

SAINT ANDREW THE APOSTLE PARISH

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT | NOVEMBER 30, 2025

First Sunday of Advent The Hope Candle (Prophet's Candle)

Dear Heavenly Father, as we gather in the soft glow of this first Advent candle, we embrace the hope it represents. Just as the prophets of old foretold the coming of your Son, we too await His arrival with eager hearts. May the light of this candle remind us that in the midst of darkness, your promise shines bright. Fill our hearts with hope and anticipation as we prepare for the birth of Jesus Christ.
Amen.



SAINT ANDREW THE APOSTLE PARISH

Administrative Office | 1 Park Manor Road | Donora, PA 15033-1755
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For parish locations and staff extensions, see page 22

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

NOV 29		THIRTY-FOURTH SATURDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	CELEBRANT
8:30 am	CHA	Fr. Tesfamerian Baraki by Judith Child	Fr. Levi
4:00 pm	DON	Dorothy Haller by John J. Patterson & Family	Fr. Pat
5:00 pm	CHA	Stella Kossuth by Thomas Zimmerman	Fr. Levi
6:00 pm	MON	Robert Lee by Wife, Nellie, Joyce & Gary Lee	Fr. Pat
NOV 30		FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT	CELEBRANT
8:30 am	DON	Haller Family, Living & Deceased by Rose Patterson	Fr. Levi
9:00 am	CHA	Gary Altemara by Family	Fr. Pat
11:00 am	MON	Bennett Feely, Jr.	Fr. Levi
DEC 1		FIRST MONDAY OF ADVENT	
8:30 am	CHA	Joseph Robert Child by Wife, Judith Child	
DEC 2		FIRST TUESDAY OF ADVENT	
8:30 am	DON	George Saxon by Cindy & Dave Getty	
DEC 3		SAINT JOHN OF DAMASCUS, PRIEST & DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH	
7:00 pm	MON	Bobbi Loos by Kirk Loos	
DEC 4		SAINT JOHN OF DAMASCUS, PRIEST & DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH	
8:30 am	DON	Andrew, William, Victor & Robert Salat by Sister, Veronica	
DEC 5		FIRST FRIDAY OF ADVENT	
8:30 am	MON	Herman Pennline by Pennline Family	
DEC 6		FIRST SATURDAY OF ADVENT	CELEBRANT
8:30 am	CHA	Jack Rostcheck by Kathy & Cack Costantino	Fr. Pat
4:00 pm	DON	Mr. & Mrs. Frank Haluch by Daughter, Geri Pergola & Family	Fr. Levi
5:00 pm	CHA	Ken Fusina by Family	Fr. Jerry
6:00 pm	MON	Jack & Margaret McGinty by Family	Fr. Pat
DEC 7		SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT	CELEBRANT
8:30 am	DON	Rich Fronzaglio by The Holy Rosary Confraternity	Fr. Levi
9:00 am	CHA	Cecilia Sciortino by Pennline Family	Fr. Pat
11:00 am	MON	Domenick, Mona & Nicky Antonelli by Suzanne Plesha	Fr. Levi


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Thank you for supporting Saint Andrew Parish and helping us continue our mission!


Pushpay






- SACRAMENTS -



MASS SCHEDULE/ ÒRE MAS

Saturday/Samdi

4:00pm - Donora
5:00pm - Charleroi
6:00pm - Monongahela

Sunday/Dimanch

8:30am - Donora
9:00am - Charleroi
11:00am - Monongahela

Weekday Mass Times/ Tan Mas jou lasèman

Monday/Lendi	
Charleroi	8:30am
Tuesday/Madi	
Donora	8:30am
Wednesday/Mèkredi	
Monongahela	7:00pm
Thursday/Jedi	
Donora	8:30am
Friday/Vandredi	
Monongahela	8:30am
Saturday/Samdi	
Charleroi	8:30am

*This schedule does not
reflect holidays or Holy Days.*
Orè sa a pa refleto jou ferye oswa
jou apa pou Bondye.

STEWARDSHIP

Sunday, November 16th:

\$11,963

DIOCESAN SECOND COLLECTIONS

RETIREMENT FUND FOR RELIGIOUS
November 23 2025



BAPTISM

For arrangements and to
schedule a class please call
724-258-7794



ANOINTING OF THE SICK

In danger of death please call the
parish office at any time. If in the
hospital or a skilled nursing
facility, please ask the nursing
staff to contact the priest on call.



MARRIAGE

Please contact the parish
office to set a meeting with a
member of the clergy no less
than six months before the
proposed wedding date.



PENANCE

Mondays, Charleroi
6:00 p.m. to 6:45 p.m.
Wednesdays, Monongahela
6:00 p.m. to 6:45 p.m.
Saturdays, Donora
3:00 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.
First Fridays, Donora
11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

By appointment, please call
the parish office.



**"I AM THE LIGHT OF THE
WORLD. WHOEVER
FOLLOWS ME WILL NOT
WALK IN DARKNESS BUT
WILL HAVE THE LIGHT
OF LIFE."**

JOHN 8:12



**THE SANCTUARY CANDLE
BURNS THIS WEEK IN**

**CHARLEROI FOR
DANIEL & JOSEPHINE CIOCCIO, SR.**
By: Dan & Judy Cioccio, Jr.

**DONORA FOR
JOHN & ANN VELIKY**
By: Philip & Sharlene Veliky

**MONONGAHELA FOR
LUCILLE ZELETSKI**
By: Family

CLERGY

A WORD FROM FR. LEVI

Grace and peace to you in Christ Jesus, our Lord! Today we begin a new liturgical year! As I mentioned last week, these first two weeks of advent focus on the second coming of the Lord and the four last things: death, judgement, heaven and hell. This week perhaps the most notable words of the Gospel are “stay awake.” This week, let us ponder our own death, judgement, heaven and hell. Let us be honest with God and ourselves, and let us repent of all sin and let the Blood of Christ redeem us!

If you’ve ever been on a long road trip and driven through the night, then you know what it’s like to try to stay awake when your body wants to sleep. The more tired you get the less you can pay attention. Slowly you lose your ability to focus and then your eyes begin to grow heavy and blink longer than they should. At this point, it is imperative that you open a window, have a soft drink, or do something else to bring yourself back to full focus on the road.

Life for us as Christians can be the same way. We may start off very excited about Jesus and fired up to live our lives for him, but as life goes on, it is easy to get drowsy and distracted by many things. So how do we snap out of it? What is the food and drink that wakes us up and keeps us alive to the presence and power of God in our lives? Is it not the eucharist?

We must not forget that every week we receive a share in The Body and Blood of Christ! We receive Communion with the Living God! What more do we need to wake us up and keep us alert on the journey?

That being said, I ran into a wonderful lady the other day who said that she grew up Catholic but never knew that Jesus died for her on the cross. She said she was never taught that. How sad to hear this. My beloved sons and daughters in Christ, Jesus Body and Blood was shed for each one of us. Not everyone else but you. Everyone including you! You are worth so much to the Lord that he has given everything for you!

May we receive the Body and Blood of our Savior poured out for us and accept the mercy we need to pay for our sins, so that we do not have to fear death and hell, but be overjoyed to meet our judge face to face and walk with him into the halls of heaven!



Reverend Levi Hartle
Pastor

PRAYER TO ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL

Saint Michael the Archangel,
defend us in battle,
be our protection against the
wickedness and snares of the devil;
may God rebuke him we humbly
pray;
and do thou, O Prince of the heavenly
host, by the power of God, cast into
hell Satan and all evil spirits
who prowl through the world seeking
the ruin of souls. Amen.

PRAYER TO SAINT ANDREW THE APOSTLE

O Glorious Saint Andrew,
you were the first to recognize
and follow the Lamb of God.
With your friend Saint John,
you remained with Jesus for that day,
for your entire life,
and now throughout eternity.
As you led your brother Saint Peter to
Christ and many others after Him,
draw us also to Him.
Teach us to lead others to Christ
solely out of love for Him
and dedication in His service.
Help us to learn the lesson of the
cross and to carry our daily crosses
without complaint so that they may
carry us to Jesus. Amen.



REPORTING ABUSE

Diocesan Victim Assistance
Coordinator:
412-456-3093

Hot Line: 1-888-808-1235
PA Child Line: 1-800-932-0313

LITURGY PREPARATION

First Sunday of Advent

Happy new liturgical year! The 1st Sunday of Advent begins the new church year and we will now be using readings from Year A. You can see from the calendar wheel that Advent begins in the twelve o'clock position, and the rest of the liturgical year follows in a clockwise pattern.

Since Advent is a penitential season, we will use the color purple, signifying penance, preparation, and the royalty of Christ. The altar cloths, priest's vestments, and most of the candles on the advent wreath will be purple.

The advent wreath didn't start out as a Christian object but has instead been transformed into one. Historians aren't sure of exactly when lighted wreaths first started to be used, but they do know that the pre-Christian people of Germany would light wreaths during the winter as an expectation of spring, light, and warmth. Sometime during the Middle Ages the use of a lighted wreath began to be used by Christians during Advent to signify the light of Christ coming into the world. The four candles not only marked a sort of countdown to Christmas (especially during a time that lacked modern calendars!), but it also represented how Christ was drawing ever nearer by the growing of the light each week.

If you have an advent wreath at home, please consider using the blessing below from the USCCB (United States Conference of Catholic Bishops). Each Sunday of Advent you can light another candle on the wreath and prepare for Jesus' coming at Christmas.



Amanda Nicholson
Music & Liturgy

Make the Sign of the Cross.

*In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.*

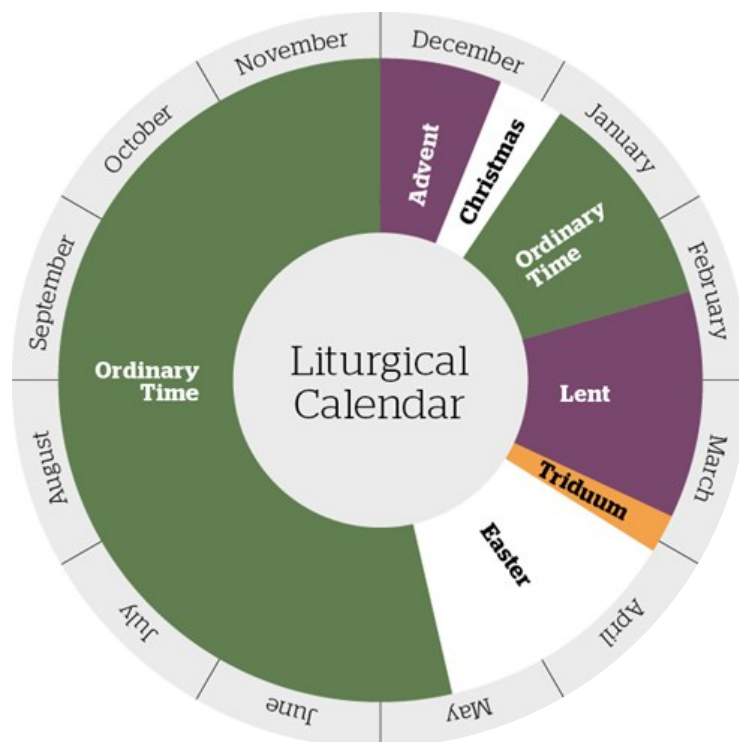
**Say, "Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who made heaven and earth."**

Then, read Scripture from the Book of Isaiah.

The USCCB points us toward Isaiah 9, Isaiah 63, or Isaiah 64.

Pray

"Lord our God, we praise you for your Son, Jesus Christ: He is Emmanuel, the hope of the peoples, He is the wisdom that teaches and guides us, He is the Savior of every nation. Lord God, let your blessing come upon us as we light the candles of this wreath. May the wreath and its light be a sign of Christ's promise to bring us salvation. May He come quickly and not delay. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen."



THE ORDER OF MASS

OPENING HYMN

ADVENT GATHERING SONG

Congregation

Come, come Em-man - u - el. Come, Em-man - u - el.

Cantor

1. For the Lord of cre - a - tion will
2. Oh the son of Mar - y will
3. See God's mar - vel - ous deeds and
4. For God chose us, and so we will
5. For the an - gel pro - claims he will
6. As the ser - vants of God we

Text and Tune: James J. Chepponis © 1995, GIA Publications, Inc.

FIRST READING

ISAIAH 2:1-5

This is what Isaiah, son of Amoz, saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In days to come, the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest mountain and raised above the hills. All nations shall stream toward it; many peoples shall come and say: "Come, let us climb the LORD's mountain, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may instruct us in his ways, and we may walk in his paths." For from Zion shall go forth instruction, and

the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and impose terms on many peoples. They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; one nation shall not raise the sword against another, nor shall they train for war again. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PSALM 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9

Let us go re - joic - ing to the house of the Lord.

1. I rejoiced when they said to me,
"Let us go to the house of the Lord."
And now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem.
2. Jerusalem is built as a city
bonded as one together.
It is there that the tribes go up,
the tribes of the Lord.
3. For Israel's witness it is
to praise the name of the Lord.
- There were set the thrones for judgement,
the thrones of the house of David.
4. For the peace of Jerusalem pray,
"May they prosper, those who love you."
May the peace abide in your walls,
and security be in your towers.
5. For the sake of my family and friends,
let me say, "Peace upon you."
For the sake of the house of the Lord, our God,
I will seek good things for you.

THE ORDER OF MASS

SECOND READING

ROMANS 13:11-14

Brothers and sisters: You know the time; it is the hour now for you to awake from sleep. For our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed; the night is advanced, the day is at hand. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us conduct ourselves properly as in the day, not in

orgies and drunkenness, not in promiscuity and lust, not in rivalry and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the desires of the flesh.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Text: ICEL, © 2010 Music: Mass of Joy and Peace, Tony E. Alonso, © 2010, GIA Publications, Inc.

Show us Lord, your love; and grant us your salvation.

GOSPEL

LUKE 23:35-43

Jesus said to his disciples: "As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. In those days before the flood, they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day that Noah entered the ark. They did not know until the flood came and carried them all away. So will it be also at the coming of the Son of Man. Two men will be out in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken, and one will be left. Therefore, stay

awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come. Be sure of this: if the master of the house had known the hour of night when the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and not let his house be broken into. So too, you also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the

Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE ORDER OF MASS

PREPARATION HYMN

PEOPLE LOOK EAST

1. Peo - ple, look East. The time is near of the
2. Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more
3. Birds, though you long have ceased to build, Guard the
4. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, One more
5. An - gels an - nounce with shouts of mirth Him who

crown - ing of the year. Make your house fair as you are
seed is plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to
nest that must be filled. E - ven the hour when wings are
light the bowl shall brim, Shin - ing be - yond the frost - y
brings new life to earth. Set ev - 'ry peak and val - ley

a - ble, trim the hearth and set the ta - ble. Peo - ple, look
nour - ish, that in course the flow'r may flour - ish. Peo - ple, look
fro - zen God for fledg - ing - time has cho - sen. Peo - ple, look
weath - er, Bright as sun and moon to - geth - er. Peo - ple, look
hum - ming With the word, the Lord is com - ing. Peo - ple, look

East and sing to - day Love, the Guest, is on the way.
East and sing to - day Love, the Rose, is on the way.
East and sing to - day, Love, the Bird, is on the way.
East and sing to - day Love, the Star, is on the way.
East and sing to - day Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Text: Eleanor Farjeon. Tune: BESANCON; French carol; harm. by Martin Shaw, © Oxford University Press.



THE ORDER OF MASS

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho-ly, Ho-ly, Ho-ly Lord God of hosts. Heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the high-est, ho-san-na in the high-est. Bless-ed is he, bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high-est, ho-san-na in the high-est. Ho-san-na in the high-est, ho-san-na in the high-est, ho-san-na in the high-est.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we pro-claim your Death, O Lord, un-til you come a-gain.

GREAT AMEN

A-men a-men, a-men, a-men. A-men, a-men, a-men, a-men.

LAMB OF GOD

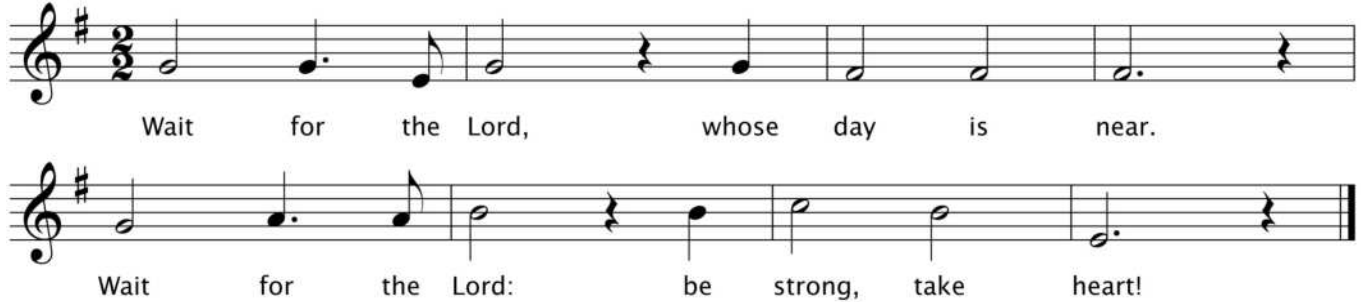
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world, have mer-cy on us. world, grant us peace.

Text: ICEL, © 2010 Music: Mass of Joy and Peace, Tony E. Alonso, © 2010, GIA Publications, Inc.

THE ORDER OF MASS

COMMUNION HYMN

WAIT FOR THE LORD



Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

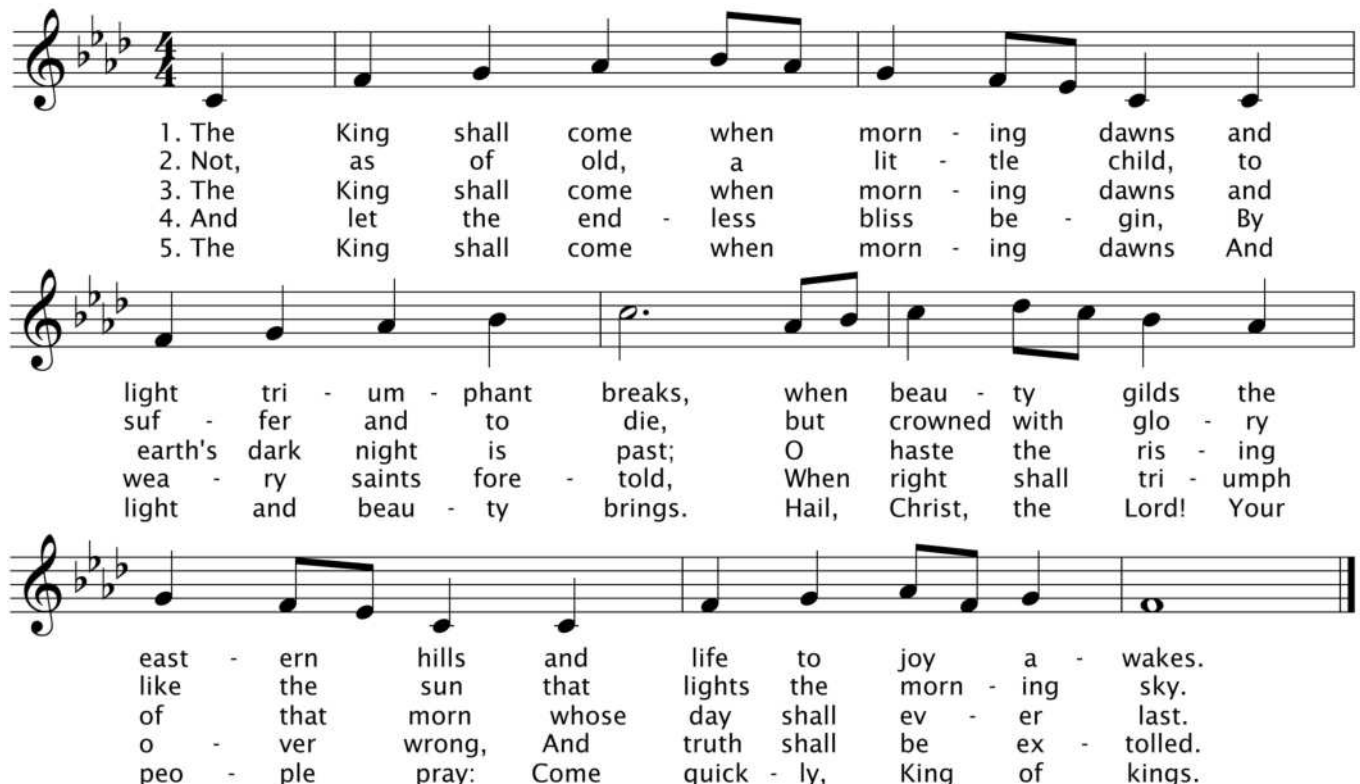
Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

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1. Prepare the way for the Lord. Make a straight path for God. Prepare the way for the Lord.
2. Rejoice in the Lord always: God is at hand. Joy and gladness for all who seek the Lord.
3. The glory of the Lord shall be revealed. All the earth will see the Lord.
4. I waited for the Lord. God heard my cry.
5. Our eyes are fixed on the Lord, our God.
6. Seek first the kingdom of God. Seek and you shall find.
7. O Lord, show us your way. Guide us in your truth.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

THE KING SHALL COME WHEN MORNING DAWNS



1. The King shall come when morn - ing dawns and
 2. Not, as of old, a lit - tle child, to
 3. The King shall come when morn - ing dawns and
 4. And let the end - less bliss be - gin, By
 5. The King shall come when morn - ing dawns And

light suf - fer and phant to breaks, when beau - ty gilds the
 earth's dark night is die, but crowned with glo - ry
 wea - ry saints fore - past; O haste the ris - ing
 light and beau - ty brings. Hail, Christ, the tri - umph Lord! Your

east - ern hills and that life to joy a - wakes.
 like the sun and whose day shall morn - ing sky.
 o - ver morn wrong, And truth shall ev - er last.
 peo - ple pray: Come quick - ly, King of tolled.

Text: John Brownlie, 1857-1925, alt. Tune: MORNING SONG, CM; John Wyeth, 1770-1858; arr. by Robert J. Batastini, b.1942

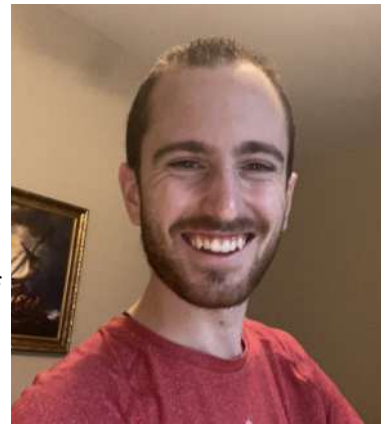
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GROWING CLOSER TO CHRIST

In today's culture, many people think of a king as an all-powerful and oppressive tyrant who forces his subjects to serve him. A king is seen by many people in world as a selfish leader who has the ability to do whatever he pleases. And while many kings in the past have done just that, there was a king who was much different than the rest. This king did not seek to be served, but to serve others. This king was born not in a palace, but in a stable. This king desired not acres of land nor the wealth gold, but the love and hearts of his people. This king did not take in selfishness but gave his life away in love. This is not just an ordinary king, but this man is the *King of kings*. Who is the King of kings? It is none other than Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God.

The last Sunday of the liturgical year (last Sunday the 23rd), we specifically come to understand the Kingship of Christ. The rulers at the time "sneered at Jesus and said, 'He saved others, let him save himself if he is the chosen one, the Christ of God'" (Luke 23:35). The rulers wanted to see Jesus come down from the cross in order to believe that Jesus was "the Christ of God" (Luke 23:35). One might ask the question, "Did Our Blessed Lord have the power to save Himself?" Christ absolutely had the power to save Himself (Jeremiah 32:17), but yet He freely and willingly chose to allow Himself to be crucified for our sins so that we could have the opportunity to be saved. Why? Because our God did not want an eternity without us. So, in the Person of Jesus Christ, God *died* in our place. That's how much He loves us. Venerable Fulton J. Sheen once said, "The rain cannot save itself if it is to bud the greenery. A mother cannot save herself if she is to save her child, a soldier cannot save himself if he is to save his country. This is not the law of weakness! It's the law of sacrifice. Greater love than this no man hath, that he lay down his life for his friends." This act of sacrifice demonstrates the Kingship of Christ because "a true king serves his subjects" (King of Kings) and gives his life for his people.

And finally, as Christ is hanging on the cross, we come to discover that there were two criminals that were crucified on both sides where Christ was. One of the criminals "reviled Jesus, saying, Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us" (Luke 23:39). What's ironic is that Christ was saving us on the cross! The mission of the Savior was not to save us from suffering, but to save us from *sin and spiritual death* by entering into our suffering and dying on the cross for our salvation. After good thief rebuked the bad thief for what he had said and defended Our Lord, we then hear those beautiful and heart-felt words that come from the lips of this good thief, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom" (Luke 23:42). And Jesus replied to him, "Amen I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise" (Luke 23:43). Because Christ is the King of the Universe, He gets to decide who enters into the kingdom of God. Our Lord is coming as the Just Judge and "will rule the earth with justice and the peoples with equity" (Psalm 98:8). We should all tremble at the sight of God's holiness and justice. But like the good thief, let us *steal heaven* (Praise Nation) by coming just as we are to the King of kings, acknowledging and weeping over our sins and asking the Good Jesus to remember us when He comes into His Kingdom and perhaps, we too will hear those comforting and immortal words spoken to each of us by Our Lord at the moment of our death, "Amen I say to you, today, you will be with me in Paradise" (Luke 23:43).




Philip Pierangeli
Social Ministry

OUR ANNUAL CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Sunday, December 21st, at 7:00 p.m., Charleroi Site

Through spoken word, role play, and song, students from Kindergarten to 12th grade will narrate the story of our Savior's birth. Everyone is invited to join us as our youth share the most beautiful story ever told.

A colorful illustration of a nativity scene. It shows Mary and Joseph with the baby Jesus in a manger, surrounded by shepherds, angels, and animals like sheep, camels, and oxen. The scene is set in a stable with a thatched roof, under a starry night sky with a bright star.

TEMPORALITIES & STEWARDSHIP

A United Step Forward: Centralizing Parish Offices for Sustainability and Service

As we look ahead to 2026, our parish continues to embrace a spirit of renewal—rooted in tradition, guided by stewardship, and energized by community. One of the most meaningful steps we're preparing to take is the centralization of our parish office operations, a strategic move designed to strengthen collaboration, reduce costs, and ensure long-term sustainability.

Why Centralization—and Why Now?

The decision to consolidate office operations into our Charleroi location, closing administrative functions in Monongahela and Donora, was not made lightly. It reflects months of thoughtful discernment, financial analysis, and open dialogue with our dedicated office staff. Rising utility costs, duplicate leased printer services, and the growing need for streamlined workflows all pointed to a clear truth: if we want to sustain and grow our mission, we must be willing to adapt.

Centralization allows us to:

- Reduce overhead by eliminating duplicate services and minimizing utility expenses.
- Strengthen team dynamics, unity, and presence by bringing our talented staff together under one roof.
- Improve service delivery through unified communication and shared resources.
- Create space for innovation by freeing up time and budget for mission-aligned initiatives.

A Team Ready to Lead Together

Our office personnel were thoughtfully prepared ahead of this transition and have responded with enthusiasm and grace. Their commitment to collaboration and shared purpose is a testament to the strength of our parish family. By working side-by-side, they'll be able to support one another more effectively, respond to parishioner needs more swiftly, and build a culture of unity that reflects the heart of our faith.

Stewardship in Action

This move is part of a broader strategy to ensure our parish remains vibrant and mission-driven. We are actively exploring additional cost-saving measures and operational efficiencies, including:

- Shared technology platforms to reduce licensing fees and improve data security.
- Centralized purchasing for supplies and services to leverage bulk discounts.
- Flexible workspace planning to accommodate evolving needs and maximize use of space.
- Digitized workflows to reduce paper waste and improve recordkeeping.

Each of these efforts is rooted in our commitment to responsible stewardship—not just of finances, but of time, talent, and trust.

Honoring Our Legacy, Building Our Future

While change can be bittersweet, it also opens the door to renewal. The Monongahela and Donora offices have served our parish faithfully for many years, and we honor their legacy with gratitude and hope for the future.

Our intent today is to leverage every square inch of our properties. A real example of this is our increased and repurposed usage of the parish formation center. Through strategic partnerships and grant awards, we've improved (and are still improving) the property to a fresh, inviting space utilized every day (and many evenings) for various ongoing education, formation and fellowship opportunities. As we transition to a centralized model, we carry forward the spirit of service that defined those spaces—and embrace new hope for redefined, relevant and shared purposes.

We invite all parishioners to join us in prayer and support as we take this important step. Together, we are building a stronger foundation for ministry, outreach, and community—one that will sustain us not just through 2026, but far into the future.



Joe Caruso
Business Manager

ST. ANDREW THE APOSTLE PARISH MASS REQUEST FORM – 2026

WEEKEND	Mass Intention for: _____ <i>Living -or- Deceased</i>		
	Location:	<input type="checkbox"/> Donora	<input type="checkbox"/> Charleroi <input type="checkbox"/> Monongahela
	Date Requested:	(1 st Choice) _____	Time _____
		(2 nd Choice) _____	Time _____
	Requested by: _____		

WEEKDAY	Mass Intention for: _____ <i>Living -or- Deceased</i>		
	Location:	<input type="checkbox"/> Donora - Tuesday & Thursday @ 8:30 am <input type="checkbox"/> Charleroi – Monday & Saturday @ 8:30am <input type="checkbox"/> Monongahela – Wednesday @ 7:00pm – Friday @ 8:30am	
	Date Requested:	(1 st Choice) _____	Time _____
		(2 nd Choice) _____	Time _____
	Requested by: _____		

WEEKDAY	Mass Intention for: _____ <i>Living -or- Deceased</i>		
	Location:	<input type="checkbox"/> Donora - Tuesday & Thursday @ 8:30 am <input type="checkbox"/> Charleroi – Monday & Saturday @ 8:30am <input type="checkbox"/> Monongahela – Wednesday @ 7:00pm – Friday @ 8:30am	
	Date Requested:	(1 st Choice) _____	Time _____
		(2 nd Choice) _____	Time _____
	Requested by: _____		

Your Name: _____ Your Phone Number: _____ Amount \$: _____

Please NOTE: Be sure to read the 2026 Mass Request Guidelines. Also enclose a stipend of \$10.00 per each requested Mass (if by check – one check only – payable to “St. Andrew the Apostle Parish”). Place this form in an envelope, marked “2026 MASS REQUESTS”, along with the Stipend, and return it to any of the Parish Offices via the Collection basket, by Mail, or by physically dropping it off.

SANCTUARY CANDLE REQUEST FOR ST. ANDREW 2026

YOUR NAME: _____ YOUR PHONE NUMBER: _____ AMOUNT \$: _____

SANCTUARY CANDLE FOR: _____

REQUESTED BY: _____ REQUEST WEEK OF: _____

LOCATION: CHARLEROI _____ DONORA _____ MONONGAHELA _____

Ladies Advent Tea Party

Step into the season with grace and joy at the Parish's first ever Ladies Advent Tea Party. Gather with friends and family for an afternoon of inspiration, conversation, and beauty. Please come in your Sunday best for this lovely occasion. Cocktail dresses and the Christmas spirit are encouraged!



The event is \$25 and reservations are required.

Saturday, December 6, 2025
1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.



Marian Hall

The event includes an elegant lunch of soup, salad and sandwiches as well as delicate pastries served with tea & coffee. And our speaker, Taylor McKeegan, will offer an inspiring advent reflection during the meal.

Please return this portion below in the collection baskets or to any church office to reserve your spot for this special event. Seating is limited. RSVP's are due by November 30th. Absolutely no walk-ins!

Attendees Names: _____

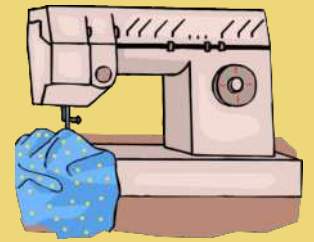
Amount Enclosed: _____

WORKS OF MERCY



DIGNITY ROBE GROUP

Meets the 3rd Friday of every month in St. Andrew's sewing room in Donora from 9:00 a.m. until noon. We are in need of more people to join us for this wonderful project to sew, cut, iron, etc... Come join us!



HONORARIUMS

We are thankful for the gifts given to the food bank in memory of:

JAMES MARKOVICH

By Chrissy Pietroboni & Family

JAMES MARKOVICH

By Joyce Amatangelo

JAMES MARKOVICH

By Joe & Millie Rvasio

LUCY ZELETSKI

By Ray & Jane Hazen

SOPHIE PISCATELLI

By Nellie Lee

KATHY DELSO

By Joyce Wilson

IRENE DZIMIERA

By Terry Lewis

JOAN FALAPPI

By Terry Lewis

JAMES D. HARRISON

By Barb Harrison

RICK PUSKAR

By Bob & Barb Cardinale

FOOD BANK REQUESTS

- Pasta & Sauce
- Peanut Butter & Jelly
- Granola Bars
- Crackers
- Cereal
- Pancake Mix & Syrup
- Canned Meat
- Canned Fruits & Vegetables
- Ramen Noodles
- Hamburger Helper
- Rice & Beans
- Toilet Paper
- Dish Soap
- Paper Towels
- Tissues
- Bar Soap
- Shampoo
- Napkins



Catholic Charities

CATHOLIC CHARITIES
WORKS OF MERCY

Diaper Days

A partnership with St. Andrew the Apostle Parish

FREE DIAPERS, WIPES, & MORE FOR YOUR CHILD!

Must be signed up by the first Wednesday of the month.

Referrals are received by phone by calling 724-228-7722 as well as by referral agencies via voucher.



2nd Wednesday every month
9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Charleroi
624 Washington Ave, Charleroi, PA 15022

Donora
1 Park Rd, Donora, PA 15033

Monongahela
225 Park Ave, Monongahela, PA 15063



ccpg.org/diaper-days

Interested in donating diapers? Call 724-228-7722

St. Andrew the Apostle Parish

PET FOOD BANK

A PARTNERSHIP WITH THE
WASHINGTON HUMANE SOCIETY

Saint Andrew the Apostle Parish & The Washington Area Humane Society are partnering together to assist community members in need of supplemental pet food and supplies through our regular food bank distribution.

2ND WEDNESDAY, EVERY MONTH
9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Charleroi
624 Washington Ave, Charleroi, PA 15022

Donora
1 Park Rd, Donora, PA 15033

Monongahela
225 Park Ave, Monongahela, PA 15063



INTERESTED IN DONATING?

724-258-7794



WASHINGTON AREA
HUMANE SOCIETY



There are two Food Banks offered through Saint Andrew the Apostle Parish. On the second Tuesday of every month, we partner with the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank in our Charleroi site only from 9:30am - 11am. And on the second Wednesday of every month, we have our parish Food Bank, Diaper Bank and Pet Food Bank pick up at all 3 church locations on the from 10am - 11:30. Volunteers are always needed! Please contact Chris Janney at 267-990-4479.



CHARLEROI | DONORA | MONONGAHELA



ON FIRE FOR CHRIST



How many times have we waited for that call or text or email for news we longed to hear? Even with all the electronic media, sometimes the response just isn't fast enough. Have you ever waited for an acceptance to maybe a college, or to that job that you really wanted? Or from a friend or loved one that you hadn't heard from in a while. Or perhaps about the results of some medical test that you had performed. The one thing that each of these has in common is hope. We all have hope for good things to happen. Hope? That's what Advent is about! It is about hope but is also about preparation and being ready!

Today we begin the season of Advent. For many this indicates the beginning of the Christmas season, the "run to Christmas." Our weeks will be packed with the hustle and bustle of the season with absolutely no time to slow down. For some, it means a time for sadness, depression, thoughts of suicide because of loneliness, separation, remembrance of a loved one who passed away. We need to reach out to these individuals and offer them our love and support during this time. But this is a time of great joy and preparation and truly celebrating and preparing for the true "Reason for the Season," the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Today on this first Sunday of Advent we also begin a new Church Year. Many consider this our birthday and perhaps we should sing!



Deacon Frank Bursic

Advent should be a time of new beginnings as we turn our attention to the coming of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. I would suggest that we also think about Advent as a time for preparing and watching for the coming of the Lord every single day and in every situation, both delightful and very difficult times. According to St. Matthew in today's gospel, the certain coming of Jesus requires us to make a decision to watch for him. Any day, any moment could be the final coming of the Lord for you and for me. Noah prepared as God had asked him but those around him busied their lives and filled them with things that were not preparing themselves for the coming of the Lord. Advent is a time of preparation for this coming of the Lord. As St. Paul tells us in the second reading, it is time to awake from our sleep, turn from our distractions our vices, for our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed and to once again understand what it means that God has called us to make Him present in the world. This means that during this season we are to take a good look at ourselves spiritually and prepare and ready ourselves to welcome the Lord when the time comes.

You will see that the readings of each Sunday of this season of Advent can help us to become more alert to watching and waiting for the Lord every day in our lives. Advent can become that time that we wait and watch for Christ, not just at the end of time, not just coming in our celebrations of Christmas, but watching and preparing for Him in every single situation and in every person we encounter daily. It may be in that moment when we are faced with our own failure, our own lack of charity, patience, or compassion. That moment when we have not done what God called us to do since His call to us at our Baptism. To see our failures can be very difficult but is a real gift from the presence of the merciful Lord. The mercy of God can give each of us hope for the future of eternal life.

So today I challenge you to take a little more time to pray over the next four weeks before Christmas, asking God what he wants YOU to do with the many gifts He's given you. Ask Him when you receive communion today to speak to your heart about this. My brothers and sisters, do you have the faith necessary to step out of your comfort zone and change your routine to allow God to prepare and ready you for His coming?

Stay Awake! Watch for Him during this Season of Advent. Be on fire for Christ! God Bless. May God's many blessings be upon you and your family. I'll see you at His table.



Volunteers Needed

"In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" Acts 20:35

Meals on Wheels is in need of drivers and delivery persons for the months of November and December for Charleroi deliveries. Monday through Friday from 10am-11:30am

Whether you can give your time for both months, one week, or just one day, any amount of help is greatly appreciated.

FAITH FORMATION

As the holiday season begins, many of us feel pressure to “get ready” for Christmas by decorating, buying gifts and early celebrations. But today’s Gospel reminds us that there is another kind of readiness that matters even more.

Read today’s Gospel together. Then talk as a family about what it truly means to be ready for the Lord. Our homes are “domestic churches” which are places where we help one another grow in faith and love. Spend a few minutes reflecting on the ways your family encourages each other to follow Jesus and become better Christians.

Choose one simple, meaningful way your family will prepare your hearts for Jesus this Advent. Write it down and place it somewhere you’ll see often, perhaps near your Advent wreath to remind you of your shared promise.

Close by praying together, asking God to strengthen your family in your Advent commitment.



Kathy Miller
Director of Faith Formation

Faith Formation

Nov 30th — No Faith Formation-Happy Thanksgiving

*Children’s Choir 11am Mass Monongahela

Dec 7th — Family Catechesis 9am Mass followed by family activities in Marian Hall

Dec 14th — In-Person Class

Dec 21st* — In-person Class

Dec 28th — No Faith Formation-Merry Christmas!

Jan 4th — No Faith Formation-Happy New Year!

Confirmation

Nov 30th — No Faith Formation-Happy Thanksgiving

*Children’s Choir 11am Mass Monongahela

Dec 14th — In-Person Class

Dec 21st* — In-person Class

Dec 28th — No Faith Formation-Merry Christmas!

Jan 4th — No Faith Formation-Happy New Year!

E	V	R	N	M	R	J	I	F	Y	N	E	W	O	I	S	Z
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Thessalonians
alleluia
prepare
purple
Psalm

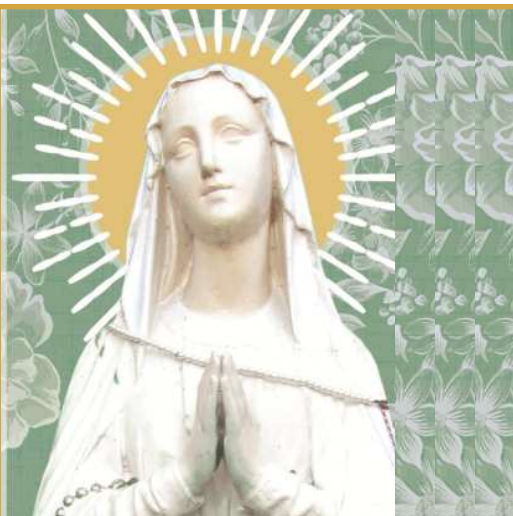
Jerusalem
covenant
wreath
Israel
signs

vigilant
kindness
candle
Advent
Judah

Immaculate Conception Mass Schedule

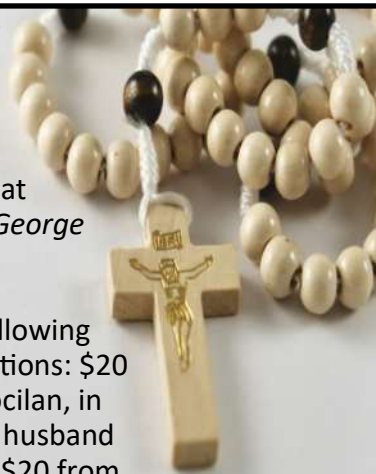
Monday, Dec. 8th
Holy Day of Obligation

8:30 AM Donora
8:50 AM School Mass,
Monongahela
(parishioners welcome)
12:00 PM Charleroi
7:00 PM Monongahela



The Rosary Makers

We're meeting on Thursday, December 18th at 1pm at the *By George Restaurant*, in Monessen. We received the following memorial donations: \$20 from JoAnn Mocilan, in memory of her husband Frank Mocilan, \$20 from Jean Galloni, in memory of Rick Puskar, \$20 from Judith Child and a \$25 anonymous donation. We operate solely from donations. Anyone wishing to join the Rosary Makers, please contact Jean at 724-483-5533.



OPLATKI SALE

These Christmas Wafers are available at each of the parish offices. The requested donation for Oplatki is \$3 per package.



Don't grieve alone! Please join our support group to help you move through the grief process and cope with your emotions. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 10th at 6:30pm in the Formation Center. Please contact Diane for more information. dkooser@saintandrewmidmon.org

St. Andrew's Giving Tree

St. Andrew's Giving Tree Project has begun! The Giving Trees are on display in the back of all three Churches with Angels for parishioners to take. On the Angel is information regarding the person for whom you are to purchase a gift and a gift suggestions. This information is just there to help you in the purchase of a gift. Anything you give is deeply appreciated.

Please wrap the gift, making sure you attach the Angel to the gift and return it to one of the Parish Offices no later than Sunday, December 14! Please, do not leave gifts in the back of the Church!



CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

Christmas Eve

4:00 PM Donora
4:00 PM Charleroi
4:00 PM Monongahela

12:00 AM Midnight,
Monongahela

Christmas Day

8:30 AM Donora
9:00 AM Charleroi
11:00 AM Monongahela





Music Ministry Mass Schedule

Each weekend the Music Ministry will provide special music at Mass, led by the one of the parish's musical ensembles. Come join us for a spirit-filled celebration!

Music Ministry Schedule		
November 29	Parish Choir	4pm Donora
November 30	Folk Group	9am Charleroi
November 30	Children's Choir	11am Mon City
December 7	Sam Meek (violinist)	8:30am Donora
December 14	Parish Choir	11am Mon City

MASS SCHEDULE

Please be advised of the new weekend Mass Schedule that will begin the weekend of January 17/18, 2026.

SATURDAY VIGIL

4:00 p.m. Donora

5:30 p.m. Charleroi

SUNDAY

7:30 a.m. Donora

9:00 a.m. Charleroi

11:30 a.m. Mon City

6pm p.m. Mon City



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PUMPKIN RAVIOLI - DOZEN FOR \$10
SPINACH & FETA PIEROGIES - DOZEN FOR \$5

Christmas Decorating/Monongahela Church

The Monongahela Church will be decorated immediately following the 11:00am Mass on Sunday, December 14th. We could use some "able bodied people" to help bring the decorations out from storage. Please stay if you can assist us.

ADVENT REFLECTION

By Seminarian Mark

Thursday, December 4 at 7:00 p.m.

in the Formation Center

"Come prepare your hearts
for the birth of our Lord!"



Bible Study

Meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month in the Knights of Columbus Hall in Charleroi at 6PM. Right now, we're discussing the Parables. The next meeting is Wednesday, December 3rd. All are welcome to join us!

MADONNA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

It is the mission of Madonna Catholic Regional School to provide a Christ-centered community focused on Gospel values, service, and academic excellence to



foster a lifelong relationship with God and the Church and to develop leaders that carry their success with kindness, respect, responsibility, and compassion.

Principal: Mrs. Kathryn J. Miller

Director of Advancement: Mrs. Tracy Grandinette

Administrative Assistant: Mrs. Sue Schottenheimer

Roses of Remembrance

Luca Lignelli
Steve & Hilda Lucas
John & MaryAnn Luckasevic
Annette MacPherson
Bob & Doris Magiske
Robin Makovics
Donald A. Mathieu
John & Marge Mavrovich
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Mayernik
Robin Mayhue
Nell & Elgie McCrory
Patricia McDonald
Liz McGinley
John McGinley
Jack McGinley
Mike McGinley
Marcia McGinley
Mr. & Mrs. Jack McKita
Jack McKita
Bonnie McKita
Gary & Phyllis McLay
Joseph W. Mendola
Family Members Mendola
Gerald Mitchell
Stephen Mizwa
Christian Mizwa
Christopher Mohny
Andy & Jennie Novak
Deceased O'Brien,
Olszewski & Lewis Family Members
Tom O'Connor
Mary Alice & John Opferman
John Oros
Irma Oros
Gene Patterson
Dene Patterson
Marie Pirilla
Kay Piscitelli
Ann Plauchak
Steve Plauchak
Gram Jean & Pap Eugene Pomponio
Jean & Eugene Pomponio
Ernest Popp

Maryann Popp
Mimi & Poppop
Deceased Porter Family Members
Linda Pusateri
Patricia Potemra
Minnie Quattrone
Neal Joseph Randis
Geraldine Reinecker
Andrew Ribnick
Art Roll
Anthony & Rose Romasco
Frank & Ida Romeo
Gram Pat & Pap Joe
Rostcheck
Pat & Joe Rostcheck
Jesse Sala
Deceased Schulte Family Members
Bo Sento
Dean & LaVerne Simpson
Paul Simpson
Americo Sion
Dolores Sion
Mary Lou & Jay Smuzinick
Lawrence & Phoebe Staffen
Friends of Stefan Family
Members of Stefan Family
Helen Telega
Joseph Telega
Philomena Tillman
Norma Truffa
Barbara Truffa
Charles J. Tucker
Charles P. Tucker
Stephen Tucker
Bella Turic
Lena Turri
Peter Turri
Pat & Bane Vadella
Virginia & Tom Vilella, Sr.
Jason Walenta
Lawrence Walsh
Carl Warren
William & Martha Williams
Gert Williamson
Peter & Mildred Worhatch

Amil & Dorothy Yagodich
Paul Yavorsky
Bob Yavorsky
Jim Yelanich
John Yocolano
Paul & Florence Yohe
Fred Younkin, Sr.
Jack & Carole Zentek
George & Mary Zippay
Robery Zippay



Eternal rest grant unto them, O
Lord, and let perpetual light
shine upon them. May their
souls, and the souls of all the
faithful departed, through the
mercy of God, rest in peace.
Amen



GROWING TOGETHER IN HOPE

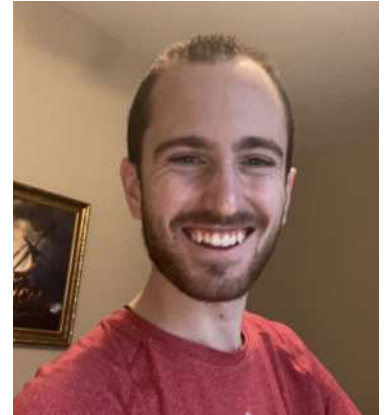
THE HOLY SACRIFICE OF THE MASS

The Catechism of the Catholic Church states, “God, infinitely perfect and blessed in himself, in a plan of sheer goodness freely created man to make him share in his own blessed life” (CCC 1). Because we are not a necessary part of creation, the reality is that we do not have to exist. There is only one reason why we exist and that is because God wants us to exist. In the words of Father Mike Schmitz, “God, from all eternity, looked out at this universe and He declared, ‘I do not want a universe without you in it. God does not want a universe without you in it.’” That is how amazing our God is! And because God alone is “the source of every good and of all love” (CCC 1723), we owe Him everything. It is so important to know that God is God (and we are not) in order to understand why we are called worship God.

In the book of Exodus, we read that the Lord gave Moses the Ten Commandments. The Third Commandment states, “Remember the Sabbath and keep it holy” (Exodus 20:8). We must keep in mind that just because The Third Commandment was in the Old Testament, that does not mean we get a free pass to not keep holy the *Lord’s Day*. Jesus Christ has said, “Do not think that I have come to abolish the law and the prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them” (Matthew 5:17). Because of the New Covenant that God has made with us in Jesus Christ, we do not have a Sabbath day on Saturday, but rather, we have the Lord’s Day on Sunday in honor of the Resurrection. The Catholic Church clearly teaches that, “On Sundays and other holy days of obligation the faithful are bound to participate in the Mass” (CCC 2180). And to express the importance of the Eucharist and attending Mass, the Catechism also states, “The Sunday Eucharist is the foundation and confirmation of all Christian practice. For this reason the faithful are obliged to participate in the Eucharist on days of obligation, unless excused for a serious reason (for example, illness, the care of infants) or dispensed by their own pastor. **Those who deliberately fail in this obligation commit a grave sin** (2181). It is a sin against justice to not attend Mass on Sunday (or Saturday evening) since God alone is worthy of all worship and adoration. It is also a sin against charity since not only does not going to Mass (without a serious reason) hurt your relationship with God, but it also hurts your relationship with the Body of Christ.

Jesus tells us, “If you love me, keep my commandments” (John 14:15). If we love Jesus, we will keep the Third Commandment because we always make time for the things we love. If we can make time for friends, family, sports and so many other things, we can give God one hour a week to love and worship Him. And the way that the Lord wants us to worship Him is by attending and participating in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. As Catholics, we are also called to rest on Sunday. The Catechism teaches us, “On Sundays and other holy days of obligation, the faithful are to refrain from engaging in work or activities that hinder the worship owed to God, the joy proper to the Lord’s Day, the performance of the works of mercy, and the appropriate relaxation of mind and body. Family needs or important social service can legitimately excuse from the obligation of Sunday rest. The faithful should see to it that legitimate excuses do not lead to habits prejudicial to religion, family life, and health. The charity of truth seeks holy leisure- the necessity of charity accepts just work. (CCC 2185).

What is the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass? In short, the Mass is the re-presentation of Calvary. St. Thomas Aquinas states that, “The celebration of the Holy Mass is as valuable as the death of Jesus on the Cross.” The Mass is not a new sacrifice, but the same sacrifice as Christ’s sacrifice on the cross being re-presented in an unbloody manner. If we knew what merit we would obtain by attending a single Mass, if we knew the significance and meaning behind those sacred and eternal words that come from the lips of the priest: “This is My Body... This is My Blood,” and if we knew how much it meant to Our Blessed Lord when we simply show up and be there for Him in faith and with “a contrite and humble heart” (Psalm 51:17), we would, in the words of St. Padre Pio, “risk our lives to be present at a single Mass.” At every Catholic Mass, the holy souls in purgatory are relieved from their suffering, Our Lady with all the angels and saints sing the praises of God, heaven and earth kiss and the Marriage Supper of the Lamb takes place.



Philip Pierangeli
Social Ministry





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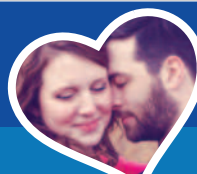
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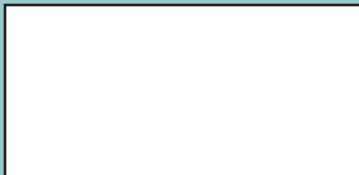
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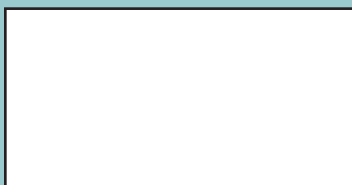
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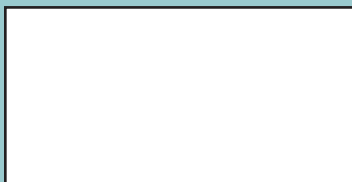


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OFFICE HOURS

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Monongahela Secretary	Chris Babich	cbabich@saintandrewmidmon.org	101
Monongahela Secretary	Phyllis DeMedio	pdemedio@saintandrewmidmon.org	102
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Music Minister	Aaron Benney	abenney@saintandrewmidmon.org	
Music Minister	Art Fronzaglio	afronzaglio@saintandrewmidmon.org	