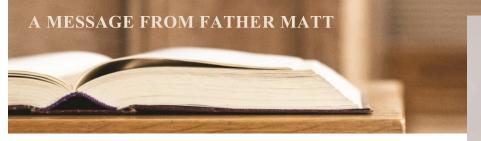


4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

6 O =

"Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven." - Mt 5:10-12a



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I was in to visit my dear uncle, Fr. Bob McCreary, recently. He is a Capuchin, just like Fr. Ward and Fr. Jim. My uncle lives with the Friars at St. Augustine's in Lawrenceville. My uncle has been pretty sick recently and is really slowing down. One of the Friars sent a message to all of Fr. Bob's family and some friends and asked that some funny stories be written down. I'm sure that there are going to be a lot of them. He is a really funny guy. My uncle is honestly the holiest man that I have ever met. Goodness just pours out of him. He is one of those guys who just makes you feel better just being with him. A few years ago, at a jubilee celebration for a number of Friars, the provincial spoke

BLESSED ARE
THE POOR IN
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HEAVEN.

of him as a man who has influenced so many others in the Church. It was a beautiful tribute. So often I just think of him as my uncle. He is that, but that night we learned that he is also so much more.

The day that I visited him, he had a little portable desk pulled up to his comfortable chair and was writing something. I asked what he was working on and he couldn't really say. I looked at his paper and read these words; "I am not worthy of any prayer I pray. Humility makes prayer, prayer." I thought that was so beautiful. So humble. So very much not what our culture is like today.

These days we seem to all believe that we are owed answers and explanations, from God and from others. We feel that we are entitled to our prayers being answered, and when they are not, we get angry or we quit. We say things like, "the God I believe in wouldn't let this kind of thing happen" so we decide not to believe in God. We demand that others see things exactly the way we see them, and when they don't, we try to cancel them or demand an explanation as to why your beliefs are not exactly the same as mine. We see ourselves as righteous when we are this way. But we aren't. We are arrogant. Arrogance leads to bitterness and disappointment. There is another way. It is the way of my uncle. It is the way of humility. Humility makes prayer, prayer. Humility leads to peace. Humility leads to blessedness.

"Blessed are the poor in spirit" Jesus says in the Gospel today. The "poor in spirit" are those who are humble. Those who know that they are not worthy of any of the graces and blessings that God gives them. Blessed are those who know they cannot earn by their own merits and deeds, any of the mercy God shows to them. We cannot earn it. We do not deserve it. We are not entitled to it. It is all grace. Blessed are those who realize this. In each reading this week, we are reminded of the blessings that come when we are humble. 'Seek the Lord, all you humble of heart" we hear in the First Reading. This will lead you to peaceful pastures. The Lord will sustain the humble, we hear in the Responsorial Psalm. Boast only in the Lord, not in yourself, St. Paul tells us in the Second Reading.

This week, let's be on the lookout for any arrogance in our lives and in our hearts. In your relationship with God and with others, what do you feel entitled to? What do you think you deserve? What do you think you merit because of the work that you have done. Remember that this kind of stuff, stuff that makes us feel righteous, is just arrogance in disguise. Arrogance leads to bitterness and disappointment. The holiest man I have ever known doesn't believe that he is owed anything. He is not even worthy of the prayers he prays. It is all grace. This is humility. Humility leads to peace and blessedness. Yes, how blessed are the poor in spirit!

Peace and Love, Fr. Matt



MATER DOLOROSA

409 North Main Street Chicora, PA 16025

ST. JOSEPH

864 Chicora Road Chicora, PA 16025

ST. WENDELIN

210 St. Wendelin Road Butler, PA 16002

CONTACT US

ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER

864 Chicora Rd., Chicora, PA 16025 Monday - Friday | 9 am - 12 pm 724-445-3713

www.saintclareparish.com

St. Wendelin School

211 St. Wendelin Rd., Butler, PA 16002 724-285-4986

email: stwend{@}zoominternet.net

Saint Clare Prayer List

For ALL Prayer List updates, call Fran Parker @ 724-445-7421

Cemetery Inquiries

Contact North Regional Office, 2636 Ellwood Road, New Castle, PA 16101, 724-323-0033, cpca{@}cpca-pgh.org

IMPORTANT! In an effort to reduce the amount of scam emails that frequently circulate, any email address published in the bulletin will now contain *braces* around the *at* symbol {@}. The braces are not part of the actual email address and need to be removed for the address to be valid. This technique helps cut down on the automated address harvesting by scammers. Again, if emailing any address listed in the bulletin, if the braces are not removed, the email will not send successfully. See below for an example.

Email as printed in the bulletin: communications{@}saintclareparish.com Actual Email:

communications@saintclareparish.com

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Father Ward Stakem frward{@}saintfrancisparish.net

Senior Parochial Vicar

Father Lou Pascazi frlou{@}saintclareparish.com

Senior Parochial Vicar

Father Jim Kurtz frjim{@}saintfrancisparish.net

Deacon

Bruce Beaver Bbeaver{@}diopitt.org

Parish Liaison

Barb Boltz barb{@}saintclareparish.com

Parish Accountant

Martha Birch martha{@}saintclareparish.com

Administrative Assistant, School Accountant, Safe Environment Coordinator

Nicole Karenbauer Nicole{@}saintclareparish.com

Director of Evangelization, Youth/Young Adult Ministries

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Director of Digital Media

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Kit Lanier
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Scan here to visit our website



Pittsburgh

Catholic



Scan here to visit our Facebook Page

Check out the online version of the Pittsburgh Catholic at www.diopitt.org

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Date	Time	Location	Intention	Requested By
Saturday, January 28 St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor of the Church	4:00 PM Vigil	St. Wendelin	Ann & Will Baptiste	Larry & Kathy
	5:30 PM Vigil	Mater Dolorosa	Judy Scott	**
Sunday, January 29	7:00 AM	St. Wendelin	Poor Souls in Purgatory	Vic & Bev Serafine
	8:15 AM	Mater Dolorosa	For the Parishioners of	Saint Clare of Assisi
Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time	9:30 AM	St. Joseph	Tom Snyder	Keith & Melissa Snyder
	10:30 AM	St. Wendelin	Cora Carbin	Tom & Faye
Monday, January 30	12:00 PM	Mater Dolorosa	Jim Callihan	Ken & Jane Fair
Tuesday, January 31 St. John Bosco, Priest	8:00 AM	St. Wendelin	Mabel Weiland	Shirley Crawford
Wednesday, February 1	10:00 AM	St. Wendelin	Darlene Murray	St. Wendelin School
	7:00 PM	Mater Dolorosa	Thomas Dunn	Lee & Maxine Benson
Thursday, February 2 The Presentation of the Lord	8:00 AM	St. Wendelin	Alice DeSantis	RJ & Nicole and Family
Friday, February 3 St. Blaise, Bishop and Martyr; St. Ansgar, Bishop	12:00 PM	St. Joseph	Yvonne Benson	Alberta & Kelly Dunn
Saturday, February 4	4:00 PM Vigil	St. Wendelin	St. Wendelin School Alumni	St. Wendelin School
	5:30 PM Vigil	Mater Dolorosa	Leo Benson	Anna Marie Sherwin
Sunday, February 5 Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	7:00 AM	St. Wendelin	Donald Ryan	Karen Hilderbrand
	8:15 AM	Mater Dolorosa	Paul Callihan	Fred & Martha Callihan
	9:30 AM	St. Joseph	Ethelreda Welter	John & Joyce Harding
	10:30 AM	St. Wendelin	Bert Green	Bob & Joyce Geibel



New or expecting parents, the next Baptism Preparation class is Monday, February 6th at 6 pm via zoom. Please contact Barb at the office to register.



Eucharistic Adoration will be on Wednesday, February 1st at 6 pm, at Mater Dolorosa, prior to 7:00pm Mass. Eucharistic Adoration is held monthly on the first Wednesday.



St. Clare will continue to collect nonperishable food items for the Petroleum Valley Food Cupboard. Boxes are located in the back of each church. Pickup dates are scheduled for February 15th, and March 15th. Thank you for your continued generosity!

Remember to pick up a copy of the Kids' Bulletin for your children to enjoy!

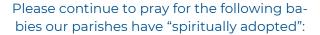






St. Blaise was a physician specializing in ailments of the throat.

Some parishes have a tradition of blessing throats on this day. The priest holds two blessed candles crossed in the form of an X. The candles are held to the throat of the person while a prayer is said.



Hannah, Savannah Marie, Lilliana Rose, Olive, Charlie, Suzanna Marie, John, Joy, Hannah,

Zander, Angel, Sophia, Grace, Edward, Satinka, Stacy and Molly Prayer cards can be found in the church entrances. Spiritual Adoption Certificates are available as well should you wish to "adopt", name and pray for a pre-born child and their family. The Pledge (to pray) Card can be returned in the collection basket.



WEEKLY READINGS

FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 29, 2023

Sunday: Zep 2:3; 3:12-13/Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10 (Matthew 5:3)/1 Cor 1:26-31/Mt 5:1-12a

Monday: Heb 11:32-40/Ps 31:20, 21, 22, 23, 24/Mk 5:1-20

Tuesday: Heb 12:1-4/Ps 22:26b-27, 28 and 30, 31-32/Mk 5:21-43

Wednesday: Heb 12:4-7, 11-15/Ps 103:1-2, 13-14, 17-18a/Mk 6:1-6

Thursday: Mal 3:1-4/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10/Heb 2:14-18/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

Friday: Heb 13:1-8/Ps 27:1, 3, 5, 8b-9abc/Mk 6:14-29

Saturday: Heb 13:15-17, 20-21/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Mk 6:30-34

Next Sunday: Is 58:7-10/Ps 112:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 (4a)/1 Cor 2:1-5/Mt 5:13-16

CONFESSION SCHEDULE Wednesday

6:15pm-6:45pm Mater Dolorosa

Saturday

11:00am-11:30am 11:00am-11:30am St. Wendelin 11:45am-12:15pm St. Joseph



Mater Dolorosa



WEEKLY COLLECTIONS JANUARY 22, 2023

5.00
6.00

PARISH SHARE COLLECTIONS

Parish Share (PSP)..... \$300.00 Parish Share - Online \$0 Total Parish Share \$300.00 *2022/2023 Parish Share YTD. \$63,804.24 2022 Parish Share Goal \$68,160.00

MINISTRY COLLECTIONS

Maintenance Fund \$0 Maintenance Fund Online ... \$115.00 School Support..... \$20.00 School Support Online..... \$0 St. Anthony/DePaul Schools \$275.00

*Parish Share now runs on a calendar year. Current total reflects to date total as we do not yet have the 2023 goal. Numbers will be adjusted at that time.

Thank you for your continued support of Ministries at Saint Clare of Assisi Parish!

En's Evening with Father Ma

Saturday, February 11th

at St. Wendelin Church/Hall

All men of St. Clare of Assisi Parish are invited and encouraged to bring any (male) guests you wish to invite. Join us for Mass at 4 pm (if you can), followed by dinner and refreshments at 5:15 pm. Please call the office to register so we may better prepare (724-445-3713).

> Sponsored by St. Clare Knights of Columbus. There is no cost to participants.

The next St. Clare Senior Pot Luck Lunch will be on



Wednesday, February 8th at DePaul Hall (St. Joseph N.O.) from 12-2 pm. Please join us for food, friends, and fellowship!

Adult Valentine

LUNCHEON

Sunday, February 12th · 11:30 am

at St. Wendelin Hall (following 10:30 am Mass) Choice of stuffed pork chop or chicken cordon bleu, served with red potatoes, orange glazed carrots and corn pudding. Cost is \$15/person. To RSVP, please call or text Norma Miller [724.496.6667] with name(s), phone number and choice of pork chop or chicken.

> Reservations accepted through February 5th

FLOCKNOTE HAS COME TO ST. CLARE

Flocknote is a GREAT communication tool that the Diocese of Pittsburgh has given all parishes. A safe and simple way to get updates from the parish via email or text message allowing the parish and ministry groups to communicate more easily and effectively with you! You can select which groups or ministries that you prefer to receive messages from, allowing us to easily send you the information you care about most via email and text message. Follow the instructions below!

Keep in touch with us!

SCPARISH TEXT

TO 84576

OR CONNECT WITH US ONLINE AT:

saintclareofassisiparish.flocknote.com



WED ONUT KNOW What We'd Bo Without You!

ST. WENDELIN SCHOOL IS KICKING OFF
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK BY PROVIDING
JUICE AND DONUTS TO SHOW OUR APPRECIATION TO ALL OF ST. CLARE PARISH FOR
THEIR CONSTANT SUPPORT. PLEASE JOIN US
IN ST. WENDELIN HALL AFTER THE 10:30AM
MASS TODAY, JANUARY 29th FOR DONUTS
AND JUICE!

ALUMNI BASKET RAFFLE TICKETS WILL ALSO BE AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE!

PASTA AND PRIZES

Pasta Dinner
Fundraiser at
St. Wendelin Hall
Saturday, February 4, 2023
from 5:00-7:00 pm
Dinner tickets are \$10.00
and can be purchased at the door.
Basket Raffles, Door Prizes, Rip-off
Tickets, and more... Come support the school advancement fund.
All proceeds benefit the Alumni fund

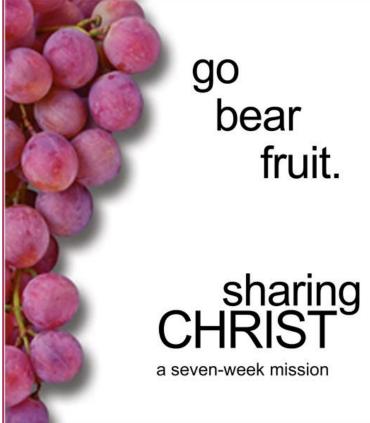
from St. Wendelin School.

(Basket Raffle Tickets can be pre-p

(Basket Raffle Tickets can be pre-purchased on January 29th, at the Donut reception following the 10:30am Mass, and during the Family Luncheon on January 30th.)

Catholic Schools Week

©LPi



The St. Francis & St. Clare of Assisi Evangelization Team are excited to present the next session of the ChristLife Series, sharingChrist, a Seven Week Journey. Each weekly session includes four components: prayer, video teaching, small group discussion, and practical applications. The sessions are free and include a delicious meal each week. Sessions begin on Monday, February 13th, 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm at St. John Hall. The remainder of the sessions will follow weekly on Tuesdays (February 21st through March 28th), same time & place. Newcomers are welcome! It does not matter if you were unable to attend the previous sessions in the ChristLife Series, we would love to have you join us for *sharingChrist*! Please let us know if you plan on attending by February 12th. Looking forward to seeing you soon!

Contact Sue Fraley at 724-445-3713 ext. 103, sue[@]saintclareparish.com *or* Angie Robb at 724-352-2149 ext. 208, angela[@]saintfrancisparish.net.

Catholic Identity Program Family Link

This Week's Virtue: WELLNESS

Wellness is the practice of caring for the entire self - body, mind, heart, and soul - in recognition that each



person is made in the image and likeness of God.

St. Wendelin School

Designer Purse Bash Luncheon

Sunday, February 19, 2023

St Wendelin Hall210 Saint Wendelin RoadButler, PA 16002

Doors open at 12:30pm Lunch served at 1:00pm

BYOB (Must be 21 and older)

Purses Raffled Throughout The Day!!
Plus...Basket Raffle, 50/50, Side Raffles,
Rip Tickets, 100 boxes & Treasure Chest.
Donation: \$30.00 Winner Need Not Be Present.
ATM on the Premises! Please contact Nicole
Karenbauer for tickets 724-290-8611

Mark Your Calendar! Next BINGO—February 17th

St. Clare & St. Francis parishioners, along with Fr. Jim, joined others from around Butler County to make the trip to Washington DC for the annual March for Life on January 20, 2023.

This week's St. Wendelin School Student of the Week is: Judah Brosenitsch!

Judah has two younger sisters, Avelynn and Hayden, which he loves. His favorite time at school is recess because he gets to play games with his friends! Outside of school, Judah enjoys spending time with his family, riding swings and dirt bikes, and swimming in the pool. His kindness shines through during a school day with his classmates. He is also a very respectful student towards his friends and the school staff! When Judah grows up, he would like to become a teacher and then a police officer! Congratulations to this week's St. Wendelin School Student of the Week,

Judah Brosenitsch!

Saint Wendelin Parent Teacher Guild Hoagie Sale



Fresh Hoagies made by the Herman Mini Mart will be available to purchase for \$6 after ALL Masses at St. Clare Parish on the weekend of February 25/26! Hoagies are 8" long and include ham, pepperoni, provolone cheese, lettuce, tomato, banana peppers and onion.



St. Wendelin PTG monthly 50/50 raffle - Tickets ARE available for anyone to purchase or sell, in the back of ALL 3 churches of our parish. Sold

tickets can be returned by placing them in the drop box in front of the school building or mailed to the school at 211 Saint Wendelin Rd Butler, PA 16002.

Tickets are \$1.00 and come in books of 5.







From Feb. 22nd – April 2nd, you're invited to join

other Christians for **40 Days for Life** – 40 days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion. You're also invited to stand and peacefully pray during a 40-day vigil in the public right-of-way outside Planned Parenthood, 933 Liberty Avenue, Pittsburgh, and to help spread the word about this important community outreach. If you'd like more information – and especially if you'd like to volunteer to help, please contact:

Nikki Bruni, nbruni@40daysforlifepgh.com, or Donna Goss at gdgoss620@gmail.com

- 20,829 babies saved
- 247 abortion workers converted
- 132 abortion centers closed!

Kick-off Mass at Divine Mercy Parish, Epiphany Church on Tuesday, Feb. 21st at 6:30 pm, followed by a candle-lit *Eucharistic Procession* to Planned Parenthood! All Christians are welcome to participate!

40daysforlife.com/Pittsburgh for more info, or check out our blog at 40daysforlifepittsburgh.com



Deer Classic Sportsman's Raffle Sponsored by St. Wendelin School Saturday, April 29, 2023 Noon – 6 pm



Location: Happy Hunters Sportsman's Club 676 Chicora Fenelton Road, Fenelton PA, 16034

Donation: \$25 per Raffle Ticket

Ticket is admission to the Event-Photo ID Required

(Ages 11 and under \$5 at the door)

First ticket pulled at 12:15

Online ticket sales: https://square.link/u/AuUft82M
Tickets will be scanned and emailed to buyer unless asked otherwise.

Raffle Ticket includes: Food and Beverage, 15 Guns, 9 cash prizes and a MYSTERY GRAND PRIZE at the end of the event!

Bring Any Size Rack & See What It Scores - Local Trophies on Display All Day and Hourly 50/50 - Raffle Baskets – Additional Raffles during Event

Guns Purchased at Fenelton Firearms Inc.

Widowed, Divorced, Seperated? The loss of a spouse through death, divorce, or separation is a traumatic experience. The Beginning Experience® Pittsburgh Lay Apostolate will host a 1-day Saturday seminar, Coping with Life Alone-In the Beginning Program, intended to help widowed, divorced, or separated men and women work through their grief and begin to move forward with hope on their life journey. Please plan to join us Saturday, February 4, 2023 from 8:45am – 4:00pm. Fee is \$25.00 (beverages & lunch included). Location: St. John Capistran Church, 1610 McMillan Rd., Upper St. Clair, PA 15241. Register by February 1st at www.BeginningExperiencePittsburgh.com or make a confidential call to Kim at 412-352-2653 to learn more about this healing ministry.

ADVERTISE WITH US!

Retrouvaille Weekend February 17-19, 2023

Is your marriage going down the right road...or is it a little off track? Life can be difficult, and so can the challenges you face in marriage. Does the distance between you seem wide? Are you already separated? Looking for a better way? Retrouvaille can help offering hope for a better relationship. Retrouvaille is a peer ministry of volunteer couples that can help you learn the tools of healthy communication to build intimacy and to heal, just as they have done in their own marriages. Retrouvaille can help you get your relationship back on track. For Information about our February 17-19, 2023 Retrouvaille Weekend visit our website: HelpOurMarriage.org, or call our local community at 412-277-3434.

HOPE AND HEALING ARE POSSIBLE!!!

For those struggling with addiction or substance abuse, for their families and for those who have lost loved ones to the disease of addiction and overdose. We come together in prayer! PLEASE JOIN US FOR ROSARY AND SPECIAL INTERCES-SIONS-TUESDAY, January 31st - 2:30 to 3:30pm at ABBA'S HOUSE, 320 W. MAIN ST., SAXONBURG information: patomaszewski[@]zoominternet.net "God is our refuge and our strength." -Psalm 46:2

All musicians, vocalists, and worship leaders are invited to attend the 2023 Pursue: Retreat for Musicians, hosted at The Ark and The Dove. As an overnight retreat from February 3-5, 2023, this innovative retreat will bring renewal to your heart, your life of prayer, and your ministry of music and worship. Speakers include Noah Pepmeyer, John Paul Von Arx, and Sisters Elizabeth Ann, DLJC. For more information and to register, visit www.thearkandthedoveworldwide.org/pursue.



SOFTBALL & TENNIS PLAYERS WANTED, CO-

ED: SINGLES, 21 AND OVER. Softball is played in O'Hara Twp, Tennis at Moore Park in Brookline. The Catholic Singles Club of Pittsburgh is looking for players of all abilities. The group also offers dinners, spirituality events, trips, mini golf, hiking, volleyball, cultural and many other great events. For more information or an application, visit: www.cacpittsburgh.org, or contact CAC.Softball@yahoo.com *or* Gary.Urbatis@verizon.net or leave a message at 412-341-4070.

KNOW SOMEONE WHO NEEDS COMFORT? The Prayer Blanket Ministry at St. Francis Parish has a beautiful selection of blankets for anyone who needs the comfort of prayer. If you know of someone who is sick, depressed, lost a loved one, or is struggling with a mental illness, please consider the gift of one of our blankets. The blankets are blessed and come with a rosary. The recipients are lifted in prayer every Tuesday morning at our meeting. We also have blankets for children of all ages. Pick up a blanket during our meeting, Tuesday mornings, St. Joseph Hall, Cabot, 9 - 11:30am, or call Suzanne Ekas and leave a message at 724.360.0027.

The Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program

(EITC) has been in place for over 20 years! This is a great program which provides tuition assistance to support families attending our Catholic Schools. PA tax credits are now available for eligible individual and corporate donors, with a deadline approaching. To participate, please call (412) 456-3055 or email stewardship@diopitt.org.

A community Cash Bash is being held on Saturday, February 18 at 6pm in Patterson Hall, Guardian Angels Parish (Blessed Sacrament Worship Site), 800 Montana Avenue, Natrona Heights, PA. Tickets are \$10.00 each. Winner does not have to be present. Ticket includes admission, lottery, dinner and drinks. Cash and other prizes will be awarded. Call Patricia Carman from St. Joseph High School at 724-226-7877 to purchase your ticket. All are welcome!

Important numbers for Reporting Child Abuse below:

Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator

Office: 412-456-3093 Hot Line: 1-888-808-1235

PA Childline: 1-800- 932-0313

CANS FOR KIDS - ALUMINUM CAN DRIVE-

Benefits St. Wendelin School. Help the school and the environment, don't just throw cans away, collect them at home, outings, reunions, and events! Cans may be dropped off in the small trailer in lower parking lot across from the school.

ALUMINUM CANS