
Massimo Domenic Sabatini  
Carson Lane Sanders  
Gustav Louis Wolf

Be a *Light* for all to see.

- Matthew 5:16



## Spiritual Companionship Training

If you feel called to support individuals and families affected by addiction, consider joining this fall's Spiritual Companionship Training, led by Keaton Douglas. This comprehensive online course runs **September 15 to November 5**, with sessions on Monday and Wednesday evenings from 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm. For \$350, participants will gain essential skills in pastoral care, motivational interviewing, and establishing parish recovery ministries while earning certification as a Spiritual Companion and 4.8 Continuing Education Units. Presented by Trinity Missions® and iTHIRST Addiction Recovery Ministry in partnership with the Catholic Diocese of Pittsburgh, this training offers a meaningful way to be a beacon of hope and healing.



Supporting those struggling with addiction and their families.

For details or to register, scan the QR code.

## 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](mailto:bakersforlife@gmail.com) by **August 15**.

## 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 care, all while fostering community support and wellness. Scan the QR code to learn more.

## A Gathering of Faith and Hope

The 17<sup>th</sup> 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 including: **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](http://www.cmfwpa.org).





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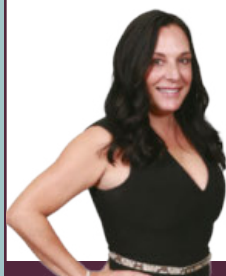
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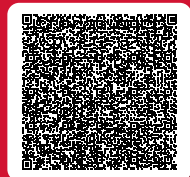


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