

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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jludwikowski@diopitt.org

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Deacon Erik L. Pintar

epintar@diopitt.org



PRESIDER SCHEDULE

For next week's schedule, follow us on Instagram – @divinegracepgh - or visit https://bit.ly/3QnKf5w

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Bulletin cover: *Image courtesy of* Knights of Columbus Multimedia Archives.

Father Jim's Weekly Reflections The Week of October 19, 2025



Proclaim the **word**; be persistent whether it is convenient or inconvenient.

– 2 Timothy 4:2

Catholic Social Teaching & Immigration

I will offer a presentation this **Monday, October 20** at 6:30 pm in Saint Ferdinand's McAndrew-Biller Hall on the principles of Catholic Social Teaching. Before we can discuss a pastoral response to immigration concerns, we first need to understand the Church's rich history of social teaching which frames our pastoral response to all moral issues. We will address immigration specifically at a future talk.

Holy Rosary and Respect Life Month

During the month of October we continue our devotion to the Holy Rosary invoking Our Lady for the battles we confront today. Related to this devotion is Respect Life Month during which our prayers focus on the many challenges that diminish the respect and dignity of all human life from natural conception to natural death. This weekend we also mark World Mission Sunday, emphasizing the missionary life of the Church.

Saint John Paul II Memorial

This **Wednesday**, **October 22**, the Church remembers Saint John Paul II who led the Roman Catholic Church from 1978-2005, the second longest reigning pope behind Saint Peter. Saint John Paul II made more apostolic visits around the world than all his predecessors combined.

Masses for the Deceased

In November, we pray for those who have died this past year and all the departed. I will be mailing a letter to each family who lost a loved one from November 2024 through this year inviting everyone to special Masses on **Monday, November 3** at 7:00 pm at all three churches that evening. May the Lord's Divine Grace bring healing and peace.

Trunk or Treat

Children of the parish are invited to the parking lot at Holy Redeemer Catholic Center on **Sunday, Oct. 26** at 1:00 pm. Parishioners are invited to fill their trunk with

candies and treats, and distribute to the children as they visit each vehicle.

Saint Ferdinand Ball Field Update

Cranberry Township has hosted three meetings at the municipal building regarding their discussion about building a community center. If they remain interested in our ballfield property, I will hear something shortly before Christmas. I will continue to provide updates about their interests and plans.

End of the Year Gift to the Parish

As we approach the end of 2025, we encourage you to prayerfully consider making a year-end gift to support the mission and ministries of our parish. For those who qualify, donations made by **December 31** may be tax-deductible. Please call your Plan Administrator to learn more. Your faithful giving helps sustain the work God is doing in and through our congregation.

Feeling Lucky?

Car raffle tickets are available to be picked up this weekend in our church narthexes. We are raffling off a 2025 Chevy Trax LT, from McElwain Motor Car Co. in Ellwood City. Tickets are \$25 each or 5 for \$100—you may purchase additional tickets in our parish offices. The drawing will be held on **January 11, 2026**.

DIVINE GRACE PARISH FINANCIAL REPORT



Sunday Collection total for **October 4-5, 2025 = \$58,419**

Second Collection = \$8,633 (for Annual Parish Appeal)

Parish Members = 18,834

Parish Households = 7,112

This weekend's second collection is for World Mission Sunday. *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, Oct. 18 - Saint Luke the Evangelist

Huston)

5:00 pm, Holy Redeemer † Frank & Kay Bellissimo (Family) 5:00 pm, Saint Gregory † Frank Granato, Sr. (Stephen & Mary

Granato)

6:00 pm, Saint Ferdinand † Keith Coennen (Family)

Sunday, October 19 – 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am, Saint Ferdinand † Helen Nethery (Linda M. Danwalder)

8:00 am, Saint Gregory † Marthanne Conner (Therese

Hildebrand & Family)

9:00 am, Holy Redeemer † James & Inese Bellissimo (Family)
10:00 am, Saint Ferdinand † Harold & Geraldine Webb (Family)
10:00 am, Saint Gregory † Dale Benedum (Jim & Joanne)
11:00 am, Holy Redeemer † Mary Santavicca (Rosina, daughter)
12:00 pm, Saint Ferdinand † Chick Angeletti (Robin & Becky)
5:00 pm, Saint Ferdinand † Kathryn Hugh (Judith Ortsey)

Monday, October 20

8:00 am, Saint Gregory † Helen Carozza (Family)
8:30 am, Saint Ferdinand † Sandy Mohall (Rick, husband)
9:00 am, Holy Redeemer † LuAnn Santillo (Frank & Mary Aloi)

Tuesday, October 21

8:00 am, Saint Gregory † Joseph Anthony Smucz (Althouse

Family)

8:30 am, Saint Ferdinand † Anna & Michael Chir (Family)

9:00 am, Holy Redeemer † Aurora, Nino & Vinny Riccio (Elena &

Bob Punzell)

Wednesday, October 22

8:00 am, Saint Gregory † Mercedes (Roca DeVinals)

8:30 am, Saint Ferdinand † Fred Bonvenuto (Elsie, David, Barb &

Family)

9:00 am, Holy Redeemer † Victoria & Anthony Scialdone

(Daughter & Son)

7:00 pm, Saint Ferdinand † Rich Duggan (Mary Ann VanNote)7:00 pm, Holy Redeemer † For the Eradication of Evil within our

Parish Boundaries

Thursday, October 23

8:00 am, Saint Gregory † Kenneth Loomis (Polly)
8:30 am, Saint Ferdinand † Robert Hornick (Connie)
9:00 am, Holy Redeemer † Stephen Gorzkowski (Family)

Friday, October 24

8:30 am, Saint Ferdinand † Joann Raghanti- sister of Judy Orstey

(Arleen & Steve Gaydos)

9:00 am, Holy Redeemer † Susan McAnallen Mazzant (Cousins)

9:00 am, Saint Gregory † Mary Jane Schaffer (Therese Yates &

Family)

Saturday, October 25 – 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 am, Holy Redeemer † Norman Giancola (Wife & Children) 4:00 pm, Saint Ferdinand † Alan Osan (Robert & Carmen Stoffa) 5:00 pm, Holy Redeemer † Ethel Greene & Mary Ellen Greene

† Ethel Greene & Mary Ellen Greene (Christina Greene, granddaughter &

daughter)

5:00 pm, Saint Gregory † Dolores "Dee" Musher (Polly) 6:00 pm, Saint Ferdinand † Scott James (Hoyt Family)

Sunday, October 26 – 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am, Saint Ferdinand † Evangeline Kaye (Bunny & Mike

McKernan)

8:00 am, Saint Gregory † Pat Pegher-Miller (Mary Ellen Barry &

Residents of New Haven Court)

9:00 am, Holy Redeemer † Ann, Dario & David Ottaviani (Virginia

& Darin)

10:00 am, Saint Ferdinand † Dave Charnock (Family)

10:00 am, Saint Gregory † Michael Kissell (Jim & Cathy Shantz)

11:00 am, Holy Redeemer † Founding Members of Knights of

Columbus Council #11389 (The Loyal

Members of Council #11389)

12:00 pm, Saint Ferdinand † Audrey Hafner (Helen Rinaman)

5:00 pm, Saint Ferdinand Peggy & Jack Davis - Anniversary

(Friends)

† = deceased

Knights of Columbus at Divine Grace Parish Growing closer to their Founder



The enshrinement at Saint Anthony's Chapel of a relic of the priest who founded the Knights of Columbus is special for local Knights, even more so because of a connection to Saint Ferdinand Church.

Dave Pasquale, a member of the Joseph P. Newell Council, led the successful effort to bring a relic to the chapel, home to the largest public collection of Catholic relics outside of the Vatican—about 5,000. The relic of Blessed Father Michael McGivney will be presented during a solemn Mass on Thursday, October 23 in an event open to members of the Knights of Columbus.

Father McGivney established the organization as a mutual aid society in 1882 to help women and children who lost their husbands and fathers in untimely deaths, a tragedy that he personally experienced. Father McGivney himself later died during an epidemic just a few years after founding the Knights, at age 38.



"The Knights of Columbus in Pennsylvania is a vibrant organization," said Bill Bullis, Grand Knight of the council at Saint Ferdinand. "Having one of his relics near us is motivating and calls us to imitate his virtue.

"Father McGivney is special to many of us because he was just a simple parish priest who did everything he could to support his parishioners," Bullis said.

Born to Irish immigrants, Father McGivney was the oldest of 13 children, raised in Waterbury, Connecticut. He and two of his brothers became priests. He was devoted to helping the families of men who typically died young, meeting their material and spiritual needs.

He became Blessed Father McGivney in 2020, the first beatification of a parish priest held on U.S. soil. Present at the ceremony in Hartford, CT, was a family whose son was healed in utero by the intercession of Father McGivney. The miracle is the first of two required for sainthood.

"The Knights of Columbus exist to serve the Church and our community," Bullis said. "Above all, we support our parish priests — our unsung heroes — inspired by the spirit of our founder, Blessed Father Michael McGivney."

Schedule

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



WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

-OCTOBER 19



Celebrated every year on the second-to-last Sunday of October, World Mission Sunday is the day set aside for Catholics around the world to unite in support of the missionary work of the Church. Established by Pope Pius XI in 1926, it remains the only annual global collection that directly supports the 1,124 mission territories where the Church is young, struggling, or persecuted.

On this day, every parish in every diocese joins in prayer and giving to ensure that missionaries can continue their vital work—building churches, forming priests, supporting catechists, and serving communities in need.

This year's theme is inspired by the Jubilee of Hope: "Missionaries of Hope Among the Peoples." It is an invitation to bring Christ's light and hope to the world. Join us in this universal mission to spread the Gospel and share the love of Christ!

Recharge 1

Computers and smartphones can help children learn, increase our productivity at work, and add enjoyment to leisure time. But too much screen time has been linked to higher rates of anxiety and depression in young people, poor sleep quality, and can cause our personal relationships to suffer.

Is it possible to recharge by unplugging? What could we do with more time—reconnect with one another? Better prepare for Advent? Help the poor souls in purgatory? Coming soon: A chance to Reflect, Reconnect and Rest.

EUCHARISTIC

-MONDAY-

Holy Redeemer Church 8:00 am to 8:50 am

—TUESDAY—

Saint Gregory Church
Paused due to organ installation

Holy Redeemer Church 8:00 am to 8:50 am

—WEDNESDAY—

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

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

-FRIDAY-

Holy Redeemer Church 8:00 am to 8:50 am

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

-SUNDAY-

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



CONFESSION

—TUESDAY—

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

—WEDNESDAY—

Holy Redeemer Church 6:00 pm to 6:45 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

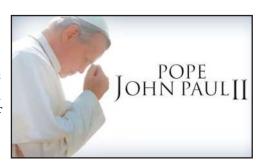


This week on Commediate The Commedia

Week of October 19, 2025

Pope John Paul II

Starring Jon Voight and Cary Elwes, this epic film follows Karol Wojtyla's journey from his youth in Poland through his late days on the Chair of St. Peter.



Slaves and Kings

Following the life of St. Anthony Mary Clare, Archbishop, writer, publisher, social reformer, and confessor to the Queen of Spain- this film tells the compelling story of one of Spain's most popular preachers and founder of the Missionary Sons of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.



Saint John Paul II Lukas Storyteller

Lukas, tired of seeing the same bored look on his friends' faces, decides to tell them a captivating story. Not just any story, but a tale of a young Karol Wojtyla, who would one day become Pope John Paul II! The kids wouldn't



believe the adventures young Karol had, and how they would inspire them to create their own unforgettable day.

Want to grow in faith on your own time? Divine Grace Parish offers free access to Formed, an online hub of Catholic movies, talks, studies, and kids' content. Visit https://signup.formed.org, enter our parish name, and start exploring today.



Submissions for Bulletin: Announcements are requested two Wednesdays before the date you would like it published. Please email rdewitt@divinegracepgh.org. Thank you!

Potential NEW MINISTRY

As we renew our focus on the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy, we look to those who are in need of our compassion and prayers. Divine Grace Parish is considering a partnership with a hospice program to provide a supportive presence for nearing the end of life.

Volunteer opportunities for those 18 and older may include praying and reading with the infirmed, clerical tasks, or light housework. There is no requirement of time, and training is provided.

Once we receive names of interested individuals we will schedule an informational meeting and get started. Contact Jennifer at <u>ilivorse@divinegracepgh.org</u> or 724-776-2888 ext. 1210



Saint Ferdinand Office Hours

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

Fax: 724-776-2378

Monday, October 20

9:15 am

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9:30 am	Women Gathered, Holy Family Room
6:00 pm	LifeTeen, Youth Room
6:30 pm	Catholic Social Teaching,
-	McAndrew-Biller Hall
7:00 pm	Women Gathered, Holy Family Room

Flame of Love, Church Crv Room

Tuesday, October 21

Flame of Love, Children's Liturgy Room
Contemplative Prayer, Holy Family Rm.
Bible Study, Upper Room
Share the Prayer Rosary Makers, Library
Folk Choir Rehearsal, Church
Bible Study, Children's Liturgy Room

Wednesday, October 22

9:00 am	Comfort Blankets, McAndrew-Biller Hall
7:00 pm	The Search, Oldenski Hall

Catholic Social Teaching and Immigration

Father Jim will present this **Monday, October 20** at 6:30 pm in Saint Ferdinand's McAndrew-Biller Hall on the principles of Catholic Social Teaching. Immigration will be discussed at a future talk.

Prayers for Healing

The Saint Peregrine Prayer Service will be held on **Monday, October 27** at 7:00 pm in Saint Ferdinand Church. All are welcome to come pray for the sick and support one another.

Big Money Bingo

The fun is set for **Saturday, November 8** at Saint Ferdinand's Oldenski Hall. Doors open at 4:30 pm, with Early Bird Games starting at 5:45 pm and Regular Games at 6:00 pm. Over \$8,000 in total payouts are up for grabs. Tickets are \$35 in advance, available by mail, in person, or after Masses on **October 25-26** and **November 1-2** and \$40 at the door. Only 400 tickets will be sold. To download the Advance Order Form, visit https://divinegracepgh.org/big-money-bingo. The event is organized by the Divine Grace Parish Men's Club, with proceeds benefiting parish ministries and local charities.

All Saints Dress Up Party

Celebrate the saints with us on **Saturday, November 1** at 10:00 am in Saint Ferdinand's Oldenski Hall! Kids of all ages are invited to dress as their favorite saint and enjoy snacks, games, prizes, and a special Litany of Saints. Book Challenge winners will be announced too. Free to attend, RSVP and download the reading log at https://divinegracepgh.org/allsaints. Teens and adults who'd like to volunteer can contact Emma Sabados at esabados@divinegracepgh.org. Volunteers 18+ must have safe environment clearances.



Holy Redeemer Office Hours

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



Children 12 years of age and younger are invited to our parish Halloween celebration on **Sunday, October 26** from 1:00 to 2:30 pm in the Holy Redeemer Catholic Center parking lot. Wear your costume and trick or treat at vehicles that will be decorated. Our parish organizations will have goodies ready!

Parishioners or ministries interested in participating please call Kay at 724-758-7587, ext. 3006. Sponsored by our Faith Formation Program.

Healing and Liberation Mass

Dry Bones Ministries will offer two Masses and Prayers for Healing and Liberation at Divine Grace Parish. The first is **Wednesday, October 29** at Holy Redeemer Church beginning with Adoration at 5:30 pm (Confession available), a talk on Spiritual Warfare at 6:30 pm, and Mass at 7:00 pm with Fr. Joe Freedy, followed by prayers and a blessing with first-class relics. The second will be on **Wednesday, November 19** at Saint Ferdinand Church.

Real Talk on Relevant Topics

Parents, grandparents, and caregivers are invited to Father Joe Freedy's two-part series. **Note new dates:**

- Thursday, November 6, 7:00 pm to 8:15 pm: The Anxious Generation, addressing the childhood mental health crisis
- Thursday, November 20, 7:00 pm to 8:15 pm: Childhood 2.0, growing up in the digital age Each session includes a video and discussion, with wine, beer, and appetizers served. Location: Holy Redeemer Catholic Center.

Christian Mothers & Ladies Guild

The Confraternity of Christian Mothers and Ladies Guild will meet on **Monday, October 27**, in the Holy Redeemer Catholic Center. Recitation of the Rosary will begin at 6:30 pm followed by our meeting and refreshments. All adult women, married or single, are invited to join. Call Jackie Dimeo at 724-333-5947 or email christianmothers@divinegracepgh.org for details.

Monday, October 20

7:00 pm Nefarious movie, Catholic Center

Tuesday, October 21

6:30 pm Seasons of Hope, Catholic Center

Thursday, October 23

6:00 pm Adult Choir rehearsal, Church

Friday, October 24

5:00 pm Bingo, Catholic Center

Saturday, October 25

10:00 am Ladies of Charity, *Catholic Center Lunch Room*

Sunday, October 26

1:00 pm Trunk or Treat, Catholic Center
Parking Lot
3:00 pm Youth Ministry, Church Parking Lot
4:00 pm Community Dinner, Catholic

Center Parking Lot

Nefarious is Hollywood's most accurate demonic possession film. Showing on **Monday, October 20**, 7:00 pm at Holy Redeemer Catholic Center. Ages 18+. Q&A with Father Joe Freedy after.



This week at Saint Gregory Church

Monday, October 20

Knights of Columbus Council #6177, Blue Room 6:30 pm

Saturday, October 25

Catholic Men's Fellowship, School Library 8:00 am

Stay Connected

Check the parish website and bulletin regularly for upcoming events, service opportunities, and ways to grow in faith. There's always something happening at Divine Grace Parish!



Saint Gregory Office Hours

Closed: Monday - Thursday Friday: 10:00 am to 3:00 pm 724-776-2888, ext. 1101 Fax: 724-452-4064

Theology on Tap: Fr. Dan presents on the Mass

Theology on Tap is a monthly formation experience in a casual atmosphere where faith can ferment. Join us in the Blue Room at Saint Gregory on Thursday, November 6 at 7:00 pm for an evening featuring drinks and apps, a 30-40 minute talk on the Mass, and Q & A. Fr. Dan will discuss what happens every time the Eucharist is celebrated, what it means, and how we should respond. Free; courtesy RSVP at https://divinegracepgh.org/talks.

Inviting our Children Back to the Faith

The idea of exploring ways of bringing our children and others back to the Catholic faith was well-received in our meeting last month, so we have decided to make this a ministry at Divine Grace Parish. So many of our parishioners suffer from the effects of having a loved one separated from the faith. This is an opportunity to help understand why and to take positive steps to assist them on a journey back home. Our next meeting will be Sunday, October 26 at 1:00 pm in the Saint Gregory School Library. All are welcome, including those who are not members of Divine Grace Parish.

Appalachia Mission Trip 2026

Planning is underway for Divine Grace Parish's Appalachia Mission Trip in June 2026. If you are a parishioner age 14 or older and would like to help those

in need, please sign up to make and sell hoagies after Masses. Funds raised will be used to buy building materials. Hoagie sales begin the first weekend in December and continue monthly through February. Mission trip alumni, be on the lookout for information about our 30-Year Reunion! Please email Mindy at mdpasquale5@gmail.com if you would like to join our mission trip and/or be added to our reunion list.

Meals on Wheels Donations

Divine Grace Parish will be providing desserts and fruit for the Zelienople Meals on Wheels program from November 3-21. If you would like to donate items, please contact MOWStG@divinegracepgh.org or call 724-816-3577 to choose a drop off date. Thank you!!

All Night Adoration

All Saints All Souls Weekend

Saint Ferdinand Church **SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1** beginning at 8:00 pm until 7:00 am on

Sign up at https://tinyurl.com/mdayamky

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2

My help comes from the lord, the maker of heaven and earth

Parish Missions Help Us Prepare for Advent

Step into the season of hope and healing with the Hallow Pre-Advent Mission at Saint Ferdinand Church, featuring Nick De La Torre as he explores the Healing Power of Prayer.

- Monday, November 17: An inspiring talk on the Healing Power of Prayer
- Tuesday, November 18: A shorter reflection followed by Adoration, Confession, and Praise
- Wednesday, November 19: A powerful Healing and Liberation Mass

Our Advent Parish Mission at Holy Redeemer Church is scheduled for **December 9 & 10**, led by Father Anthony Federico. Both of these spiritual renewals are free and open to all. Kindly RSVP at https://divinegracepgh.org/talks and be part of these transformative experiences.

Small Groups, Big Growth

A small group is a few people who commit to regular gatherings to grow in community as disciples of Jesus. There is no fixed number, but it should be a manageable number to make scheduling easier and sharing at gatherings take a reasonable amount of time. During small group gatherings, participants pray together, read and discuss scripture and Church teaching, applying it to their own lives and asking questions of it, and share prayer intentions with the group. Small groups are places of sharing in confidence, mutual respect, and encouragement to grow in discipleship. Want to get started? Simply ask a few people to join you, schedule a time and frequency to meet, and pick a resource to help guide you. Find more resources at https://divinegracepgh.org/smallgroups

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, 1,306 donations

have been received. To give to the 2025 Parish Appeal, please click on https://bit.ly/4h5LNvW

Good Reading

Our parish library contains over 1,500 Catholic books and counting. Explore our online catalog at https://divinegracepgh.org/library. The library is located in Saint Ferdinand's administrative office in two areas—next to the Upper Room (adult books) and outside the Faith Formation office (kids' books). Visit during regular office hours and during evening activities.

MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT

Respect Life

Divine Grace Parish is committed to following Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy. One beautiful example is found in our Respect Life Ministry. Faith-filled parishioners come together to pray for the unborn, stand witness at the March for Life and 40 Days for Life, gather in prayer on the streets of our communities during the annual LifeChain, and find new ways to share our pro-life Catholic message.

On **Saturday, October 25** from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm, Divine Grace Parish will join with members of other churches to participate in a peaceful vigil at Planned Parenthood, 933 Liberty Avenue in downtown Pittsburgh.

The Respect Life ministry has grown into two additional ministries, Walking with Moms in Need and Walking with Moms in Need Advocates. All three ministries support each other in the pro-life movement.

More witnesses and prayer warriors are always needed. Please consider joining them in whatever capacity you are able. All are welcome. Contact Bill or Denise at respectlife@divinegracepgh.org or call 724-776-2888, ext.1210 for more information.

Unpacking the Word

— Exodus 17:8-13 —

Our first reading takes place during the Exodus from Egypt, or as Moses records it, "In those days." The days he speaks of are specifically the time between crossing the Red Sea and arriving at Mt. Sinai, a period of about three months. "In those days," the Lord had already parted the Red Sea, provided quail and miraculous bread from heaven, and water from a rock. After the events of our first reading, Moses would set up an authority structure consisting of minor judges to handle the people's simpler issues, and all this just before the arrival at Mt. Sinai and the great theophany of the Lord.

In these days, the Amalekites picked a fight with the Israelites while they were en route to Mt. Sinai. Moses went to the top of a hill with the staff of God, the very staff that the Lord had enabled him to turn into a serpent before Pharoah, the same rod Moses held up to part the Red Sea, and the very same rod that he used to strike the rock at Meribah and Massah to make drinking water flow from it. With this relic of the Lord's mighty deeds, Moses held his hands up to bless Israel's soldiers. When we also hold up the mighty deeds of the Lord over our lives, our children, our efforts, we might just find that the Lord fights our battles for us as well. When Moses' arms grew tired, he needed the support of Aaron and Hur to keep his arms up in blessing. We too frequently need others to lift us up, even to hold us up, when we become battle-weary.

The Church deliberately pairs this reading with the Gospel in which Jesus tells a parable about praying and not growing weary. We must not grow weary in our relationship with the Lord. If we feel the weight or weariness coming upon us, we need to have good Christian friends who can hold us up and remind us of the Lord's mighty deeds in our life. Who are these friends for you?

Visit https://divinegracepgh.org/unpackingtheword to share this reflection.



MyCatholicWill

Make sure 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. To sign up, visit https://divinegracepgh.org/mycatholicwill



Director for Evangelization & Catechetical Ministries



Saints in Seven Days

Our next Hallow Prayer Challenge, Saints in Seven Days, begins on **Monday, October 27**. This week-long series will introduce a different saint each day in preparation for All Saints Day. Join on our Hallow app Parish Page. Visit https://divinegracepgh.org/hallow to learn more.

Follow us on O

@divinegracepgh



Michael Assaf

Ministry Coordinator of Youth and Young Adults



Upcoming Schedule –

Mondays at 6:00 pm St. Ferdinand Youth Room

October 20 &

29 (pumpkin carving)

Sundays at Holy Redeemer:

October 19 – 3:00 pm Friendships

October 26 – 3:00 pm Speaker, Father Dan

PROJECT A GIVING TREE

We'll be helping our neighbors in need, raking up leaves in the yards of elderly residents and others who need assistance, on **Sunday**,

November 9 beginning at noon. We will start with donuts and refreshments at Saint Gregory Church's upper parking lot. Sign up by Friday, October 24 to get a Project Giving Tree t-shirt. If you are over age 18 you will need Safe Environment clearances. Contact Christine at ckunz@divinegracepgh.org. Scan the QR



code to sign up. Call/text Rylee at 724-766-5620 or Ayron at 412-585-2524 to learn more or if you know someone who needs help.

Growing in Faith

Our LifeTeen community is growing in numbers and in faith! Check out more photos from recent events where teens are connecting, praying, and deepening their walk with Christ.













Lilly has her blood pressure measured.

HEART HEALTH

Mrs. Schultz's fifth grade class has been learning about the heart and blood pressure. During class she took all the students' blood pressure and taught them what their two numbers mean. They were interested that no one had the same blood pressure, further proof that every "body" is different.



THE GREAT PUMPKIN RACE

Saint Gregory School will host their 16th Annual Great Pumpkin Race next Sunday, October 26, starting at 3:00 pm in the lower school lot. Runners will race through the neighborhood for either 3.1 miles or take part in the one-mile fun run/walk. This event celebrates the fall season in Zelienople where we enjoy great fun, food, competition, and prizes. Those wishing to take part may register online at: https://tinyurl.com/5hxxu574

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent/Teacher Conferences will be held on Thursday, November 6. Students will be dismissed at 11:30 am and there will be no after-school care that day. Most school districts will not provide buses home for early dismissal, so please make arrangements to pick up your child(ren).

Sounds of the season

Saint Gregory School's Christmas Concert for grades K-8 will be held on Monday, December 15, in the evening. Seating will be limited, so family members are also invited to a dress rehearsal during the school day on Thursday afternoon, December 11. Details to follow.

MARIANNA'S HOAGIE/PIZZA SALE

Hoagies will be delivered on Thursday, October 23, around 2:30 pm and volunteers are needed to help sort and pass out the orders. This counts toward your family share hours, and we appreciate any and all help. Thank you!



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 have sanctuary or prayer garden candles, or sanctuary flowers dedicated in honor or memory of a loved one, call 724-776-2888.



Sanctuary Candle



Sanctuary Flowers



Prayer Garden

A candle burns at Saint Ferdinand

For Carol Sinicki from Sue & Skip Smorul

A candle burns at Saint Gregory

In Memory of Nancy Bancroft from Family



Altar Flowers: In Memory of Barbara & George Zona from their children

Saint Ferdinand
A candle burns for:

Scott James from Comfort Blanket Ministry

Judi Marie from Cindy

Healing of Amber Jackson from Bob & Shirley Ricci

Theological and Cardinal Uirtues

Virtues are gifts from God that lead us to live in a close relationship with him. They are like habits. They need to be practiced and can be lost if they are neglected. The three most important virtues are called theological virtues because they come from God and lead to God.

The cardinal virtues are human virtues, acquired by education and good actions. The word "Cardinal" comes from cardo, the Latin word for hinge, meaning "that on which other things depend." (*Loyola Press*)





Cardinal Uirtues









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Women's Discernment Retreat with Passionist Nuns Pittsburgh

All single women 18-40 years old who are open to discerning a vocation with the Passionist Nuns are invited for a prayerful weekend retreat from 6:00 pm **Friday, October 31 to Sunday, November 2** at 4:00 pm. It is a wonderful opportunity for a weekend away to pray and seek God's will for your life. The schedule includes Mass, Adoration, Liturgy of the Hours, two optional talks, and beautiful spaces for silence and prayer. There is no cost to attend; private single retreat rooms and all meals will be provided at their community in South Pittsburgh.

Details and registration information is available at www.passionistnunspgh.org/come-and-see



Helping Students in Ellwood City

A new effort called Homework Helpers is being launched in Ellwood City to support children in the Walnut Ridge community. We are looking for caring volunteers to share their time and talent providing academic support and/or snacks one evening a week. If you'd like to help make a difference, please contact Stacey McKinney (staceyamckinney@gmail.com) or Cara Florie (cflorie@zoominternet.net) to learn how you can get involved. This program is not affiliated with Divine Grace Parish.



Women's Conference November 8

Joan of Arc Ministries presents VISION: Heaven's Perspective Women's Conference on **Saturday**, **November 8**, at Seton LaSalle High School, 1000 McNeilly Road, Pittsburgh. Returning as keynote speaker is Katie McGrady, award-winning author of five books and host of the Katie McGrady Show on SIRIUS/XM's The Catholic Channel. She also hosts the podcasts Ave Explores with Ave Maria Press, Like a Mother with Our Sunday Visitor, and Family Mass Prep on Hallow. For more information and to register, visit www.joanofarcministries.com

Turn Your Taxes into Tuition Assistance

The Diocese of Pittsburgh is making it easier for individuals and businesses to turn their PA state tax dollars into tuition assistance for Catholic school students, at no cost. Through the Educational Improvement Tax Credit programs (EITC), participants can receive a 90 percent state tax credit by contributing to the diocese's approved scholarship fund. The contributions are distributed as tuition assistance to families across the diocese. While businesses have long benefited, recent changes now allow individuals paying take as well. taxes to part https://diopitt.org/eitc to learn more and participate.

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