



#### 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 Prayer List updates, call Fran Parker @ 724-445-7421 or the parish office

#### **Cemetery Inquiries**

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

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 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. Sign up through the parish website!



#### PARISH STAFF

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# a Message from Fr. Math

Dear Brothers and Sisters

One of the things that surprises my brother priests, especially those who grew up in Pittsburgh and have mostly been assigned to churches in Allegheny County, is how many of the kids in our area hunt, and how young they are when they start. This was a surprise to me as well when I first got up here, but now I know and understand it as a great part of our culture. A few years ago, one of my priest friends was at Mass with me at our school and I asked the kids, since it was buck season, if anyone had gotten a buck yet. A bunch of hands went up. I didn't think much of it, but he was amazed. I saw him at big diocesan event later on in the year and he was telling everyone about all of these little kids and their bucks! When you're not from here, you just don't understand! This year, one of our young guys, Gunner, was telling me about a deer that he missed during

archery season. He was so funny. He had an easy shot, took dead aim, and missed! Guess whose fault it was that he missed? His dad's! His dad had given him an arrow with bad fletching! I didn't know what fletching was when Gunner said it. I have come to learn that fletching is the feathers or material at the end of the arrow and makes it stable and aerodynamic. Now to be honest, Gunner and his dad don't really agree about this situation. But Gunner is pretty sure!

"Repent and believe in the Gospel." These are words that we have heard many times. You may even have heard some version of them on Ash Wednesday as you were marked with ashes. Sometimes when we hear something so often, we get used to it and it loses a little bit of its meaning. This phrase is not one of those that we should let that happen with. So, what does it mean?

The word "repent", believe it or not, has its roots in archery. It means to change where you are aiming. The Greek word metanoia, which we have talked about before, is similar, but repent has a more physical, bodily sense to it. It isn't just about changing your mind. It is about looking at where you are aiming and physically adjusting your aim so that it is on Jesus. Repent also has a very singular sense to it. It is about you looking at you. Not you looking at others. We are all pretty good at seeing the mis-aims of others. Lent isn't about that. Dad may have handed you an arrow with bad fletching but this is the time to look at what you have done, how you have aimed, and how you could do it better!



"Believe" is the other big word in Jesus' message today. We are called to believe in what God said to Noah in the First Reading from the Book of Genesis; God has made a covenant with all living creatures that He will not forget. We are called to believe what St. Paul tells us in the Second Reading; Through the waters of Baptism, we are cleansed and made a part of Jesus who saves us. What does it mean to believe?

Believing, like repenting, has more of a physical and personal side to it than we think. What we are called to here is not just intellectual belief. It is not enough to say that it makes sense or is rational. It is not enough just to believe with our minds. Believing means living it out. It means living and acting and making decisions based on what you say that you believe. It is almost like putting on glasses so that you see everything through the lens of what you believe. Can you see everything, make every decision, no matter how big or small, through the lens of one who is loved and saved by God? That is what it means to believe.

So, we begin this Lent with a challenge. Repent and believe. Don't pass by those words as old hat. Remember what they mean. Change your aim where you need to. Let your belief in the Gospel impact how you see and decide everything. Repent and believe.

Peace and Love, Fr. Matt

## Praying for those in need ...



Stephanie Sellers Cheryl Brown Dana Cornibe Steve Birckbichler Jean Geibel Christine Cessna Jessie Black Jeff Coyle Carol Hall Diane Stahoviak Randy Freehling Laura Johnson Chris Young Wayne Pennington Dick Preston Sue Ellen Carr

Joseph McCloskey Jayden Albright Rosemarie Gall Zarnick Ron Kriess Fr. Rick Thompson Larry Karenbauer Steven Shultz Mason Martin Lena Jane Steiner Bill Smith Sharon Golobish Madalyn Rose Geibel Jim Bergbigler Virginia Briski Fred Green Carter T. Williams Ada Skelly Vince Ritzert **Dean Morrow** Madeline McCloskey

Pearl Kocher



Warm wishes and blessings to those recently baptized in our parish.

#### Eloise Marie Mitch

daughter of Thomas & Sarah Mitch

Welcome to our faith community!

#### Pick up a copy of the *Kids' Bulletin* for your children to enjoy!



**Every Friday of Lent** 

St. Clare Parish- Fridays at 7 pm
February 23rd- St. Joseph N.O.
March 1st- St. Wendelin
March 8th- Mater Dolorosa
March 15th- St. Joseph N.O.
March 22nd- St. Wendelin
\* 1:50 pm at St. Wendelin (School)
every Friday\*

#### St. Francis Parish-Fridays at 7 pm

February 23rd– St. Mary March 1st– St. Joseph Cabot March 8th– St. John March 15th– St. Mary March 22nd– St. Joseph Cabot March 29th– St. Mary



#### WEEKLY READINGS

## FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 18, 2024

**Sunday:** Gn 9:8-15/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8 -9 (see 10)/1 Pt 3:18-22/Mk 1:12-15

**Monday:** Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Ps 19:8, 9,

10, 15/Mt 25:31-46

**Tuesday:** Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-5, 6-7,

16-17, 18-19/Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday: Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4,

12-13, 18-19/Lk 11:29-32

**Thursday:** 1 Pt 5:1-4/Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5,

6/Mt 16:13-19

Friday: Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5

-7a, 7bc-8/Mt 5:20-26

**Saturday:** Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-

5, 7-8/Mt 5:43-48

**Next Sunday:** Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19 (116:9)/

Rom 8:31b-34/Mk 9:2-10

All are invited to attend evening prayer & benediction **Sundays in Lent at 5 pm at St. Mary in Herman**.



## CONFESSION SCHEDULE

**Saturdays** 

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

Wednesdays During Lent 5:15 pm-5:45 pm at Mater Dolorosa

Appointments available upon request.

Contact the parish office.

## **WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS**

Date	Time	Location	Intention	Requested By
Saturday, February 17 The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order	4:00 PM Vigil	St. Wendelin	Esther Stephenson	Stephenson Family
	5:30 PM Vigil	Mater Dolorosa	Robert Zanella	His Wife
Sunday,	7:00 AM	St. Wendelin	Pat Graham	Patty Davis
February 18  1st Sunday  of Lent	8:15 AM	Mater Dolorosa	Tom Kusick	Donna & Jason Garrett
	9:30 AM	St. Joseph	Michael Alan Neff	Vince & Ann Neff
	10:30 AM	St. Wendelin	Emma & Clyde Bresnahan	Children
<b>Monday, February 19</b> Presidents' Day	12:00 PM	Mater Dolorosa	Tera Callihan	Family
Tuesday, February 20	8:00 AM	St. Wendelin	Anthomy Fello	Sue Fraley
Wednesday, February 21	10:00 AM	St. Wendelin	Anna Tomsey	Mark & Sheri Barnhart, Maria and Gino
St. Peter Damian, Bishop and Doctor of the Church	6:00 PM	Mater Dolorosa	Tom Dunn	Judy & Family
Thursday, February 22 The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle	8:00 AM	St. Wendelin	Bernard Waltman	Mr. & Mrs. Greg Ramsey and Mr. & Mrs. Terwilliger
<b>Friday, February 23</b> St. Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr	12:00 PM	St. Joseph	Karen Rettig	John Lorenz
Saturday, February 24	4:00 PM Vigil	St. Wendelin	Russell & Helen Geibel and Family	Family
	5:30 PM Vigil	Mater Dolorosa	Harold & Jane Callihan	Sid & Elaine
Sunday, February 25 2nd Sunday of Lent	7:00 AM	St. Wendelin	For the Parishioners of Saint Clare of Assisi	
	8:15 AM	Mater Dolorosa	Ralph Steiner	John A. Kriley
	9:30 AM	St. Joseph	Cassie Dunlap	Melissa & Keith Snyder
	10:30 AM	St. Wendelin	Lois Jean Arnold	Floyd & Dolly Neigh



#### WEEKLY COLLECTIONS -FEBRUARY 11, 2023

Offertory - Mass	\$7,209.00
Offertory - Online	\$1,315.00
Total Offertory	\$8,524.00

#### **PARISH APPEAL**

Weekly Parish Appeal	\$8,420.00
2024 Parish Appeal to Date	\$10,270.00
2024 Parish Appeal Goal	\$64,547.00
2023 Parish Appeal to Date	\$48,622.50
2023 Parish Appeal Goal	\$64,547.00

#### MINISTRY COLLECTIONS

Maintenance Fund	\$326.00
School Support	\$185.00
St. Anthony/DePaul Schools	\$100.00

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

#### Lenten Baby Bottle "Change a Life" Drive

This year's Drive will benefit Little Lamb Resale.

At Little Lamb, the answer to a crisis pregnancy is to eliminate the crisis & celebrate Mom & Baby. They sell adorable thrift clothing



(Maternity & Birth-2T) in a boutique setting in the city. But shop volunteers do so much more! They connect moms in need to life affirming organizations that support parenting with free resources.

LLR is a Project of the National Women's Coalition for Life, a Tax- Exempt 501(c) 3 Private Foundation. Due to the steep rent, LLR is in need of donations so that they can continue to minister to the needs of families and be a home-base for pro-life efforts in the heart of the city.

Please grab a bottle in your church entrance and fill it with coins, cash or a check payable to National Women's Coalition for Life. Give online at www.tinvurl.com/Lambspgh. Thank you for helping to "Change a Life" by supporting this Drive!

Choir rehearsals are every Wednesday, at 7:00 pm at St. Wendelin. Please come and learn some new music and sing some old classic favorites as we prepare for the Easter Season and more. We hope you can join us!

We are also looking for instrumentalists of all kinds to enhance our music and worship team! Please contact Steve Dunn for more information!

#### Children's Faith Formation 2024

**18- CFF-** Elementary

Confirmation Retreat 10:15AM Middle School (Grades 6 & 7)

24- First Reconciliation 9AM St. Wendelin

25- CFF- Elementary

Middle School

The St Clare Parish Christian Women & Mothers will hold their first meeting of 2024 on Tuesday, March 5th, at 6:30 PM in DePaul Hall (lower level of St Joseph Church). Any women of the parish who are interested are welcome to attend.



The next St. Clare Senior Pot Luck Lunch is Wednesday, March 13th, at DePaul Hall (St. Joseph N.O.) from 12-2 pm. Please join us for food, friends, and fellowship!

#### St. Clare & St. Francis RCIA

Recently, we celebrated the Right of Acceptance into the Order of Catechumens and the Rite of Welcome.





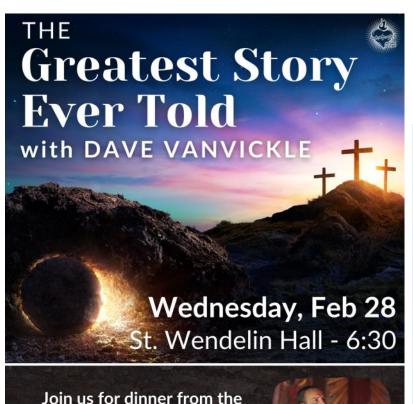


Our catechumens, Sarah Murray and Genny Roudybush will be receiving the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist). Amanda Davis, Brandon Hilderbrand, Chris Huselton, Anna Marie Moore, Aimee Scholl, Michael Wagner, Katherine Welter, and Billie Jo Wiest will be received into full communion in the Church at the Easter Vigil at St.

Wendelin Church, Jill Lesko and Alexa Bartosh will be received into full communion in the Church at the Easter Vigil at St. Joseph Church in Cabot.

Please keep our catechumens and candidates in your prayers as they continue on their journey to full initiation in the Catholic Faith.





Congratulations to
St. Clare parishioners
Montana Geibel and Kobe Ball
for achieving Highest Honors
(4.0 +) on the St. Joseph High
School Honor Roll.



### **DID YOU KNOW?**

#### Who was St. Valentine?

He was either a Roman priest or a bishop in central Italy who was martyred in the 3rd century. His remains are buried along the Via Flaminia in Rome. History is not sure whether



there is a connection between St. Valentine and romantic love. His very status as a martyr makes him a great patron for love.

In the Middle Ages, it was said that birds began to pair on St. Valentine's Day, lovers exchanged letters and tokens of affection on this day. This can be found in literature from 14th- and 15th-century France and England.

St. Clare continues to collect nonperishable food items for the Petroleum Valley Food Cupboard. Boxes are located in the back of each church for donations. Thank you for your support!



St. Clare & St. Francis Parishes with Nature of Fire

Presented by St. Clare & St. Francis Parishes with Nature of Fire

Nature of Fire food truck and a talk by Dave VanVickle - all are

welcome & everything is free!

# Parish-Wide Evangelization Save the dates!



Speaker & Catered Dinner

at St. Wendelin



Lenten Mission Night One

at St. John



Lenten Mission Night Two

at St. Joseph in Oakland

Lenten Mission Night Three
at Mater Dolorosa

All are welcome & everything is free!

**The R. C. Men's Club** (128 Men's Club Lane, Butler PA 16002) is hosting *Last Call*, an opportunity for practicing and nonpracticing men and women to meet in a comfortable environment to learn more about our faith through the insights and experiences of engaging speakers and in fellowship with others. All are invited to attend the following evenings **at 7 pm**. Guest speakers will discuss a topic of their choice, and the club will provide pizza for those who attend!

February 22nd Father Ed Volz February 29th Father Matt McClain March 7th Father Ward Stakem March 14th Adam Petrovich (Seminarian)

St. Clare of Assisi Children's Faith Formation
Student of the Week is

#### Sawyer King!

Sawyer is in the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade class this year. He feels blessed

because his family loves him. Sawyer enjoys playing on his tablet and riding quads. When he gets older, Sawyer would like to be a farmer.

Congratulations to this week's St. Clare Children's Faith Formation Student of the Week,

Sawyer King!























#### **Good Friday Fish Dinner** March 29, 2024 from 3pm to 7pm at St. Wendelin Church Hall Dine-In or Take-Out COST- \$15.00



Menu Includes: Choice of Baked or Fried Fish, Mac n' Cheese, Potatoes, Green Beans, Cole Slaw, Bread, Dessert, Drink (Dine-In Only). No Substitutions 50/50 Raffle \*\*Proceeds benefit St. Wendelin School\*\*

We are looking for volunteers & donations for the Good Friday Fish Dinner! Sign up online at the St. Wendelin School website: stwendelinschool.com, or contact the school office at 724-285-4986. Thank you for your continued support!



#### **Catholic Identity Program Family Link** This Week's Virtue: COMPASSION

Compassion is a sympathetic understanding of another person's pain with the desire to relieve it.





St. Wendelin School is holding Open Enrollment for the 2024-25 school year for Preschool through Eighth Grades Beginning Monday, February 26, 2024. Join us for Step-Up Day/Registration on February 26th, 9-11 am-St. Wendelin

School Teachers are inviting in-coming students to participate in a class lesson with their current grade level students while parents receive and complete information about registration for the 2024-2025 school year. Busing is available for the surrounding districts, Full Day Kindergarten Program, Advanced Technologies, Highly Qualified Teaching Staff, and Extra Curricular Activities.

Or visit the **Evening Open** House/Registration on Monday, February 26th from 6-7 pm. There is an information link on the



school website at www.stwendelinschool.com providing details on completing the registration forms. Registration forms are available on the school website or by calling the St. Wendelin School Office at 724-285-4986. Please visit the school website to take a virtual tour. The St. Pope John Paul II STAR, Student Tuition Assistance Resource Program, will continue for the 2024-25 school year. This extraordinary program makes Catholic Education affordable for all families.



Mark your calendars for the next Friday Night Bingos, Ma<mark>rch 15th</mark> & April 12th!

**St. Wendelin School** has been nominated to receive free **Tiny Saints** charms of our patron for all the students and free custom t-shirts for all the staff! The more votes we get the better our chances of winning, so make sure to visit **TinySaints.com** and vote for **St. Wendelin School Butler Pa**. Voting closes the evening of February 22nd!



#### 2024 Deer Classic Sportsman's Raffle Sponsored by St. Wendelin School Saturday, April 27, 2024, Noon – 6 pm

Happy Hunters Sportsman's Club Donation: \$25 -Ticket is admission to the Event-Photo ID Required (Ages 11 & under \$5 at the door) First ticket pulled at 12:15 pm

Online ticket sales: <a href="https://square.link/u/Bg9WBRwy">https://square.link/u/Bg9WBRwy</a> Raffle Ticket includes: Food & Beverage and chance to win one of 25 prizes, including the MYSTERY GRAND PRIZE! All Day and Hourly 50/50 - Raffle Baskets – Additional Raffles during Event Bring Any Size Rack & See What It Scores Local Trophies on Display

## St. Wendelin School *ALL THINGS YETI RAFFLE* Includes over \$1000 in YETI Merchandise!

Drawing will be held Saturday, April 27th at end of the Deer Classic. Donation \$10 per ticket. Tickets available from a St. Wendelin Student, or purchase tickets online at: <a href="https://square.link/u/7slid119">https://square.link/u/7slid119</a> Tickets will also be available at the Deer Classic!

#### St. Wendelin School Designer Purse Bash-Saturday, March 23rdat St. Wendelin Hall

Doors open at 6:00 pm -Donation \$30.00

Includes: Chance to win one of 14 Designer Purses, Light Dinner, Dessert and Beverage.

Feel free to BYOB & BYOS (snacks)

Also... Basket Raffle, 50/50, Side Raffles,
Rip Tickets, and the 100 Bag Game!
Ticket required to enter, winners need not be present.
Tickets available from any school family or
contact Nicole at the office.

Business sponsorships are available. Please contact Nicole at the office if interested in promoting your business at this popular event!

## St. Francis Parish 68<sup>th</sup> Annual Fish Fry at St. Mary of the Assumption School in Herman



## Every Friday: February 9th-March 22nd 3-6 PM All Dinners \$15.00

Carry-Out Only (Option To Eat Carry-Out Meal Inside) No Drive-Through, *No Substitutions* 

<u>MENU</u>: Pan Fried or Baked Cod Loin, green beans, cole slaw, bread, dessert, spanish rice, french fries, mac &cheese



Please pick up a *Little Black Book* to be your companion for Lent. It is small enough to travel easily with you anywhere. In this season of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, reflect on Christ's life based on the Passion narrative in the book of Luke.

- ⇒If you prefer daily email reflections, please take a minute to sign up with **Dynamic Catholic**<a href="https://www.dynamiccatholic.com/lent.html">https://www.dynamiccatholic.com/lent.html</a>
- ⇒ Daily Reflections featuring Dr. Tim Gray https://daily.formed.org/
- ⇒ Daily Gospel Reflections with Bishop Robert Barron https://dailycatholicgospel.com/sign-up-daily-gospel.
- ⇒You can download the **Hallow App**. You will find a complete guide to all their Lenten resources here <a href="https://hallow.com/lent/">https://hallow.com/lent/</a>.
- ⇒The **Amen App** has many Lenten resources as well.
- ⇒For our **diocesan resource guide**, visit https://diopitt.org/lent.
- ⇒Lent on FORMED-FORMED has Lenten Resources with enriching and entertaining content for kids, teens, families, and adults. This Lent, take advantage of our parish subscription free to you! If you need to sign up on FORMED, go to <a href="https://formed.org/signup">https://formed.org/signup</a> and enter 16025. Select St. Clare & St. Francis Parishes. Enter your name and email address. That's it!



Annual Cemetery Clean Up Notice: In order to maintain the appearance of our parish cemetery properties and ensure the safety of visitors and employees, The Catholic Parish Cemeteries Association will be conducting the annual clean up in March. All Christmas items

will be removed from all graves during this time. Please remove any items you wish to keep prior to March 1st. Thank you for your cooperation.

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 INTERCESSIONS on Tuesdays, February, February 20th - 2:00 to 3:00pm & February 27th - 7 to 8pm at ABBA'S HOUSE, 320 W. MAIN ST., SAXONBURG. For more information,

email: patomaszewski@zoominternet.net

Oakland Twp. Oneida Valley VFC is hosting an All You Can Eat Breakfast on February 18th, from 8am to 1 pm at the firehall, 301 Oneida Valley Rd, Butler. Menu includes pancakes, French toast, eggs, bacon, sausage, toast, cheesy potatoes, biscuits and gravy, all for \$12! Help support our local VFD!

Butler GT Softball Bingo! Saturday, February 24th, 11:30 am - 2:30 pm, doors open at 11 am at Tanglewood Coleman Hall (10



Austin Ave, Lyndora). **Bingo packets pre-sale \$30,** \$40 at the door, extra packets \$10 each. Prizes include Solo Firepit, Ring Doorbell w/ Echo, Gift Cards, and Much More! Side raffles, Basket raffle (\$10/sheet). Hot dogs, nachos, and beverages available! **Contact Nicole at the parish office if interested in pre-sale tickets!** 

Are you looking for a daily Lenten inspiration to help you draw closer to Jesus through prayer and sacrifice? Register for the 2024
Lenten Challenge by texting
LENT2024 to 84576 or visit
diopitt.org/lent to sign up to receive these daily messages via email. You will receive a text message every day in Lent to help guide your prayer and sacrifice.



Now through March 24th, 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. Members from St. Francis & St. Clare will be traveling to Pittsburgh on Thursdays for the 1 -3 pm shift. Anyone interested in attending, can contact Cil or Fr. Jim (call the office). We will depart with from St. Joseph in Cabot at noon and return around 4pm.

TEXT

**SCPARISH** 

TO 84576

OR CONNECT WITH US ONLINE AT:

saintclareofassisiparish.flocknote.com

