

9 MAY 2021

THE PARISH OF SAINT JUDE



6th Sunday
OF EASTER

“It was not you who chose me, but I who chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain.” - Jn 15:16A



SAINT JUDE PARISH

SACRED HEART CHURCH

SAINT RAPHAEL CHURCH

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David Barr
Principal

In this Bulletin, you can read:

- ⇒ May Is Mary's Month! 2
- ⇒ PSP Needs Your Help! 2
- ⇒ Meet Our Sacristans 3
- ⇒ CRS Collection 4
- ⇒ Financials & More 4



- ⇒ Get To Know Chioma! 4
- ⇒ Baptisms 4
- ⇒ New Saint Raphael Office Hours! 4
- ⇒ Wedding Banns 4
- ⇒ Sacraments & Mass Schedule 5

May is Mary's Month!



The Blessed Virgin Mary is honored throughout the year, but most especially in the month of May. We honor her for her "Fiat," her unwavering "yes!" to God's plan, and we reflect on her remarkable bond with her son, Jesus, and the overwhelming joy she felt in the presence of God in the Holy Spirit. It is in this same spirit of joy that we celebrate two special events this weekend: the first of two weekends celebrating the First Holy Communion of the Second Graders of our parish, and Mother's Day. We truly rejoice with these children that approach the table of God to share the Eucharistic Feast, and we celebrate our mothers, those wonderful women who have shaped us, prayed for us, fed us, and sacrificed every day so that we may know what love truly means. We also remember in a very special way those in our parish whose mothers have passed on from this life, mothers in our parish who have lost children, both inside and outside the womb; and those women who yearn to be physical mothers but have not been able to be. We pray, especially through the intercession of the greatest of mothers, the Blessed Virgin Mary, for their hearts to be filled this day with the immense peace and comfort that only the Lord can provide.

Father Joe

WHY EVERY WAGE EARNER IN THE PARISH SHOULD HELP THE PARISH SHARE PROGRAM

Every year, the Diocese of Pittsburgh conducts the Parish Share Program, which is the way each parish helps the Diocese function and provide all the services and programs individual parishes could not offer our people on their own. Our goal this year is \$ 151,798. To date, we have exceeded our goal, which means every dollar we collect from here on in remains at Saint Jude Parish for our benefit and without being assessed the 17% we normally pay to the Diocese of Pittsburgh for their operating expenses.

Below are the most common questions parishioners ask regarding the monies collected through the PSP campaign, and hopefully the answers will help your discernment process in your consideration to donate:

Q: What direct services does our parish receive from the Diocese of Pittsburgh that we can not provide for ourselves?

A: The most common services are all the accounting assistance we receive, such as payroll and financial statement preparation, which are a huge benefit to us. In addition, we are almost daily given legal and canonical advice and guidance on a wide array of topics and issues that are critical to our parish governance. The Diocese also trains most of our parish pastoral staff members, such as our clergy and staff members that serve in ministry to our parishioners. These services alone save us thousands of dollars a year and are a significant return for every dollar we give to the Diocese.

Q: What do we do with the surplus amount over our goal that remains in the parish for our use?

A: Traditionally, like any family household, we try to immediately put some portion of this amount into savings, withdrawing it only when needed for major repairs or improvements to our buildings. Most parishes publicize a few major projects that will be covered by the surplus funds at the time of the Campaign, and occasionally in parishes like ours that wish to become more vibrant, certain initiatives in pastoral ministries are announced so people can feel they are helping in programs that affect their spiritual lives or the lives of their family members.

Unfortunately, recently, most parishes - including ours - needed to use surplus funds collected through the PSP Campaign simply to pay the normal operating expenses that the decreased offertory could not cover. This amounted to thousands of dollars the past several years due to school deficits in both former parishes, higher utilities and of course salaries and benefits like any other business is trying to manage as these expenses escalate. On a brighter side, we are digging out from under some of these deficits as well as planning to replace some of the amounts we borrowed from our savings. Thanks to the hard work and collaboration of our staff and Finance Council, we are hoping to sign a lease with Environmental Charter School that will enable us to do this.

(con't on following page)

PSP (con't)

We are all aware that the Clergy Sexual Abuse Scandal and COVID lockdown and isolation has hurt all parishes throughout the country. We are no exception. In fact, we probably have been harmed even more due to the tragic loss of Saint Raphael School and the confusion we experienced with the transfer of pastors that were well loved without ever really understanding the reasons at that time. By God's grace and the good will of many people we are seeing signs that former parishioners that left us or withheld contributions to our parish while still donating to charities outside our parish because of these disappointments and the pain it truly caused, are beginning to give our parish and even the institutional Church another chance even while they seek healing for these wounds that were unjustly caused. We all need to do our share towards this powerful movement of reconciliation and healing.

Q: We heard that less than 25% of our membership support our parish. How can we reach out to all the others and invite them to help us plan the future, and become a vibrant faith community together?

A: We are going to send a second letter to all the envelope holders in our parish reminding them of the Campaign and explaining to them how much we need them. Many of these families may have simply forgotten to return their pledge cards or donations. Some of these good people are now unemployed or simply are not able to financially help. We need them to let us know that so maybe we can help them. We also need them to become prayer partners for the parish, which is the most important gift they can offer.

One last thing to address: many, many people want the services of Saint Jude Parish when they need us; so many call upon our staff and parishioners when someone is in the hospital, or someone passes away or a wedding is scheduled or a crisis comes up in the family or a baptism is needed, and we are most happy to serve them. We never turn anyone away; it is not who we are to turn anyone away! But it is unrealistic to think that we can provide these services without financial assistance from those we serve. In time, as we move forward even more united as a parish family, maybe many of these parishioners will come to reconsider the need for everyone to carry their share of the weight. We always want to appeal to the highest potential of every person in our parish family. Isn't that what we as Catholics have always done? It is who we are!

Thank you again for your prayerful and generous support of our parish!

Meet Our Sacristans!



A few months ago, we put out a call for parishioners who were interested in serving our parish as Sacristans, and two wonderful volunteers stepped right up! Sacristans are responsible for setting up the vessels used for Mass, making sure the Sacristy is in order and functions well.

Jim Milholland, who resides in Squirrel Hill and serves as Sacristan primarily at Sacred Heart church, is excited about the opportunity. "I had been attending daily mass regularly and I had been looking for ways to serve St. Jude Parish in a volunteer capacity," he said. "One day I just decided to help out after Fr. Joe suggested it to me." Jim is familiar with all that it takes to fulfill his new duties: growing up, he was an Altar Server, and has served as an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion. "My favorite thing about being a Sacristan is preparing the Altar before Mass, making sure that everything is just right. I have fun doing

the 'behind the scenes' work as well. No matter what I am doing, I take pleasure in knowing that I am serving our parish."

Chioma (Ann) Nwaogu (learn more about her on page 4!) serves at Saint Raphael church. Ann is from Nigeria, and at the convent where she served previously, they did not have altar servers, but she helped in a capacity similar to a sacristan. "I've always loved church work," she said. "We have a saying, 'Nearer to the altar, nearer to God.' She is also excited to learn more about the parishioners at Saint Jude and share more about Church teaching.



We look forward to seeing more of Jim and Ann at our beautiful parish churches—if you see them, make sure to say hello!

Saint Jude Parish Time, Talent & Treasure: Financial Stewardship

4/25/2021

Offerings	\$7,362
Other Non- Diocesan Donations	\$115
Faith Direct (received 4th and 15th of month)	-
Total Weekly Offering	\$7,477

Needed per budget - FYTD ave. as of 3/31/21	\$25,235
over / (under) budget	<u>\$(17,758)</u>

Parish Share - 2021

Goal (less 5% discount if paid in full)	\$151,798
Received	<u>\$178,883</u>
EXCEEDED GOAL!	<u>\$27,085</u>

Ascension Thursday

The Glorious feast of the Ascension of the Lord will be celebrated on Thursday, May 13.

The Mass schedule is as follows. Please note there will be **no evening Mass** on Thursday.

Wednesday, May 12 (Vigil)

Sacred Heart: 6:00PM
Saint Raphael: 7:00PM

Thursday, May 13

All-School Mass at Sacred Heart church (all are welcome!): 8:30AM
Saint Raphael: 9:00AM
Sacred Heart: 12:05PM

Get To Know Chioma (Ann) Nwaogu!

Saint Jude Parish warmly welcomes Chioma (Ann) Nwaogu, who is from Nigeria and is a graduate student of Pastoral Ministry at Duquesne University. She will be interning with us at Saint Jude Parish over the coming weeks, serving in various capacities in both of our churches and offices.

“The Easter season is a time of new and wonderful happenings, that enliven people and draw them daily into the realities of new life in the Spirit that we are called to experience,” Ann says. “Where this is fully seen and celebrated is the house of God, where I desire to carry out my Christian duty and responsibility as a daughter of God. I wish to offer my time, talents and God-given abilities for the service of God and humanity in this parish, together with all well-meaning parishioners on the path of love, growth, and holiness.”

Welcome, Ann! We look forward to working with you and seeing you around our parish!

St. Raphael Office Hours!

Please note Saint Raphael’s new office hours:

Monday, Wednesday & Friday:
11:00 a.m.– 2:00 p.m.
Tuesday & Thursday:
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

CRS Collection May 15-16!

Next week our parish will take up the Catholic Relief Services Collection, to provide food to the hungry, support displaced refugees, & bring Christ’s love and mercy to vulnerable people here and abroad. Please give generously to the collection & **help Jesus in disguise**. More information at www.usccb.org/catholic-relief.

Marriage Banns

Eric Lockwood & Kayla Kolic III
Brian Matvey & Clara Lee II
Sean Vins & Maria Munsch II
Jacob Oresick & Courtney Zarra I
Dominick Motto & Ashley Rader I
Rocco Amendola & Maria Lanyi I

Please pray for these wonderful couples as they prepare for a happy life together.

Baptism

Congratulations to the families of
Calianne Marie Ciotti &
Daphne Marie Schaeffer
who were recently baptized! May God bless family and friends as they share faith over the years!

SAFE ENVIRONMENT REMINDER

Anyone who volunteers with the parish ministries is **REQUIRED** by the diocese to be compliant with all Safe Environment clearances. If you have not registered on the Diocesan database you may do so by visiting www.diopitt.org and following the links. Thank you for your service to the parish!

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

The Diocese requires a 6-month preparation period; a pre-marriage course is also required for each couple.

To **schedule a wedding**, please email weddings@bestpghparish.org or call Margie at 412-661-3100 on Wednesdays between 4:00 PM and 7:00 PM.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

(25 people maximum, one baptism at the time)

For information or appointment, please call Barb Melick at 412-661-3100 ext 110.

Note that a **baptism preparation program** is required for parents who are presenting their first child for baptism.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

For those seriously ill, preparing for surgery, or the elderly.

Please call Fr. Steven Palsa - Parish Chaplain at 412-720-3554

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday, from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm.

Priests and penitents are asked to wear a mask. Priest is 6 feet away from the penitent.

St. Raphael: Up front and center near the communion rail the following are in place:

A Screen and a chair for the priest

A floor marking for a person wanting face to face confession [no chair]

A floor marking for a person wanting to be anonymous
People waiting should stay behind the glass doors at the vestibule with 6 foot spacing

Sacred Heart: Sacred Heart Confessionals with open doors.

SATURDAY, MAY 8 - EASTER WEEKDAY

4:00PM **SR** Deceased Members of Sippel Family by Bernie Sippel
6:00PM **SH** Peggie Beck by Sister

SUNDAY, MAY 9 - SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

9:00AM **SR** Victoria Magnone by Daughter, Lorraine
9:00AM **SH** For the Family of Nick Redondo by Farina Family
11:00AM **SR** Rosaria & Joseph Castellano by Salvatore Castellano & Family
11:30AM **SH** Joseph and Mary Chirico by Family
2:00PM **SH** First Holy Communion
7:45PM **SH** Mary Brophy by Brophy Clan

MONDAY, MAY 10 - SAINT DAMIEN DE VEUSTER, PRIEST

9:00AM **SR** Eugene Valenty by Family
12:05PM **SH** Patrick Davoren (anniversary of death) by Sally Davore

TUESDAY, MAY 11 - EASTER WEEKDAY

9:00AM **SR** Teresa Scalamogna by Maria Serrao & Family
12:05PM **SH** Margaret Petruna by Family
6:30 PM **SR** Saint Anthony Novena & Benediction

WEDNESDAY, MAY 12 - SAINTS NEREUS AND ACHILLEUS,**MARTYRS; SAINT PANCRAS, MARTYR**

12:05PM **SH** Irene Scassera by Maricel Olan
6:00PM **SH** Guy Buccigrossi (Month's Mind) by Family

7:00PM **SR** Teresa and Francesco Monteleone by Concettina and Vittoria Liberto

THURSDAY, MAY 13 - ASCENSION OF THE LORD

9:00AM **SR** Filippo and Maria Suppa by Family
12:05PM **SH** For the People

FRIDAY, MAY 14 - SAINT MATTHIAS, APOSTLE

9:00AM **SR** Jean Heiser (Month's Mind) by Family
12:05PM **SH** Anita Costa Biro by Rose and Antonio DiStilo

SATURDAY, MAY 15 - SAINT ISADORE

4:00PM **SR** For the People
6:00PM **SH** Jack Keegan by Family

SUNDAY, MAY 16 - SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

9:00AM **SR** Stella A. Zambrano by Family
9:00AM **SH** Gy. Sgt. Justin Schmalstieg by Family
11:00AM **SR** Filippo, Maria & Giacomo Didomenico by Vincent & Palma Veneziano
11:30AM **SH** Living & Deceased Members of Tonzig & Coraluppi Families by Luisa Coraluppi
2:00PM **SH** First Holy Communion
7:45PM **SH** Rose Marie Kenbok by Jane Doerfler

**Sanctuary Candles May 9 - May 15**

Saint Raphael - Kathy Joller by Candy & Pete

Sacred Heart - Joseph & Mary Chirico by Family

**SAINT JOSEPH CANDLE May 9 - May 15**

Saint Raphael Filippo & Maria Suppa by Family
Francesco Balotta by Candida Castellano

Sacred Heart Joseph M. Mele (Great-Nephew)
Fr. Ed Litavic by Barb Connolly

Please let us know if you know someone who would love to **receive the bulletin by mail!**



Please pray for our recently deceased and their beloved families:

Mary Liberto
Edward Simcic

Welcome to our New Parishioners
Nicole Barrett-Acre & Maria Matrascia

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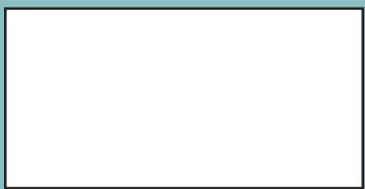
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