

**GOOD SHEPHERD**

**SACRED HEART**

**MADONNA DEL  
CASTELLO**

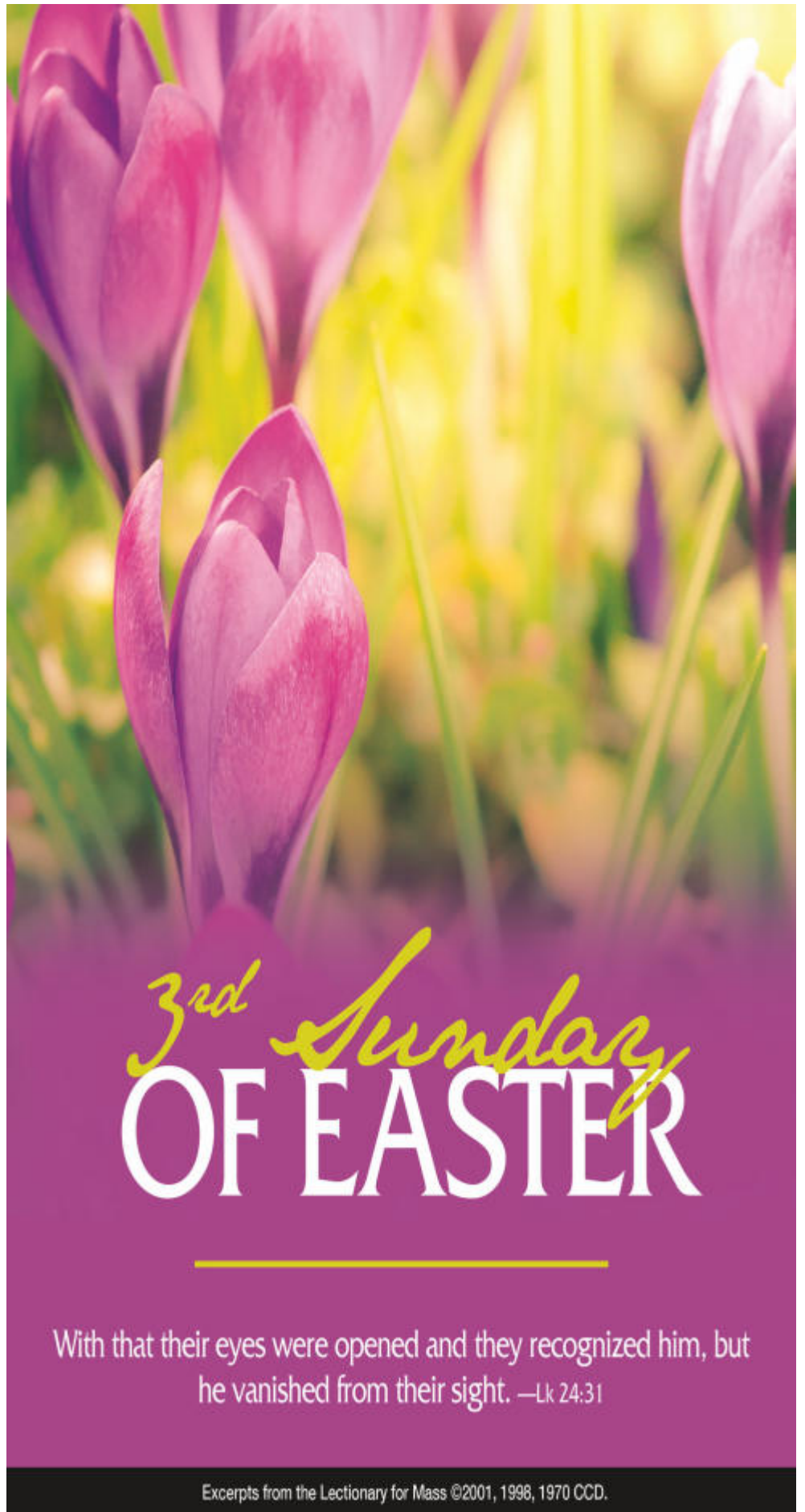
**ST. COLMAN**

**ST. JOHN FISHER**

**ST. JUDE THE  
APOSTLE**

**ST. MAURICE**

**WORD OF GOD**



*3rd Sunday*  
**OF EASTER**

With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but  
he vanished from their sight. —Lk 24:31

# STAFF AND CONTACTS

## STAFF

Father Frank D. Almade  
*Administrator*

Father Martin F. Barkin  
*Senior Parochial Vicar*

Father Jeremy J. Mohler  
*Parochial Vicar*  
frmohler@outlook.com

Father Albert J. Semler  
*Parochial Vicar*

Deacon Joseph M. Dougherty

Deacon Keith G. Kondrich

Deacon Herb Riley

Deacon Ron Demblowski  
*Pastoral Associate*  
wordofgodpa@gmail.com  
412-241-1372

Kelly James  
*Director of Business Operations*  
madonnadelcastello1920@gmail.com  
412-351-6008

Cheryl Kirkland  
*Director of Religious Education*  
ckirkland@saintmauriceparish.org  
412-351-6710

Norman E. Chapman  
*CAGO, Director of Music*  
nchapman@saintmauriceparish.org  
412-271-0809

Jon Zellhart  
*Director of Music*  
jonzellhart@gmail.com  
412-241-4722

Kelley Rodgers  
*Business Manager*  
krodgers@saintmauriceparish.org  
412-271-0809

David Barr  
*Principal*  
*East Catholic School*  
412-351-5403

## GOOD SHEPHERD

Braddock Avenue at Frazier Street, Braddock, PA 15104  
P: 412-271-1515 | F: 412-271-1222 |  
email: gshepoffice@comcast.net

1600 Brinton Road, Braddock Hills, PA 15221-4902  
P: 412-271-1515 | F: 412-271-1222 |  
email: gshepoffice@comcast.net

## MADONNA DEL CASTELLO

2021 South Braddock Avenue, Swissvale, PA 15218  
P: 412-271-5666 | F: 412-271-2335 |  
email: madonnadelcastello1920@gmail.com

## ST. COLMAN

100 Tri-Boro Avenue, Turtle Creek, PA 15145-1966  
P: 412-823-2564 | F: 412-823-6350 |

## ST. JOHN FISHER

33 Lewin Lane, Churchill, PA 15235  
P: 412-241-4722 | F: 412-241-4653 |  
email: st\_john\_fisher@comcast.net

## ST. JUDE THE APOSTLE

405 Westinghouse Avenue, Wilmerding, PA 15148  
P: 412-823-8390 | F: 412-823-8399 |  
email: stjudgetheapostle@verizon.net

## ST. MAURICE

2001 Ardmore Boulevard, Pittsburgh, PA 15221  
P: 412-271-0809 | F: 412-271-2415 |  
email: jkosar@saintmauriceparish.org

## WORD OF GOD

7446 McClure Avenue, Swissvale, PA 15218  
P: 412-241-1372 | F: 412-271-2335 |  
email: wordofgod1994@gmail.com

**Safe Environment...**It is the policy of the Diocese that all volunteers must complete the Safe Environment process before beginning a ministry or activity in any Parish. Please call 412-271-0809 for more information..

**Diocese of Pittsburgh Crisis Hotline:**  
1-888-808-1235

**Diocesan Victim Assistance**  
**Coordinator:** 412-456-3093 (Office)  
**PA Child Line:** 1-800-932-0313

*New Parishioners are most welcome!*  
*Please call the office of the church you would like to join.*  
*We will be happy to assist you!*

# Faith Chronicles

## By Father Frank D. Almade



It's right there in the first book of the bible, Genesis. The answer to the question, are human beings fundamentally bad or fundamentally good?

The snake tempts Eve to eat the fruit of the tree in the middle of the Garden of Eden, in disobedience to God's one and only command. She eats. She goes to Adam and talks him into eating too. Then they know they have sinned, and feel shame before God. Original sin begins with the original couple. Human beings are fundamentally bad.

Or is it the other way? God creates the entire universe and everything in it and on it, and sees that it is good. On the sixth day God creates human beings, man and woman, in his own image and likeness, and sees that they are "very good." Human beings are fundamentally good.

Philosophers since before humans began writing have begun with either one starting point or the other. Theologians, whether Christian or Jewish or Muslim, debate the issue. So do we.

During this worldwide coronavirus pandemic, which has afflicted millions, and killed tens of thousands, my money is on fundamentally good. The evidence? Nurses and doctors who show up for work in emergency departments, ICUs, hospitals and clinics, even though they are at risk for contracting COVID-19. First responders and EMTs who walk into virus-infected houses and nursing homes, to bring the sick to the hospital. Aides and nurses who tend to the frail elderly in assisted living facilities.

Look at the parents who have been forced into being home-schooling teachers, grocery store employees and police officers who still come to work even though they are at higher risk to contract the disease, and ordinary people like you and you and you who obey the difficult government orders to "Stay home. Stay safe. Stay healthy." It's there in all the apartment dwellers in New York City who offer vocal and visual support at 7:00 p.m. to health care workers, folks who staff or contribute to food banks and food pantries in neighborhoods in every city and village, and in comedians and entertainers who use the internet to keep us smiling.

Attempt at humor interlude: "We are about three weeks from knowing everyone's real hair color." "Become a couch potato. Save the world." "Remember that time you got out of bed, dressed, and went to work. Yeah. Neither do I." "How long is social distancing supposed to last? My husband keeps trying to get into the house." "Day 14 at home: The dog is looking at me like, 'See? This is why I chew the furniture.'" "Keep calm and wash your hands."

Pray that the university scientists find tests that identify COVID-19 and a vaccine that stops us from getting sick. Pray that politicians and health authorities make society-wide decisions based on the common good. Pray that we use our "better angels" to look for creative ways to respond to the poorest and weakest among us.

As Fred Rogers once said, "When I was a boy and would see scary things in the news, my mother said to me, look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping."

Case closed. Human beings, created in the image and likeness of God, are fundamentally good.

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Let me extend a great big thanks to all parishioners who have sent in their church envelopes with donations to their parish or to the Parish Share Program. I understand that many of our parishioners have been furloughed or even lost their job. We continue to pray for you, and for all victims of this pandemic. But if you can, keep your fellow parishioners in prayer, and contribute what you are able to support your parish.

Our parish office at St. Maurice remains open (of course, practicing social distancing at all times) 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Look for our daily Mass live-streaming at 9:00 a.m. Monday through Friday (link on the websites and Facebook) and on Sunday at 10:00 a.m. We've broadcast from Word of God church and St. Colman church. This week it is from St. John Fisher church. Or check out the Diocese of Pittsburgh website, [www.diopitt.org](http://www.diopitt.org) for links to Bishop Zubik's Masses and devotions, and other prayer supports on the internet.

Stay home. Stay safe. Stay healthy. We will get through this together.



# OUR DEDICATED CLERGY TEAM WISHES ALL OF OUR PARISH FAMILIES A VERY HAPPY AND BLESSED EASTER SEASON!



**THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!**

A huge word of gratitude to the generous parishioners of “the eight great churches of the East” for their financial contributions to their respective parishes, which the church buildings are shuttered by the coronavirus pandemic. Many families and individuals have mailed their envelopes with their parish or Parish Share Program donations to their parish offices, or dropped them off at the St. Maurice Parish office, which is open daily. Your contributions to your parishes are most appreciated. Many others have spiritually supported the clergy and their parishes by their prayers. Please keep your parishes in your continuing prayers and support, as we all look forward to the day we can re-open the churches and parish facilities for Masses, services and activities.....Father Almade and the clergy team

## PARISH SUPPORT

GOOD SHEPHERD	
Offertory	\$1,304.00
MADONNA DEL CASTELLO	
Offertory	\$1,310.00
ST. COLMAN	
Offertory	\$5,010.00
ST. JOHN FISHER	
Offertory	\$2,753.00
ST. JUDE THE APOSTLE	
Offertory	\$1,035.00
ST. MAURICE	
Offertory	\$6,803.00
WORD OF GOD	
Offertory	\$3,622.00

*Thank you for your continued generosity!*



### Prayer Line

St. Maurice—412-277-0693 or  
412-871-3245

Madonna & Word of God—412-804-8858

### BULLETIN DEADLINE

All bulletin articles must be submitted  
in writing or by email to  
stjudetheapostle@verizon.net  
by 10:00 am on Friday.

## LIVESTREAMING MASSES

**Our Masses are now streaming on YouTube!** If you did not have the opportunity to view our beautiful Holy Week Liturgies, streamed from St. John Fisher, you still have time! Visit the parish websites for direct links to those videos! You can still view Liturgies from Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday as well as a beautiful pre-recorded Stations of the Cross, featuring our clergy team and all of our parishes.

We began streaming daily Masses on our new YouTube Channel on Monday, April 13. The morning begins with Eucharistic Adoration at 8:30 am, with Benediction at 8:50 am, followed by daily Mass at 9:00 am.

Visit the parish websites for links to the Masses!

Our goal is to rotate the broadcasts through as many of our churches as possible. This is dependent upon the strength of the internet connection inside the church buildings. Since this is a new ministry for us, please be patient and watch for updates on the parish websites!

## MASSES ON TV AND ONLINE

### A. ON TV:

1. St. Mary of Mercy: live every day at Noon, Comcast channel 95, Christian Associates TV.
2. St. Paul Cathedral: live Monday through Saturday, 8:15 am and Sundays at 10 am. Comcast channel 95. Rebroadcast at 5 and 8 pm daily.
3. From WPXI-TV: Sundays at 6 am on PCNC and MeTV on Verizon; over the air on MeTV.
4. WPGH-TV Fox 53, 7 am, Sundays.

### B. Online:

1. Links through [diopitt.org/spiritual-resources](http://diopitt.org/spiritual-resources)
2. St. Paul Cathedral & St. Mary of Mercy: [christianassociatetv.org](http://christianassociatetv.org)
3. [Catholictv.org](http://Catholictv.org)

# PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS



## PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Katherine Gornick, James Kasardo, Louis Labriola, Andrew Matvya, Helen McCune, Raymond Lee McDonough, John Jack McGinty, Celestina Mogus, Jeanne Ondick, Alfred Palaszynski, Harold Reichert, Martin Valko, Jr. and Emma Yazvac who recently passed to the Lord. May their souls rest in peace. Amen.

### Prayer to St. Corona in a Time of Epidemic

*Lord Jesus Christ,  
You came into this world  
for our salvation.*

*Look kindly on us now, we pray,  
that we, and all those who serve You,  
might be kept safe from this  
epidemic.*

*Heal those who are sick,  
comfort the suffering, bring back  
those who have gone astray, and  
above all, increase our faith, O Lord.*

*Give us the grace to follow You and,  
like the martyr St. Corona, who gave  
her life for love of You, to take up our  
crosses daily without fear or  
hesitation.*

*Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the  
living God, have mercy on us and  
on the whole world.*

*St. Corona, patroness of  
epidemic victims, pray for us.*

## STAY UP TO DATE ON THE LATEST NEWS! CHECK OUT OUR GROUPING'S WEBSITES:

[catholicwestinghousevalley.org](http://catholicwestinghousevalley.org)  
[madonnadelcastello.org](http://madonnadelcastello.org)  
[stmauriceparish.org](http://stmauriceparish.org)

### MEMORIAL OFFERINGS—TABERNACLE LAMPS

**St. Maurice:** In memory of **Bill & Dennis Homze** from Marge Homze

**Word of God:** In memory of **Jeff Plutto**, 3rd death anniversary from Mom & Family

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH

The brunch is rescheduled for September 13, 2020. This date coincides with the rescheduled Susan B. Komen Walk for the Cure date. More details will be provided as the date nears.

**Father Jeremy Mohler is now posting  
his homilies online. To view them go to [FrMohler.com](http://FrMohler.com) .**

### YOU ARE FORMALLY INVITED!

During these strange and difficult times when we are not able to gather physically, we can gather together online and pray the prayers of the Church. This is also a great way to stay connected and see familiar faces and share a few laughs. Please join us daily at 6:30 pm for Evening Prayer. You can download the ZOOM app on your phone or iPad. You can simply copy/type the below link into your computer or other smart device. This is an interactive session, and not just viewing other people praying. We hope that you will join us!

Link: <https://zoom.us/j/490373330>

Any questions or comments should be directed to Seminarian Merv Knieriem. E-mail: [mknieriem@diopitt.org](mailto:mknieriem@diopitt.org) .



We have rescheduled our picnic for **Sunday, September 27**. Once everything settles, we will schedule a meeting to plan for this event. For now, **"SAVE THE DATE"**...Thanks, Fr. Al

**LENTEN SACRIFICES—PLEASE HOLD ON TO YOUR RICE BOWLS. WE PLAN TO COLLECT THEM ONCE THINGS ARE BACK TO NORMAL...THANKS FR AL**





### The Seal of a Jubilee Door from Rome embedded in Word of God's sanctuary.

Many parishioners wonder why there appears to be a defect in the wall to the left of Word of God's altar and why this defect has not been at least plastered or painted over. (see photo)

The reality is that this is not a defect, but a large fragment of a terra cotta seal that sealed a holy door in Rome during a Jubilee year, proclaimed in 1899. When the Jubilee year ended, the seal was broken by a high ranking official of the Catholic Church, possibly the Pope himself, that allowed the holy door to be opened.

The seal fragment, approximately, 5 inches wide by 6 inches tall, has across its top, the abbreviation **A.** followed by **IVBILEI**, which is latin for "year of Jubilee." The next line of the seal has **Leo. XIII** which signifies that Pope Leo the XIII declared the year of Jubilee. Below these are the letters **P.** and **M.** that signify Pontifex Maximus, one of the titles of the Pope. In between and below the letters is a Papal tiara or crown and stole. Below this is a fragment of a key, all symbols of the papacy.

Pope Leo XIII announced a holy year in May of 1899 which would open the new 20th century. The papal Bull *Poperante ad exitum saeculum* (*Hastening to the end of the age*), hoped the holy year would constitute a reawakening of the Christian peoples' faith. Holy doors do not exist only at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome, but in the other basilicas in that city: St. John Lateran, St. Mary Major, and St. Paul's Outside the Walls. There is no evidence that the seal came from any one of those churches.



There is no documented proof concerning how the fragment of the seal became embedded in Word of God's sanctuary wall. Fr. Joe Scheib who was assigned to St. Anselm's in the late 1970's did have a conversation with Fr. William Cheetham (1921-2005), the pastor of St. Anselm's at the time. Fr. Cheetham said that the first pastor, Daniel O'Connell (1868-1940) acquired the seal. A *Pittsburgh Catholic* article of June 27, 1935 mentioned that Fr. O'Connell was traveling in Europe and would return in August of that year. So it quite possible that Fr. O'Connell acquired the seal at that time.

It is also interesting that the year of Jubilee was declared by Pope Leo XIII who also wrote *Rerum Novarum*, the first encyclical concerning Catholic Social Teaching that promoted the rights and dignity of workers. That and the physical and historical connection of the seal with eight churches of the East and the Universal Church seem appropriately significant.

*Thanks to WOG Parishioner Paul Dvorchak for this information!*

## Sacraments:

### Baptism

Prior to having your child baptized, both parents must attend a pre-baptismal seminar. Please contact St. Maurice at 412-271-0809 to register.

### Penance

Until further notice confessions have been canceled.

### Marriage

By appointment. Anyone who wishes to marry should contact the pastor at least six months prior to the desired date.

### Anointing of the Sick

Available for those who are chronically ill. Please contact the parish in which the person is a member.

### RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

This is the process to become Catholic or for Catholics to receive the rest of their Sacraments of Initiation. Please call (412) 271-0809 for more information.

### Holy Communion for Shut-Ins

Please contact the parish in which the person is a member.

## A PRAYER FOR PROTECTION IN TIME OF PANDEMIC



The ancient fresco of Madonna del Soccorso (Our Lady of Help) in St. Peter's Basilica was restored with the support of the Knights of Columbus to mark the Year of Faith (2012-2013). Photo courtesy of Fabbrica di San Pietro M. Falicioni.

O Mary,  
you always brighten our path  
as a sign of salvation and of hope.  
We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick,  
who, at the Cross, took part in Jesus' pain  
while remaining steadfast in faith.  
O loving Mother,  
you know what we need,  
and we are confident you will provide for us  
as at Cana in Galilee.  
Intercede for us with your Son Jesus,  
the Divine Physician,  
for those who have fallen ill,  
for those who are vulnerable,  
and for those who have died.  
Intercede also for those charged with  
protecting the health and safety of others  
and for those who are tending to the sick  
and seeking a cure.  
Help us, O Mother of Divine Love,  
to conform to the will of the Father  
and to do as we are told by Jesus,  
who took upon himself our  
sufferings and carried our sorrows,  
so as to lead us, through the Cross,  
to the glory of the Resurrection. Amen.

*Under thy protection we seek refuge,  
O Holy Mother of God.  
In our needs, despise not our petitions,  
but deliver us always from all dangers,  
O glorious and blessed Virgin. Amen.*

*Adapted from the prayer of Pope Francis*

KNIGHTS OF  COLUMBUS



## Thoughts to Reflect On and Share:

*"Even Jesus' own disciples did not recognize Him when they encountered Him on the road to Emmaus. How often have we not recognized His presence in our lives through our encounters with others? Let's pray that when we can be together again our eyes will never be blind to Him in the face of all our sisters and brothers."*

You can Follow Deacon Herb on Facebook.



## SWISSVALE COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY

Food and donations can be dropped off 9:00 am until 5:00 pm on Tuesdays at the parish office at Madonna del Castello, 2021 S. Braddock Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15218. Make checks payable to "Swissvale Cares" and memo "Food Pantry." The Food Pantry is located at 2028 Noble Street. Food distributions are the 1st and 3rd Thursday each month, 9:00 am—12 Noon. Volunteers welcome. For more information call Dario at 412-452-2792.

## POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER TO OUR LADY IMPLORING HER PROTECTION AMID THE CORONAVIRUS

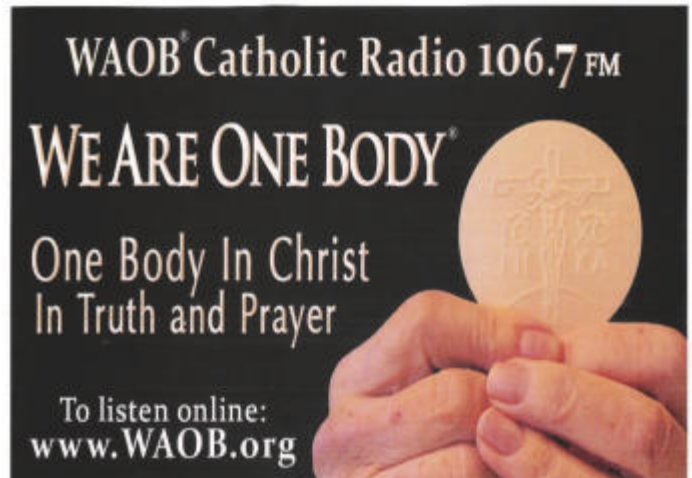
O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope. We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick. At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith. You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need. We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee, joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial. Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the Father's will and to do what Jesus tells us: He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen. We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God. Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test – and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and blessed Virgin.

**Need Free Health Care?** Keeping low income adults well in our community. Catholic Charities Free Health Care Center. Call today for eligibility details at 412-456-6911, option 1.

## FRESH FRUIT & VEGETABLES



All produce drops have been suspended until further notice. Therefore, there will be no distribution on April 28th as previously planned. Any questions, please call 412-452-2792.



## PARISH LIBRARY/GIFT SHOP NEWS

The Library & Gift Shop are closed during the COVID-19 emergency until further notice. If you have any special religious gift needs or library requests, email Karen Goldbach, [goldbachkm@verizon.net](mailto:goldbachkm@verizon.net).

## ADDICTION RECOVERY MINISTRY

Planting the seeds of hope for the addicted and afflicted. Providing opportunities for: education, enrichment, and support. Do you need someone to talk to, who will listen to you, without judgment? Check website for details: [www.AddictionRecoveryMinistryPittsburgh.org](http://www.AddictionRecoveryMinistryPittsburgh.org) or call 412-218-5410.



Until further notice:

# CHURCHES CLOSED

***Parish Office open:***

Mon-Fri. 8:30 am-4:30 pm St. Maurice  
2001 Ardmore Blvd. 412.271.0809

***Food Pantry donations:*** Tuesday, 9 am-5 pm  
Madonna/Word of God office,  
2021 South Braddock Avenue, Swissvale

We are grateful for your understanding, support  
and prayers in these unprecedented times.

May God bless and protect you.

# The Book of Revelation

A Five-Week Online Bible Study with Fr. Mohler



Join Fr. Mohler in this apocalyptic time for a five-week study on the Book of Revelation. While it can be an intimidating book to read or study on our own, Revelation is beautiful and vitally important with its focus on the Mass, Christian community, the last things and putting our ultimate focus on heavenly realities.

The format: Videos of 20-30 minutes will be posted to our parish Youtube account on Mondays by 5 PM. An opportunity to join a discussion on Zoom will take place on Tuesdays at 7 PM. Other discussion times may be added based on the number of signups and the needs of the group. Reading the Bible chapters prior to the discussion would be greatly beneficial but not required. Please email [frmohler@outlook.com](mailto:frmohler@outlook.com) to indicate joining the Tuesday discussion group or to inquire about a different time. You can also go to [frmohler.com](http://frmohler.com) for a link to the videos.

## Schedule

Week of April 27 – Background on Apocalyptic Literature in the Bible

Week of May 4 – Chapters 1 – 5

Week of May 11 – Chapters 6-10

Week of May 18 – Chapters 11-16

Week of May 25 – Chapters 17 - 22



## A NOTE FROM FR. MOHLER ON MISSION WEEK AND YOUTH EVENTS

Mission Week, the opportunity for service and retreat for our high school students scheduled for June 21-26, has been canceled. It is a disappointment for all involved, but we all agreed it would not be feasible to do this year. I still want to offer opportunities for our teens to grow closer to Christ and to each other in this summer ahead, whether online or hopefully—eventually with in person events as well. Please contact me with any ideas or questions moving forward at [frmohler@outlook.com](mailto:frmohler@outlook.com).

### Mission Week 2020 Update

With many of our common Catholic practices having been suspended recently, our idea of living the Faith might be going up in flame! Yet, fire not only symbolizes but is one of the most expressive images of the transforming energy of the Holy Spirit. It is the Holy Spirit, whom Christ pours out on us, who builds, animates, and sanctifies the Church. Saint Paul reminds us not to let the Spirit be quenched (1 Thess 5:19) and we will not let the coronavirus prevent us from being Church!

With that said, we also must face the reality before us. Mission Week 2020 is going to be very different! Unfortunately, the week-long trip to SNPJ needs to be cancelled. Although we continue to pray for an end to this virus and the social isolation in place to protect us, there simply isn't enough time to pull everything together. We have missed key deadlines and we will not be able to accomplish the site visits, evaluations and prep necessary. However, we are continually working on modified plans for the possibility of being present in New Castle to serve in some capacity before the start of next school year.

Recalling the lessons of prayer, fasting and almsgiving Lent taught us, we are proposing the following for Mission Week 2020. Our Mission Week plan currently includes:

**Prayer** – we are asking for volunteers to pray for the people we would have worked with. Respond HECK YES I WANT TO PRAY and we will assign you a family/etc. from those whom we have served and you will commit to praying for that person every day.

**Fasting** – Well, honestly, we were never good at that during Mission Week! Way too much food-but it was always so good. *We're still working on this one – if you have ideas please share.*

**Almsgiving** – many of our service sites can be helped by sending care packages and many of the families we would have been with would benefit by cards, letters and, at times gift cards. We will be compiling a list of these and asking you to form workgroups to compile these care packs.

Also, we are exploring ways to connect with you. We want to share the theme of Mission Week. We want you to hear and be transformed by our great speakers and special guests. Even if we can't gather each night in the barn physically, perhaps we will soon be experts at virtual gatherings and be able to meet for our talks, check-ins, and other fun activities. We are exploring ways of connecting virtually. Oh, and the mission week t-shirt? Yep, you'll still get one! It will not be virtual...

Really, we want to hear from you! Many of you have lived Mission Week and your experience is a great resource. We want and need your input! Please share your ideas with your youth minister.

Together we can show the world that we have been chosen, not forsaken. We are chosen to take the grace of God, that runs deeply in each of us as children of God, into the world. We are empowered by the Holy Spirit and ready to cast out darkness and fear by the force of the flame of our love!

You are in our prayers!

- The Mission Week Team -

## SUNDAY'S READINGS

### FIRST READING:

"God raised this Jesus;  
of this we are all witnesses.  
Exalted at the right hand of God,  
he received the promise of the Holy Spirit from the  
Father." (Acts 2:32-33a)

### PSALM:

Lord, you will show us the path of life. (Ps 16) or Alleluia.

### SECOND READING:

He was known before the foundation of the world  
but revealed in the final time for you. (1 Pt 1:20)

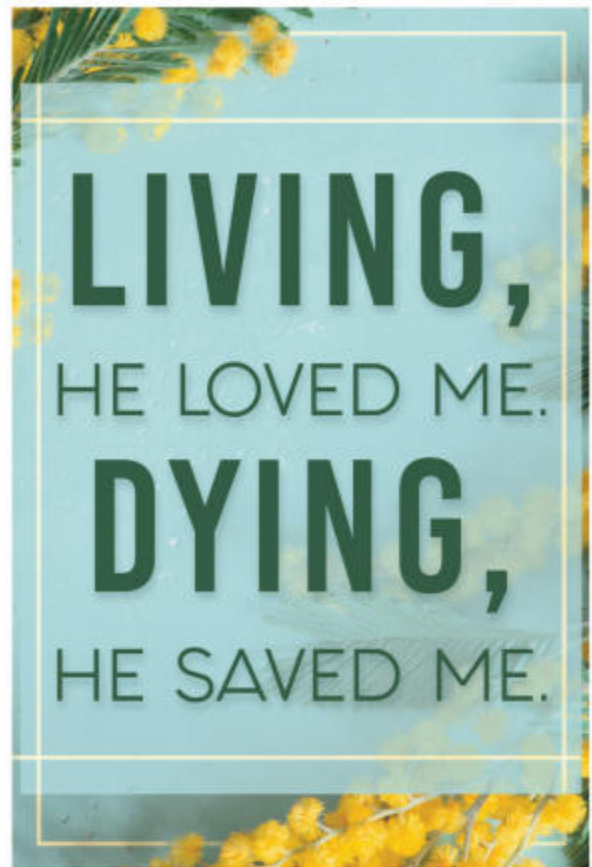
### GOSPEL:

"The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to  
Simon!" (Lk 24:34)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.  
The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International  
Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

### OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 26, 2020

Sunday: 3rd Sunday of Easter  
Tuesday: St. Peter Chanel, Priest and Martyr; St. Louis Grignion  
de Montfort, Priest  
Wednesday: St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor of the Church  
Thursday: St. Pius V, Pope  
Friday: St. Joseph the Worker  
Saturday: St. Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church  
Next Sunday: 4th Sunday of Easter; World Day of Prayer for Vocations



## REFLECT

### FIRST READING

In his first speech in Acts, Peter focuses on God's work in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. What do you think the resurrection of Jesus says about God?

### SECOND READING

Peter asserts that the resurrection of Jesus should give believers "faith and hope" in God. How do you remain focused on this objective in your spiritual journey?

### GOSPEL READING

Jesus' resurrection appearance to the two disciples on the road to Emmaus is one of the most well-known and beloved resurrection stories. What do you think makes this resurrection account so appealing?

3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER



# NEVER MISS A BULLETIN !

Sign up to have our weekly parish bulletin emailed to you at [www.parishesonline.com](http://www.parishesonline.com)





### TURTLE CREEK CHAPEL

Roy R. Jobe, *Supervisor*  
Gerry J. Meyer, *FD, Parishioner*  
Helen DeStefano, *Parishioner*

**(412) 823-1950**

CONVENIENTLY LOCATED ONE BLOCK FROM CHURCH

**JOBE**  
*Funeral Home  
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