



Saint Clare of Assisi Parish

LOVE GOD, SERVE GOD: EVERYTHING IS IN THAT.



June 16, 2024

"TO WHAT SHALL WE COMPARE THE KINGDOM
OF GOD?" —MK 4:30

11TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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!



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our website



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to visit our Facebook
Page



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



MESSAGE FROM FR. MATT

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

My sister Mary Grace used to tell a story about when she went to a basketball camp at Syracuse University when she was in high school. She was a really good basketball player and this camp had good basketball players from across the northeast. One girl asked her where she was from and my sister told her that she was from a town right outside the City of Pittsburgh, called Mt. Lebanon. To which the other girl replied; "That's funny. You don't look Lebanese!" None of us ever really made the connection of Mt. Lebanon to the country of Lebanon. There really isn't any. Except, there is, sort of. One of the main streets through town, running behind the high school where the tennis courts, baseball and softball fields are, is called Cedar Boulevard. It was called that because there had in fact been Lebanon Cedars lining that road, long before I was born. None of them are there today. The cedars came from a trip to the Holy Land by a Reverend Clokey, who I think was a Methodist pastor in town. Because of the cedar trees, when St. Clair Township was divided in two, one part became Upper St. Clair and where I grew up became, instead of Lower St. Clair, Mt. Lebanon. Why am I telling you this? Cedars!

In the First Reading from the Book of the Prophet Ezekial, the Lord speaks of planting a shoot from the top branches of a cedar tree. From this small shoot, planted on the heights of Israel, a majestic cedar will grow. Birds of every kind will dwell beneath it. In the Responsorial Psalm we are told that those who are just will grow like a cedar of Lebanon and flourish in the house of the Lord.

In our Gospel for today, another tree is mentioned; the mustard tree or bush. In the middle east, mustard bushes can grow from 6 to 12 feet tall. The seed from which it comes is very small. In our day we know now that the mustard seed isn't actually the smallest seed, orchid seeds apparently are smaller, but the comparative ratio of seed size to full grown plant size shows the remarkable growth that a mustard seed makes. That is Jesus' point in using it. To show that something small can grow into something very large. Bishop Barron talks about the Principle of the Mustard Seed. This principle, that God uses small beginnings to do great things, is evident throughout the history of the Church.



So, why does the Scripture talk about the cedar tree so much in relation to faith? The cedar tree is referred to 103 times in the Bible. It is often meant to show strength and durability. The Church also often has used the cedar tree in reference to the Blessed Mother, to show her towering faith as well as strength. For me, however, the two qualities of the cedar that I was drawn to in regards to faith are these; it is slow growing and it repels insects! There is a closet at the house at St. John where I live now, that is lined with cedar. My parents had a cedar closet in our house growing up. They would store bedding and wool clothes in there when it was too warm outside to wear them, because cedar kept the moths away. So, cedar is strong, tall, and protects us from stuff that would want to destroy us! That is a pretty cool way to think of the faith.

If we put these parables about two trees together, the mustard and the cedar, we may really be on to something that could really encourage us. There is a promise of great growth if we remain faithful and just. But there is also the promise that the start may be small and the growth may take a long time. As we must with others, so too we need to be patient with God.

This week, let's be hopeful. Be courageous. Plant a seed, no matter how small, by doing something good and just for another. Spend time with the Lord in prayer. Spend time in God's word. Even just a little bit of time. Then be patient and let God work. Our faith will be sturdy like the cedar. It will grow, like the mustard seed. It will protect us from all that would harm us and the Kingdom within us will give shade to others. Doesn't that sound nice? Start this week. Start small. Be patient. Let God work in you and through you.

Peace and Love,
Fr. Matt

Praying for those in need . . .



REMEMBER
in your prayers

Paul Flick
Shawn Phillips
Pud Craig
John Williams
Maryann Fennell
Pearl Green
Gloria Andrews
Karol Halin
Kathy Steighner
Lexi Macurak
Stephanie Sellers
Cheryl Brown
Steve Birckbichler
Jean Geibel
Christine Cessna
Jessie Black
Carol Hall
Randy Freehling

Chris Young
Wayne Pennington
Dick Preston
Sue Ellen Carr
Joseph McCloskey
Jayden Albright
Rosemarie Gall Zarnick
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
Dean Morrow
Madeline McCloskey
Pearl Kocher



WEEKLY READINGS

FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 16, 2024

Sunday: Ez 17:22-24/Ps 92:2-3, 13-14,
15-16 (see 2a)/2 Cor 5:6-10/Mk 4:26-
34

Monday: 1 Kgs 21:1-16/Ps 5:2-3ab, 4b
-6a, 6b-7/Mt 5:38-42

Tuesday: 1 Kgs 21:17-29/Ps 51:3-4, 5-
6ab, 11 and 16/Mt 5:43-48

Wednesday: 2 Kgs 2:1, 6-14/Ps 31:20,
21, 24/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday: Sir 48:1-14/Ps 97:1-2, 3-4,
5-6, 7/Mt 6:7-15

Friday: 2 Kgs 11:1-4, 9-18, 20/Ps 132:11,
12, 13-14, 17-18/Mt 6:19-23

Saturday: 2 Chr 24:17-25/Ps 89:4-5,
29-30, 31-32, 33-34/Mt 6:24-34

Next Sunday: Jb 38:1, 8-11/Ps 107:23-
24, 25-26, 28-29, 30-31 (1b)/2 Cor 5:14
-17/Mk 4:35-41



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

Malcolm John Lyons

son of Zackary & Aubrey Schnur

Royce Lee DeFrancis

son of Doug & Haylee DeFrancis

Welcome to our faith community!

Please note, Mass on **Wednesday, June 19th at Mater Dolorosa will be at 12:00 pm, not 6 pm**, due to the Nature of Fire Family event that evening.

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

CONFESSION SCHEDULE Saturdays

11:00am-11:30am Mater Dolorosa

11:00am-11:30am St. Wendelin

11:45am-12:15pm St. Joseph

Appointments available upon request.



Father, I am hungry; for the love
of God give this soul her food,
her Lord in the Eucharist

~ St. Catherine of Siena

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Date	Time	Location	Intention	Requested By
Saturday, June 15	4:00 PM Vigil	St. Wendelin	Catherine Dante Borghini	Larry & Cathie O'Donnell
	5:30 PM Vigil	Mater Dolorosa	Joe Baker	
Sunday, June 16 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time Father's Day	7:00 AM	St. Wendelin	Vince Ritzert	
	8:15 AM	Mater Dolorosa	Ed Parker	Family
	9:30 AM	St. Joseph	For the Parishioners of Saint Clare of Assisi	
	10:30 AM	St. Wendelin	Emma & Clyde Bresnahan	Children
Monday, June 17	12:00 PM	Mater Dolorosa	Tera Callihan	Family
Tuesday, June 18	8:00 AM	St. Wendelin	Genevieve Pearl Ritzert	
Wednesday, June 19 St. Romuald, Abbot	12:00 PM	Mater Dolorosa	Wilbert & Ann Baptiste	Larry & Kathy
Thursday, June 20 World Refugee Day	8:00 AM	St. Wendelin	Ralph Dick Day	Carol Tomasovic
Friday, June 21 St. Aloysius Gonzaga, Religious	12:00 PM	St. Joseph	William Schneider	Marg Steiner
Saturday, June 22 St. Paulinus of Nola, Bishop; Sts. John Fisher, Bishop, and Thomas More, Martyrs	4:00 PM Vigil	St. Wendelin	Larry Montgomery	John & Dawn Sanders
	5:30 PM Vigil	Mater Dolorosa	William Long Sr.	Nancy
Sunday, June 23 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time	7:00 AM	St. Wendelin	Ethelreda Welter	Larry & Janice Hilderbrand
	8:15 AM	Mater Dolorosa	Deceased of the Goosetown Gang	The Goosetown Gang
	9:30 AM	St. Joseph	Tracy Weiland	Mom
	10:30 AM	St. Wendelin	Gino Pascazi	Sheri, Maria, and Gino

Parish Giving

Offertory totals from June 9 will be published in next weekend's bulletin.

Donate Raffle



Baskets Now!

The Annual St. Clare Parish Picnic is Sunday, August 18, 2024!
We are asking for donations for our always amazing basket raffle. New items, gift cards, cash, lottery tickets, etc. can be dropped off at the parish office. Contact Nicole at the office with any questions.



COMMUNITY DINNERS

St. Clare parishioners at St. Wendelin will host the **Community Dinner at St. Paul in Butler, on Tuesday, June 18th.** Volunteers are needed and we are accepting donations of desserts. Workers will pack and distribute the carry out meals from 3-6:30pm on June 18. If you are interested in volunteering or can offer desserts, contact Gina (contact office) by Friday, June 14. Arrangements can be made for dessert drop off. Confirmation Candidates for 2025 - this is a great opportunity to earn service hours! Community dinners are a Corporal Work of Mercy shared among Catholic churches and their ministries around Butler.

Attention ALL current Eucharistic Ministers (Parish or Nursing Home). Please plan to attend one of the upcoming **Diocesan required Eucharistic Minister Training sessions.** All sessions (approximately 2 hours) will be held at **Marian Hall at St. Mary in Herman.** No need to RSVP, just attend. If you are unable to attend one of the scheduled dates, or have any questions, please contact Sue Fraley at 724-445-3713.



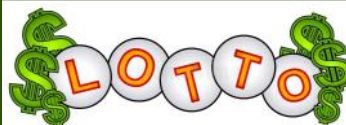
- Tuesday, July 9th, 6 pm
- Saturday, July 13th, 9 am

If you attended the June 6th Eucharistic Training session, the new training guide is available for you to pick up in the sacristy. Thank you.

Congratulations



We would like to welcome Steve Dunn as the Director of Music for both St. Clare & St. Francis Parishes. Many of you have probably enjoyed Steve's music at various Masses, as he has been playing regularly at St. Wendelin and at St. Joseph in Cabot already. Over the last few years there have been illnesses, retirements, etc., that have at times made it challenging to have musicians scheduled for every Mass. As the director, Steve will be better equipped to handle these situations and also provide support to our existing musicians. All of the current musicians will continue to play at the Masses they have always played. Steve will be reaching out to parishioners who may be interested in singing with one of the choirs, playing an instrument, or being a cantor. Please join us in congratulating Steve and welcoming him to our parishes!



The **2025 Lottery Calendars** are being prepared!
We need advertisers!

If you or your business would like to be an advertiser or sponsor for the upcoming St. Clare Lotto Calendar, please contact Nicole at the office.

All are invited to join us for a donut social on **Sunday, June 23rd at St. Joseph North Oakland, following the 9:30 am Mass.** Suzanne Ekas from the



St. Francis Prayer Blanket Ministry will be joining us with a variety of blankets that the group has to offer and information about what the prayer blanket ministry does. The ministry has distributed 1200 blankets over the last nine years. The 15 members of the group gather weekly and pray for those recipients. Anyone is welcome to request a blanket for someone and the recipient doesn't have to be a parishioner or be Catholic, anyone in need of prayer may receive this gift. The blankets are beautifully wrapped, blessed, and have a pocket that includes a rosary. Stop in to request a blanket, or check them out and know that you may request one any time!

Spring is here and summer is fast approaching! Volunteers are desperately needed to help beautify the grounds at St. Wendelin. Anyone interested in caring for a plot of flowers at St. Wendelin, please contact the office.





Congratulations to all of the 2024 High School Graduates from St. Clare Parish!

Pictured with Fr. Matt are the graduates who participated in the Baccalaureate Mass on June 9th.

Rachel Birch, Lauren Bowden, Drake Burke, Jacob Callihan, Noah Collins, Logan Cypher, Marlee Daniels, Gretchen Foehringer, Montana Geibel, Haylie Karenbauer, Noah Mourer, Angelena Neff, Austin Neff, Ardan Oniboni, Gino Pascazi, Skyleigh Rock, Kayleigh Silverio, Carter Spack, Zoe Waller

Have a Blessed Father's Day



Family Ministry Event



MARK YOUR CALENDAR



**Wed. June 19th
6:30pm**

Family Field Day and Picnic
@ St. Joe's - Cabot
Join us for some friendly
competitive games.
Parents vs. kids

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI &
ST. CLARE OF ASSISI PARISHES
PRESENT...

OUTDOOR CONCERT

June 27

Saint John
668 Clearfield Road

**CHECK NEXT WEEK'S BULLETIN
FOR MORE INFORMATION





The NHRCES is Expanding. Welcome to the Five New Schools Joining Our Region!

Butler Catholic School
Holy Sepulcher School
Saint Kilian Catholic School
St. Gregory School
St. Wendelin School

**Thank you to our schools as they move on to
their new region. You will be missed!**

**Christ the Divine Teacher Catholic Academy -
joining the Pittsburgh East Regional Catholic Elementary Schools.**

**St. James School -
joining the South Regional Catholic Elementary Schools.**

If you are a member of **St. Clare or St. Francis** parish and your child will attend a **Catholic school**, including preschool, in the 2024-2025 school year, you may receive a **financial award towards your child's tuition** from the parishes. Forms are available at the parish office, on each parish website, and in the entrance of each church. Please complete the form and return it to your registered parish office. If you have any questions, please contact the parish Office.

DID YOU KNOW?

"People of the Way"

Before they were called Christians or Catholics, Jesus' earliest disciples were known as "People of the Way." This is likely because Jesus called Himself "the way, the truth, and the light" (John 14:6). Later, the "People of the Way" would come to be universally known as "Christians." The name "Christian" comes from the Greek word *Christianos*, which means "Follower of Christ." So

how *did* Christians become known as "Catholics"? The Greek word for "church" is *katholikos*, which translates to "universal." The word "catholic" comes from *katholikos*. Since the true Church is universal, "making disciples of all nations" as Jesus commanded (Matthew 28:19), the precise wording "Catholic Church" is fitting. It simply affirms that she is the "Universal Church," the true Church established by Christ. So, we are "Christians"—those who follow Christ—and we are also "Catholic," that is, members of the one universal and undivided Church united throughout the whole world thanks to the evangelization of the Apostles and their successors.



Registration Forms:

-saintclareparish.com
 -Back of church
 -dre@saintclareparish.com

**Registration Due:**

Sunday, June 30, 2024

To: Parish Office or
 dre@saintclareparish.com

St. Clare of Assisi Parish Vacation Bible School

At St. Wendelin Church

July 8-11, 2024

9AM-Noon



Send your kids on an out-of-this-world adventure!

At Stellar VBS, kids shine Jesus' light! Stellar is filled with awesome Bible-learning experiences kids see, hear, and touch! Team-building games, unforgettable Bible songs, and tasty treats are just a few of the standout activities that help faith flow into real life. Plus, we'll help kids discover how to see evidence of God in everyday life— something we call God Sightings®. Get ready to hear that phrase a lot! **St. Clare Parish Office: 864 Chicora Rd., Chicora, PA 16025 (Attn: CFF)**

Catholic Identity Program Family Link

This Week's Virtue: LOVE
 Love is the free self-giving of the
 heart to God and neighbor.
 It is the greatest virtue.



The initial three-day
 release of the
 film Jesus Thirsts:
 The Miracle of the
 Eucharist scored big
 at the U.S. box office,
 grossing \$2,141,273

and landing at #1 in per screen average for all three days. If
 you missed out on the release, It will return to theaters na-
 tionwide by popular demand on June 18 & 19. Check your
 local theaters for showing times!



CATHOLIC KENNYWOOD DAY



Join us for Catholic Kennywood Day on **Monday, July 15th**

THRILLING RIDES | DELICIOUS FOOD | MEMORABLE MOMENTS

Mark your calendars & get ready for a day filled with faith, fellowship,
friendship & laughter!

For more information and tickets visit:
pghpriest.com/vocationevents

MARK YOUR CALENDER! FOR THE ANNUAL ST. FRANCIS PARISH RUMMAGE SALE

JULY 26 & 27 8 AM-4 PM

ST. JOHN'S CCD CENTER

**668 S. CLEARFIELD RD,
 FENELTON**

**TO DONATE SALEABLE,
 CLEAN, NEW, GENTLY USED
 HOUSEHOLD & KITCHEN
 ITEMS, TOYS, JEWELRY,
 TOOLS, LINENS, CLOTHING,
 ACCESSORIES, DVDs, CDs,
 COLLECTIBLES, ETC.,**

**PLEASE CONTACT DIXIE MEN-
 NOR {CALL ST. FRANCIS OFFICE-
 724-352-2149- FOR NUMBER}
 FOR A DROP OFF APPOINT-
 MENT, OR IF YOU WOULD LIKE
 TO VOLUNTEER.**

***NOTE: BOOKS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED*
 PROCEEDS SUPPORT ST. FRANCIS MARIAN
 GUILD CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES**

NAVIGATING TROUBLED TIMES

The Two Pillars: Our Lady & The Eucharist

Saturday, August 3, 2024
Highfield Community Center
229 Highfield Road
Butler, PA 16001



WITH SPEAKERS:



Father Joseph
Tuscan, OFM Cap.



Father Joe
Freedy



Sister Faustina
Maria



Paul Ruggieri
Catholic Author
of Answers for
Troubled Times



Isaac Bruce
Former Masonic Youth
and Catholic Revert

Premier Sponsor



For more information, go to Gospa.org
or call us at 724-538-3171.

A GOSPAM MISSIONS RETREAT



AT THE ARK AND THE DOVE
JUNE 28, 2024

Festival of Praise

10745 BABCOCK BLVD. GIBSONIA, PA 15044



MARYSARAH MENKAUS



NATURE OF FIRE



FR. WILL WUENSCHEL

All are Welcome!

5:00 - 7:00 PM
Dinner

7:00 - 9:00
Praise & Adoration

Parking On-Site

Confessions

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!



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 INTERCESSIONS on **Tuesday, June 18th from 2:00 to 3:00pm, June 25th from 7 to 8pm -at ABBA'S HOUSE, 320 W. MAIN ST, SAXONBURG.** For info, email: patomaszewski@zoominternet.net

Italian Penne Pasta & Meatball Dinner-Benefits Butler Meals on Wheels-Includes Penne Pasta, Meatballs, Salad, Bread & Dessert! **Tuesday, June 18, 2024, from 3 - 6 pm** at **St. Peter's Anglican Church**, 218 E. Jefferson St. (Please use Cliff St. Entrance) **\$12** (Pre-sale tickets available or at the door) Open to the Public. Main dish catered by The Monroe.

For all couples planning to marry in the coming year, registration is now available for the **Butler Area Marriage Preparation Retreat for the Fall of 2024.** The retreat consists of two Saturday sessions, November 2nd and November 9th and is held at St. Michael the Archangel Hall in Butler. Registration forms and information are available on our parish website under Sacraments.

Join us for the 2nd Annual Catholic Singles Summer Picnic. Get to know other Catholic Singles over the age of 21 throughout the Diocese of Pittsburgh. The picnic will be held at the Vietnam Veterans Pavilion in Schenley Park on Sunday, June 23rd starting at 1:30 PM. This Picnic is BYOB. The Cost is \$20 per person. You must be 21 or over. This is a fun outdoor event where you can relax and meet old friends and make new ones. Registration is required ahead of time for planning purposes. To attend, please send your contact info (Name, Phone #, email address) along with a check for \$20.00 made out to CAC of Pittsburgh by June 17th Send to Karen Sakaluk 5211 Sutton Place Ext. Wexford, PA 15090. If you have any questions, please contact Karen Sakaluk: (843) 384-1176 /ksakaluk1216@gmail.com

Widowed, Divorced, Separated? 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. Join us Saturday, July 13th from 8:45am - 4:00pm at Martina Spiritual Renewal Center, 5244 Clarwin Ave., West View, PA 15229. The fee is \$30.00 (lunch included). Register by June 30th at www.BeginningExperiencePittsburgh.com or make a confidential call to Kim at 412-352-2653.

Bishop David Zubik will ordain Deacon Nicholas Clinton, Deacon John Ferguson, Deacon John Kist and Deacon Daniel Kushner to the priesthood on June 29 at 10:00 AM at Saint Paul Cathedral (Fifth Avenue at Craig St., Pittsburgh, PA 15213).

All are welcome! Please come and please pray for these men as they answer God's call to the priesthood.

