

SAINT ANDREW THE APOSTLE PARISH

FEAST OF THE MOST HOLY FAMILY | DECEMBER 28, 2025



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



DEC 27 FEAST OF SAINT JOHN, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST			CELEBRANT
8:30 am	CHA	Herman Pennline by Pennline Family	Fr. Levi
4:00 pm	DON	Dave Suski by Barb Harrison	Fr. Pat
5:00 pm	CHA	Deceased Members of the Knights of Columbus by Knights of Columbus	Fr. Levi
6:00 pm	MON	Linda M. Curcio by Family	Fr. Pat
DEC 28 FEAST OF THE MOST HOLY FAMILY			CELEBRANT
8:30 am	DON	Edward Brizzi by Louise Kowall	Fr. Levi
9:00 am	CHA	Paul McManus by The McManus Family	Fr. Pat
11:00 am	MON	People of the Parish	Fr. Levi
DEC 29 FIFTH DAY IN THE OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS			
8:30 am	CHA	Ed Hank by JoAnn Mocilan	
DEC 30 SIXTH DAY IN THE OCTAVE OF CHRISTMAS			
8:30 am	DON	John Harvey by Bud & Jean Bianchi	
DEC 31 SAINT SYLVESTER I, POPE			
4:00 pm	DON	People of the Parish	
JAN 1 SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD			
9:00 am	CHA	People of the Parish	
11:00 am	MON	People of the Parish	
JAN 2 SAINTS BASIL THE GREAT AND GREGORY NAZIANZEN, BISHOPS			
8:30 am	MON	Timothy Ignatz by Amanda Nicholson	
JAN 3 MOST HOLY NAME OF JESUS			CELEBRANT
8:30 am	CHA	Elaine Ulens by Ulens Family	Fr. Pat
4:00 pm	DON	Kenny Wayne Anders by Ron, Bobby & Nancy Clement	Fr. Levi
5:00 pm	CHA	Thaddeas Kucherway by Jon & Lucretia McCrory	Fr. Pat
6:00 pm	MON	People of the Parish	Fr. Levi
JAN 4 THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD			CELEBRANT
8:30 am	DON	Siblings by Sister, Anita & Bob Lilly	Fr. Pat
9:00 am	CHA	People of the Parish	Fr. Levi
11:00 am	MON	People of the Parish	Fr. Pat





- 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, December 14th:
\$7,606

DIOCESAN SECOND COLLECTIONS

CHRISTMAS CHARITIES FOR CHILDREN
December 25, 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
CICI MATESICH**
By: Fran & Goerge Hotochin

**DONORA FOR
SAMULE, ROSEALIE, & JOE
SANFILIPPO**
By: The Clark Family

**MONONGAHELA FOR
LINDA M. CURCIO**
By: Family

CLERGY

A WORD FROM FR. LEVI

Happy Holy Family Sunday! The Holy Family is an icon of family life as it reflects the perfect love of the Trinity in such a profoundly beautiful way! Just as the Trinity is a communion of persons, so the Holy Family is a communion of persons. This is the calling of all families, the church and the whole human race. Today the readings speak to us about how we should be building and preserving Communion within our families through the grace of God!

First, we must recognize that no family is perfect, just as none of us are perfect. That is something that we just have to accept. That being said, by the grace of God we can allow ourselves to be perfected every moment and every day. Yes, indeed the hand of God can transform us if we let it!

The Responsorial Psalm says, "Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in His ways." The fear of the Lord is not a servile fear, but a fear that is learned. It is a healthy and good fear which shows honor to God! This healthy fear of God is similar to the healthy fear we should have of our parents. It is a deep respect and reverence for, knowing that they are in charge and we are not. In the first reading we heard that we should be obedient to our parents and honor them all the days of their lives. The reading from Sirach even says, "whoever honors his father atones for sins." So the first things we need to do to work toward greater Communion in our families is to work at better honoring our father and mother.

The second reading is a road map to Communion in any community! Please take the bulletin home and keep reading over this passage and ask the Lord how you can better apply this wisdom. I don't have enough room in the bulletin to break down the passage, so I will just highlight one thing: Forgive!! Forgive!! Forgive!! If our Lord has forgiven us, who are we to not forgive our blood family, church family and human family? How can we ask the Lord to forgive us, knowing that our sin is why Jesus suffered His passion, and then turn around and not forgive our brothers and sisters? Even the greatest offenses committed against us, do not amount to what we owe God for dying for our sins. Saint Pope John Paul II forgave the man who shot him. St. Stephen called out as he was being murdered, "Father forgive them." Forgiveness is the key to Communion and it is the key to true joy! Do not let your hearts grow cold and embittered, but forgive and live in the freedom and love of the children of God!

In the Holy Family we have the perfect model of heartfelt compassion, humility, gentleness, patience, love and forgiveness! In them we find the ideal for which we long, but we must not seek to make ourselves holy like them, we must yearn for our Savoir to fill us with the grace to be made holy like them! By this I mean to say that our perfection lies not in our own will and ability, but in the grace of God! So let us avail ourselves of the grace and mercy of God and discover His awesome work within each of us and our families!



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.

LITURGY PREPARATION

Feast of The Most Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

For everyone that's a mother or father, you know there is a definite point in time *before* becoming a parent and *after* becoming a parent. That may seem like a nonsense statement, because of course there's a "before" and an "after," but parents never really know how *much* of their lives will change until they have kids and start to experience all the changes they have to make firsthand. In the "before," you could probably go out to dinner on a whim, call up a friend and have an uninterrupted conversation, make weekend plans to spend time with friends, or come home from work and just immediately start relaxing (I'm laughing out loud at that one!). In the "after," those things and many others become rare, or sometimes even impossible. You might not realize it when you're in the delivery room, but when you walk out of that room, your life is completely different and the life you had before can become unrecognizable.



Amanda Nicholson
Music & Liturgy

When Mary and Joseph became parents, they must have gone through quite a transition as well. Even before becoming parents, Mary and Joseph experienced a number of hardships: Mary become pregnant out of wedlock, Joseph married his pregnant fiancé on faith, they had to endure a long journey to Bethlehem while Mary was 9 months pregnant, and then they couldn't find a place for her to give birth! As traumatic as all of that was, when they left Bethlehem, they had to flee to Egypt (now with a newborn in tow) to ensure the safety of their baby from King Herod. There had to be times where Mary and Joseph's prior lives felt so far away.

I think there's a beautiful analogy here between becoming parents and Christ coming into our lives at Christmas. There is a "before" and "after" there too, and in the "after" our lives should look different in the same way as when people become parents. If we allow Christ to be birthed into our lives then we'll find that our lives start aligning to Him, which generally causes some rearranging to happen! How beautiful it is that when we have children our focus is taken off of ourselves and placed onto them. In the same way, when we give our lives to Jesus, we realize our lives aren't about ourselves and never were. Sometimes it takes a child to show us that truth.

Prayer to the Holy Family

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, in you we contemplate the splendor of true love; to you we turn with trust. Holy Family of Nazareth, grant that our families too may be places of communion and prayer, authentic schools of the Gospel and small domestic churches. Holy Family of Nazareth, may families never again experience violence, rejection and division; may all who have been hurt or scandalized find ready comfort and healing. Holy Family of Nazareth, make us once more mindful of the sacredness and inviolability of the family, and its beauty in God's plan. Jesus, Mary and Joseph, graciously hear our prayer. Amen. (Pope Francis, *Amoris Laetitia*, 325)

Mary, Mother of God

Holy Day of Obligation

January 1, 2026

Vigil Mass

Wednesday, Dec. 31st at 4:00 PM, Donora

New Years Day

Thursday, January 1st

9:00 AM in Charleroi

11:00 AM in Monongahela



THE ORDER OF MASS

OPENING HYMN

ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH



1. An - gels we have heard on high Sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
2. Shep - herds, why this ju - bi-lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
3. Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;
4. See him in a man - ger laid Whom the choirs of an - gels praise;

And the moun - tains in re - ply Ech - o back their joy - ous strains.
Say what may the tid - ings be Which in - spire your heav'n - ly song.
Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.
Mar - y, Jo - seph, lend your aid, While our hearts in love we raise.

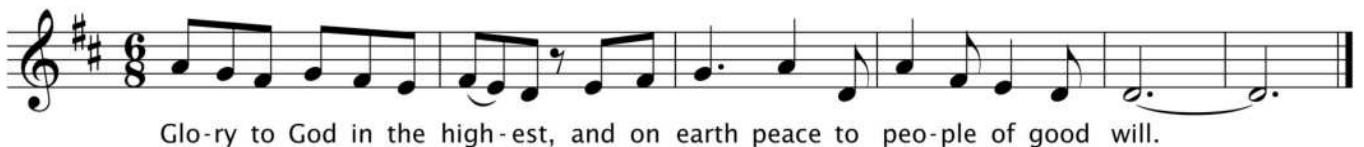
Glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Text: *Les anges dans nos campagnes*; French, c.18th C.; tr. from *Crown of Jesus Music*, London, 1862. Tune: GLORIA, 7 7 7 7 with refrain

GLORIA

MASS OF RENEWAL



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and on earth peace to peo - ple of good will.

The Roman Missal © 2010, ICEL. Music: *Mass of Renewal*, William Gokelman & David Kauffman, © 2010 GFTSMusic Publishing Co.

We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of

the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.
R.

FIRST READING

SIRACH 3:2-6, 12-14

God sets a father in honor over his children; a mother's authority he confirms over her sons. Whoever honors his father atones for sins, and preserves himself from them. When he prays, he is heard; he stores up riches who reveres his mother. Whoever honors his father is gladdened by children, and, when he prays, is heard. Whoever reveres his father will live a long life; he who obeys his father brings comfort to his mother.

My son, take care of your father when he is old; grieve him not as long as he lives. Even if his mind fail, be considerate of him; revile him not all the days of his life; kindness to a father will not be forgotten, firmly planted against the debt of your sins—a house raised in justice to you.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

THE ORDER OF MASS

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PSALM 128:1-2, 3, 4-5



Tune: Tony Alonso, © 2012, 2014, ICEL. GIA Publications, Inc. Text: © 1969, 1981, 1997, ICEL

1. Blessed are all who fear the Lord,
and walk in his ways!
By the labor of your hands you shall eat.
You will be blessed and prosper.
2. Your wife like a fruitful vine
in the heart of your house;
3. Indeed thus shall be blessed
the man who fears the Lord.
May the Lord bless you from Sion.
May you see Jerusalem prosper all the days of
your life!

SECOND READING

COLOSSIANS 3:12-21

Brothers and sisters: Put on, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience, bearing with one another and forgiving one another, if one has a grievance against another; as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do. And over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection. And let the peace of Christ control your hearts, the peace into which you were also called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as in all wisdom you teach and admonish one another, singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your

hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Wives, be subordinate to your husbands, as is proper in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives, and avoid any bitterness toward them. Children, obey your parents in everything, for this is pleasing to the Lord. Fathers, do not provoke your children, so they may not become discouraged.

The word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Music: James Chepponis © 1997, GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved.

May the peace of Christ rule in your hearts; and the fullness of his message live within you.

THE ORDER OF MASS

GOSPEL

MATTHEW 2:13-15, 19-23

When the magi had departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I tell you. Herod is going to search for the child to destroy him." Joseph rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed for Egypt. He stayed there until the death of Herod, that what the Lord had said through the prophet might be fulfilled, *Out of Egypt I called my son.*

When Herod had died, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, "Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land

of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead." He rose, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go back there. And because he had been warned in a dream, he departed for the region of Galilee. He went and dwelt in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, He shall be called a Nazorean.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PREPARATION HYMN

ONCE IN ROYAL DAVID'S CITY



1. Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly cat - tle
2. He came down to earth from heav - en who is God and Lord of
3. And, through all his won - drous child - hood, he would hon - or and o -
4. For he is our child - hood's pat - tern, day by day like us he
5. And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re - deem - ing

shed, where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a
all, and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his
bey, love and watch the low - ly maid - en in whose
grew; he was lit - tle, weak, and help - less, tears and
love; for that child so dear and gen - tle is our

man - ger for his bed. Mar - y was that moth - er
cra - dle was a stall. With the poor and meek and
gen - tle arms he lay. Chris - tian chil - dren all should
smiles like us he knew. And he feels for all our
Lord in heav'n a - bove. And he leads his chil - dren

mild; Je - sus on Christ, her lit - tle child.
low - ly lived kind, o - be - dient, good ho - ly.
be kind, and he shares in all our he.
sad - ness, to the place where he is glad - ness.
on the place where he is gone.

Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818-1895, alt. Tune: IRBY, Henry J. Gauntlett, 1805-1876; harm. by Arthur H. Mann, 1850-1925

THE ORDER OF MASS

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

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

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

We pro - claim your Death, O Lord, and pro - fess your Res - ur - rec - tion,
un - til you come a - gain.

GREAT AMEN

A - men, A - men, A - men, A - men, A - men!

LAMB OF GOD

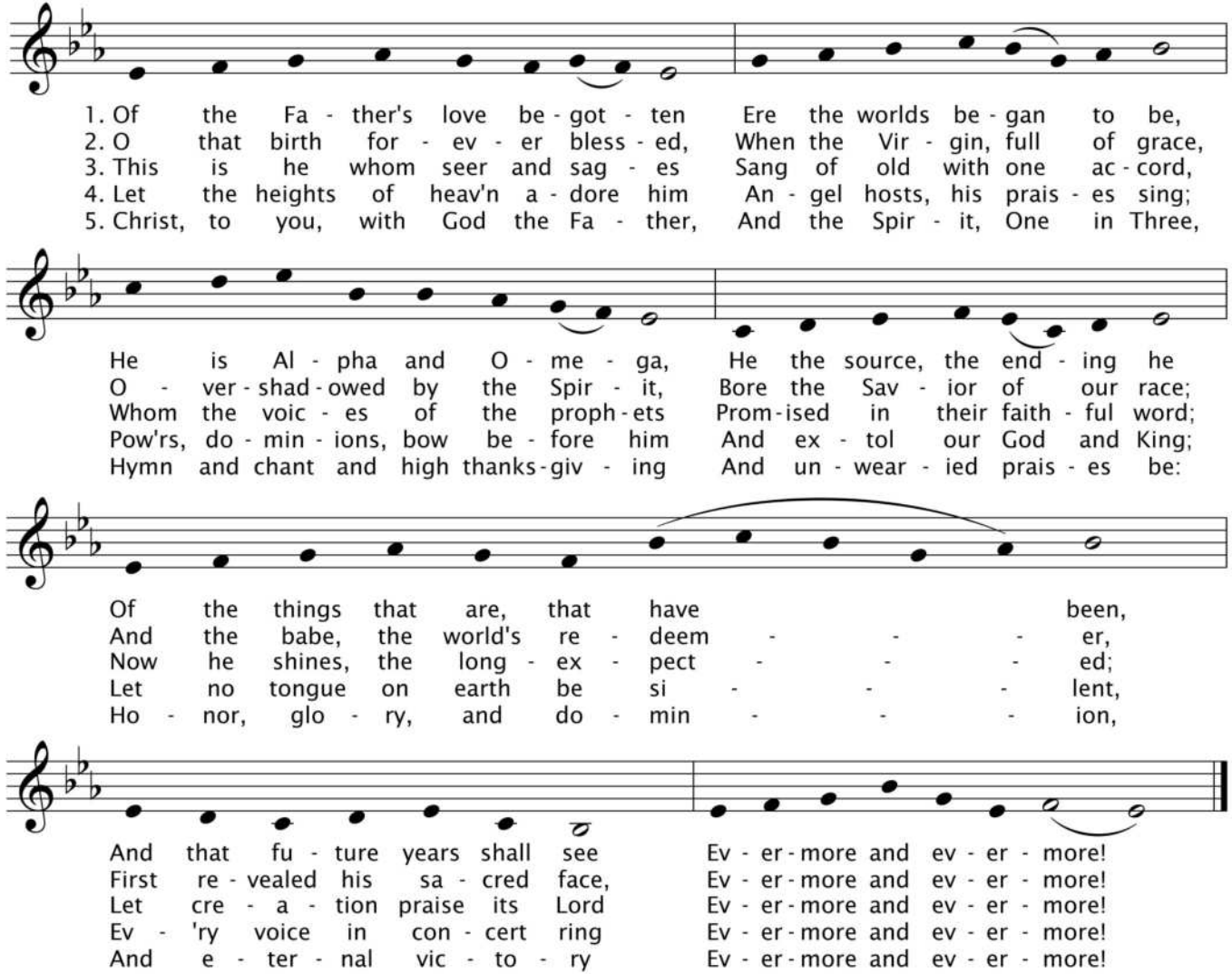
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world, have mer - cy on
us. world, grant us, grant us peace.

The Roman Missal © 2010, ICEL. Music: Mass of Renewal, William, Gokelman & David Kauffman, © 2010 GFTSMusic Publishing Co.

THE ORDER OF MASS

COMMUNION HYMN

OF THE FATHER'S LOVE BEGOTTEN




1. Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten Ere the worlds be - gan to be,
 2. O that birth for - ev - er bless - ed, When the Vir - gin, full of grace,
 3. This is he whom seer and sag - es Sang of old with one ac - cord,
 4. Let the heights of heav'n a - dore him An - gel hosts, his prais - es sing;
 5. Christ, to you, with God the Fa - ther, And the Spir - it, One in Three,
 He is Al - pha and O - me - ga, He the source, the end - ing he
 O - ver - shad - owed by the Spir - it, Bore the Sav - ior of our race;
 Whom the voic - es of the proph - ets Prom - ised in their faith - ful word;
 Pow'rs, do - min - ions, bow be - fore him And ex - tol our God and King;
 Hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing And un - wear - ied prais - es be:
 Of the things that are, that have been,
 And the babe, the world's re - deem - er,
 Now he shines, the long - ex - pect - ed;
 Let no tongue on earth be si - lent,
 Ho - nor, glo - ry, and do - min - ion,
 And that fu - ture years shall see Ev - er - more and ev - er - more!
 First re - vealed his sa - cred face, Ev - er - more and ev - er - more!
 Let cre - a - tion praise its Lord Ev - er - more and ev - er - more!
 Ev - 'ry voice in con - cert ring Ev - er - more and ev - er - more!
 And e - ter - nal vic - to - ry Ev - er - more and ev - er - more!

Text: *Corde natus ex Parentis; Aurelius Prudentius, 348-413. Tune: DIVINUM MYSTERIUM; 12th C.; Mode V.*

RECESSIONAL HYMN

JOY TO THE WORLD



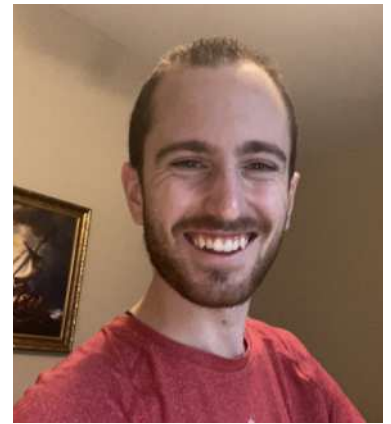
Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive her king; let ev - 'ry
 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let us our songs em - ploy; while fields and
 heart pre - pare him room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and
 floods, rocks, hills and plains re - peat the sound - ing joy, re -
 heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.

Text: *Psalm 98, Isaac Watts, 1674-1748. Tune: ANTIOCH, arr. from George F. Handel in T Hawkes' Collection of Tunes, 1833*
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GROWING CLOSER TO CHRIST

GOD AS A FAMILY

Have you ever thought of God as a family? As Catholics, we believe that God is a family because God is love! The great Catholic philosopher, Peter Kreeft, describes how in order for God to be love, God must be a Trinity, stating, "If God is not a Trinity, God is not love. For love requires three things: a lover, a beloved, and a relationship between them." St. Augustine also proves this point by saying, "Wherever there is love, there is a Trinity: a lover, a beloved, and a fountain of love." God is a trinity, a Communion of Persons - Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Because God a trinity, God is a family. And because God is a family, every human family is a reflection of the Most Holy Trinity!



Philip Pierangeli
Social Ministry

God is a family of perfect love. We read in the first letter of St. John the reality that, "God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God and God abides in him" (1 John 4:16). Father Boniface Hicks describes this profound truth by saying, "Only in Christianity do we have the revelation in Christ that God is love. And so, in Christianity we can say that holiness is love... holiness is the perfection of love, the perfection of charity. So how do you start living holiness? By loving." St. Paul in Colossians goes straight to the heart of what it means to be holy, "And over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection." (Colossians 3:14) Therefore, to be like God and to be holy means to be perfect in love. When we truly allow ourselves to be loved by the Lord and charity is set ablaze in our hearts, we will begin to desire a life of holiness!

We see the love and holiness of God in such a beautiful way in the life of the Holy Family. Just by looking at a picture of the Holy Family, we can get a sense of the simplicity, beauty, and charity that was present in the lives of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. If you meditate upon the selfless and sacrificial love of St. Joseph, the docility and purity of Mary and the obedience and humility of the Child Jesus, you will begin to understand what it means to be truly holy and how a family can reach the heights of Christian perfection. Pope St. John Paul II exclaims, "The Holy Family is the beginning of countless other holy families!" However, St. John Paul II also warns us saying, "The great danger for family life, in the midst of any society whose idols are pleasure, comfort and independence, lies in the fact that people close their hearts and become selfish." But when a husband truly wills the good of his wife with a sacrificial love (the way Christ loved the Church), when a wife loves her husband by receiving his love and submitting to his headship, and when children are raised in the way of the Lord and are obedient to their parents, we can really get a glimpse of the Holy Family in the world today.

I truly believe that men who imitate St. Joseph in sacrificial love and joyful obedience to the Father will *transform* the world. We hear from the Gospel that the angel of the Lord appeared to St. Joseph twice in his dreams (Matthew 2:13, 19-20). Because St. Joseph listened and was obedient to the voice of God, St. Joseph saved Jesus' life from Herod. We don't know how things would have turned out if St. Joseph was not obedient, but the reality is that St. Joseph was obedient to the Lord and he walked fully in his masculinity as a courageous and humble man of God. St. Joseph was entrusted with the task of being the head and leader of the Holy Family, and God was so humble so as to subject Himself in Christ to the authority of St. Joseph! Let us run to St. Joseph and ask him with child-like trust and confidence to lead us by the hand and to help us become the men and women we were made to be!



Don't grieve alone! Please join our support group to help you move through the grief process and cope with your emotions. This group meets the 2nd Wednesday of every month with the next meeting being on January 14th in Charleroi. Please contact Diane for more information.

dkooser@saintandrewmidmon.org

TEMPORALITIES & STEWARDSHIP



Community Grant Awarded to St. Andrew the Apostle Ministry

In October, our parish shared the story of the Dignity Robe Ministry, led by Mrs. Rita Demeter and her dedicated team. Their mission of creating hand-made dignity robes touched the hearts of many, and the spotlight through both the bulletin and a *Ministry Minute* video inspired parishioners to respond with generosity. Targeted donations were solicited to help cover the cost of supplies and materials, and awareness of the ministry's purpose grew throughout the community. As a reminder, Mrs. Demeter and team produced and distributed over 900 dignity robes in 2025 across the Allegheny Health Network, Mon Valley Penn Highlands, and most recently UPMC's Hillman Cancer Center.



Joe Caruso
Business Manager

That awareness has now blossomed into something even greater. On December 2nd, our parish was awarded a **\$3,800** grant jointly funded by Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield and the Allegheny Health Network. This opportunity came to us thanks to lifelong parishioner Johnna Pro, who shepherded the grant application with the help of Mrs. Demeter and me. The grant will provide vital support and supplies for the Dignity Robe Ministry, ensuring that more garments can continue to be created and more lives can be touched by the gift of dignity and compassion.

Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield and Allegheny Health Network are two of the region's leading health organizations, both deeply committed to improving the well-being of Western Pennsylvania. AHN operates a system of hospitals and care centers across the area, providing advanced medical services while also investing in community health initiatives. Highmark, headquartered in Pittsburgh, is one of the nation's largest health insurers and a driving force behind local philanthropy, supporting access to care, education, housing, and nonprofit programs. Together, Highmark and AHN form a powerful partnership that not only delivers healthcare but also strengthens the social fabric of our region. It is amazing to witness how our small community parish of St. Andrew the Apostle has such a deep impact on the Valley and across Western Pennsylvania.

We are deeply grateful to Highmark and AHN for recognizing the impact of this ministry, to Johnna for connecting us to this fabulous opportunity, and to all parishioners whose donations and prayers have sustained its work. If you are interested in donating to the cause or volunteering, please call the office or email communications@saintandrewmidmon.org.

The story of the Dignity Robe Ministry reminds us that when we share our gifts, we weave together threads of hope, comfort, and love that strengthen our parish family and extend far beyond it.



MEET 'THE LORETO PROJECT'

Hello Saint Andrew the Apostle Parish Community, we are very excited to start providing music for the 6pm Liturgy at your Church in Monongahela! Funny enough, our names are Joseph and Mary — and we also have a son named Joshua (which is another translation of the Hebrew name for Jesus). Since we are new to the community, Fr. Levi and the parish staff thought it would be fitting for us to share a bit about ourselves - and even more fitting to do so as we celebrate the Solemnity of the Holy Family.

To share a bit about where we are from, Mary is a cradle Catholic from a large family of nine children hailing from a suburban area in the most northern part of Mississippi. Joseph, on the other hand, was raised an atheist in a rural part of southwestern Michigan as the oldest child in a family of two. Both of us through the providence of God found our way to Steubenville, OH where we both completed our undergraduate degrees: Mary receiving a degree in business and Joseph a degree in philosophy.

While it may sound like a potential college romance story, we didn't meet during our time at university. We met through mutual friends while Mary was working for the Catechetical Institute and as Joseph was completing a masters in catechetics and evangelization and also working for the university. Following a 6 month dating period, we were betrothed formally on the Solemnity of the Holy Family in 2023 at Holy Family Parish in Steubenville — the parish where we would get married in 2024 on the feast of Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

Our experience in music differs about as much as our upbringing. Mary started playing music at the age of 7 and was leading masses for her local parish by the age of 12. She has been playing music for the Church ever since, even having the opportunity to do so for Franciscan University conferences, retreats, and even a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. Joseph started playing guitar at 14 and by the age of 19 was in a semi-professional metal-core band. Following his conversion, he joined a Church choir where the Lord baptized his gifts. Since then, he has also served the Church by leading masses, retreats, and even a couple pilgrimages to Medjugorje and Fatima.

In the coming weeks we will share more about what the Lord has been doing with our music ministry as a married couple, but for this week we want to end by thanking you for welcoming us to be a part of your community in a special way. It seems a biblical wrong is undone as Joseph, Mary, and Joshua have found room to stay within your parish! We are looking forward to getting to know each of you more personally week in and week out, and we are excited to be following Christ together.

- Joseph & Mary Kiss





BE HEALED Winter Book Study

Please consider joining this 6-week book study where we'll dive deep into each chapter of Dr. Bob Schuchts' book "Be Healed."

Thursdays | 6 - 7:30pm

January 8, 2026 - February 12, 2026

(Virtual Option available upon request)

Saint Andrew the Apostle Parish

Knights of Columbus Hall

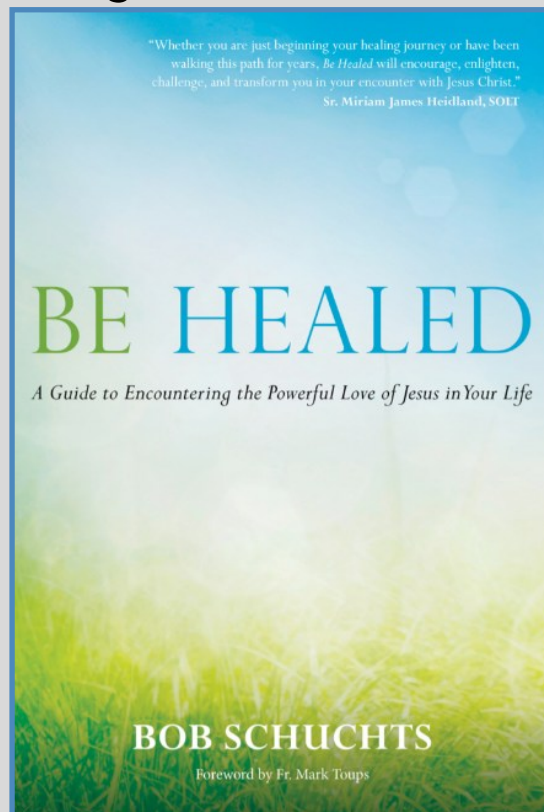
Donora, PA

There is no cost to participate, just buy your own book.

For more information or to register, please

email Valentina Tomko at

vtomko@saintandrewmidmon.org



The book study will provide an opportunity to find spiritual, emotional and physical healing through the power of the Holy Spirit. Steeped in Scripture and the wisdom of the Catholic church, Dr. Bob's book can help people recognize their areas of brokenness & place their hope in the Risen Christ.

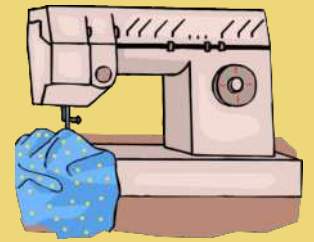
Please order your book online and read the first 2 chapters to prepare for our first meeting on Jan. 8th

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!



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- Granola Bars
- Crackers
- Cereal
- Pancake Mix & Syrup
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- Canned Fruits & Vegetables
- Ramen Noodles
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- Rice & Beans
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Monongahela
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ccph.org/diaper-days

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St. Andrew the Apostle Parish

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9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

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Donora
1 Park Rd, Donora, PA 15033

Monongahela
225 Park Ave, Monongahela, PA 15063



INTERESTED IN DONATING?

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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 from 10am - 11:30. Volunteers are always needed! Please contact Chris Janney at 267-990-4479.



CHARLEROI | DONORA | MONONGAHELA



ON FIRE FOR CHRIST



As we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family, we see not perfection, but profound faithfulness. In their flight to Egypt, they faced fear and uncertainty, yet Joseph trusted God, Mary supported him, and Jesus grew in wisdom. This is our call: to be a *family on pilgrimage*, trusting God in our own uncertainties. Let us be a haven of love, forgiveness, and quiet prayer, creating sanctuaries where faith takes root. May we, like Mary, offer a resounding “YES” to God's call, like Joseph, protect and provide, and like Jesus, grow in love. We honor Jesus, Mary, and Joseph as a model of love, faith, and perseverance through humility, difficult beginnings, and Divine intervention and guidance. Through their loving example they teach us as families to pray, stick together, and live in God's presence.

In this new year, we should focus on the Holy Family as a model of faith, obedience, and resilience. We should recognize God's presence in the ordinary, sometimes difficult family life, and build our homes with love, forgiveness, and prayer, much like Mary and Joseph did. The Holy Family's story shows God sanctifies daily, even challenging, family life through love, obedience, and faith, elevating the mundane to the sacred. Our readings call us to imitate Mary's acceptance, Joseph's protective love, and Jesus' obedience, bearing with one another and forgiving as God forgives us. The family is where we learn to love, grow in wisdom, and become children of God, preparing for heaven, not just earthly success.



Deacon Frank Bursic

The new year will bring new joys, opportunities and friendships. It may also present difficult hardships and sadness. In both happiness and sadness, we must trust and follow God's call. God will never leave our side if we but offer all we are to Him and accept His will for us.

Make 2026 your best year ever. Turn yourself away from all the distractions, the noise, in your daily life and dedicate your days, your activities, your time to God and your family. Model your family after the Holy Family. As you journey throughout this year, spend more time in prayer with your family in a loving, caring way and bring them along with you. Challenge yourself and your family to remove the noise from your lives; phones, TVs, iPads, electronic games, etc. and spend more time together. Come together and join Jesus at His Eucharistic Table and in His house every week. Consume Him and His Word and vow to pray more and spend more time with Him, especially at Mass and receiving the Sacraments. Hug your spouse and your children at least once a day, maybe twice, and tell them that you love them! Get excited about your faith and be the example of Christ to your family, friends, coworkers, and anyone you meet. Make room in your heart, your life, and your family so that God can write His story in you. What a beautiful story it will be!

Use this year to form habits that will create in you a radical love relationship with God that will continue long into the new year and the years to come. Open your heart and pray that your journey will be complete in the fulfillment of your longing for a more powerful spiritual life, drawing you closer to God in a radical love relationship. Come and offer up to God all that you are and do to be consecrated and given back to you for His glory. Be on fire for Christ!

May the Lord bless you and your family in this new year and may you remain focused on Jesus, the source of all joy. Have a very blessed and joy filled 2026! God bless and I will see you at His table!!



HAPPY NEW YEAR!



**Offices are closed December 31st through January 2nd.
Also, First Friday Adoration is cancelled on January 2nd.**

FAITH FORMATION

During the Christmas season, it's good for us to stop and think about the Holy Family. In today's Gospel, we hear how Joseph protected Jesus by taking Mary and Jesus to Egypt when God warned him of danger. Their example reminds us that every family member has an important role in helping the whole family grow in love and safety. This feast invites us to think about how we care for each other and how we can recommit ourselves to being a strong, loving family.

Take some time today to do a project together; cook a meal, bake a dessert, clean a room, or make a craft. Afterward, talk about what each person did to help. Notice how everyone's efforts made the project better. Remind one another that, just like the Holy Family, your family works best when everyone contributes.

Then read today's Gospel together: Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23. Remember that Jesus grew up in a family too, and this Sunday we honor Jesus, Mary, and Joseph. End with a prayer asking God to watch over your family and to help you care for and protect one another, just as Mary and Joseph cared for Jesus.



Kathy Miller
Director of Faith Formation

Faith Formation

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

Jan 11th – In-person Class

Jan 18th – Lectio Divina

Jan 25th – In-person Class

Confirmation

Jan 11th – In-person Class

Jan 25th – In-person Class

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M F E U X I O C X E O H E Y A
J A H Q K O I E F M R X E R R
O S G A C B K W D N M O I M Y
S A L I I R Z O E N M C D O K
E S E A R C H R H C T C X U N
P L R C H I L D X A P N K Q J
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O Y R R A Z Q A G Q V G C P T
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NAZARETH	ESCAPE	HEROD	MOTHER	EGYPT
ANGEL	BETHLEHEM	SEARCH	NIGHT	CHILD

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 (\$10 each)

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

SANCTUARY CANDLE FOR: _____

REQUESTED BY: _____ REQUEST WEEK OF: _____

LOCATION: CHARLEROI _____ DONORA _____ MONONGAHELA _____



Music Ministry Mass Schedule

Music Ministry Schedule		
December 28	Folk Group	8:30am Donora
January 4	Parish Choir	9am Charleroi
January 17	Laudate	4pm Donora
January 18	Parish Choir	11:30am Mon City
January 25	Parish Choir	4pm Donora

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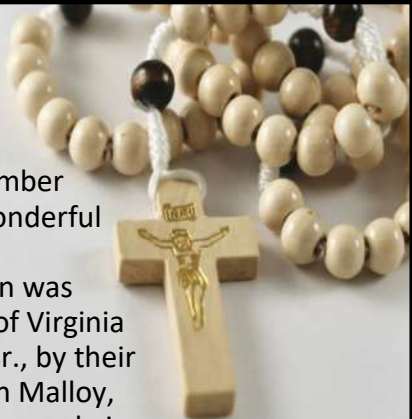
Join us again in the New Year.
We meet the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month in the Knights of Columbus Hall in Charleroi at 6PM.

We will be discussing the New Testament Letters.

The next meeting is Wednesday, Jan. 7th.

The Rosary Makers

Our Christmas luncheon meeting was held on November 20th and was a wonderful gathering. A \$30 Memorial donation was made in memory of Virginia and Tom Vilella, Sr., by their daughter Maribeth Malloy, a \$50 donation was made in memory of Pam Chacko Hartshorn by Marsha Chacko and Dan Chacko, a \$20 donation was made in memory of Pam Chacko Hartshorn by Jean Galloni. Robin Rojohn made a \$25 donation. We operate solely from donations.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS 956



JANUARY SOUP MENU

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GROWING TOGETHER IN HOPE

One Faith, Many Beautiful Ways to Worship: Preparing for Our New Mass Schedule

In the coming weeks, our parish will be adding **three new Sunday Mass options** to our existing schedule. Any change in something as precious as the Mass can feel unsettling, especially if you have worshipped in a certain way for many years. Your love for the Eucharist and your fidelity to this parish are a gift, and this new schedule is meant to *honor* that love, not replace it.

From the very beginning, the Second Vatican Council's Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, *Sacrosanctum Concilium*, said that "Mother Church earnestly desires that all the faithful should be led to that **fully conscious, and active participation** in liturgical celebrations which is demanded by the very nature of the liturgy." (SC 14) One of the strengths of the current form of the Roman Rite (the *Novus Ordo*) is that it allows this active participation to take shape in more than one way, while still preserving the unity of the Mass. The Council explicitly taught that **"even in the liturgy the Church does not wish to impose a rigid uniformity in matters which do not involve the faith or the good of the whole community"** and that she "respects and fosters" different gifts and traditions, so long as the true spirit of the liturgy is preserved (SC 37-38). This is what we desire to do with our new schedule: one faith, one Mass, expressed in many complementary ways

Our Existing Musical Traditions

First, nothing good is being "thrown out." The Council devoted an entire chapter to music, calling the Church's musical heritage **"a treasure of inestimable value"** and insisting that this treasure "is to be preserved and fostered with great care." (SC 112, 114) That is what we already try to do here through:

~ our **Adult Choir** ~the **Children's Choir** ~the **Folk Group** ~the **Laudate**

These groups are not going away. They remain at the heart of our parish's musical life, helping us sing the Mass and not just be "at" the Mass. In fact, *Sacrosanctum Concilium* explicitly encourages choirs and says pastors should be careful that, whenever the liturgy is sung, **"the whole body of the faithful may be able to contribute that active participation which is rightly theirs."** (SC 114)

The new Mass options are meant to **build on**, not replace, this rich foundation.

The Three New Mass Options

7:30 a.m. Early-Morning Low Mass in Donora – Quiet and Reflective

Our earliest Mass, **7:30 a.m. in Donora**, will be a simpler, quieter celebration. There will be no music and an atmosphere of silence and recollection. This reflects the Council's desire that the rites be marked by **"noble simplicity"**— "short, clear, and unencumbered by useless repetitions," and within the people's powers of comprehension (SC 34). For those who value peace and stillness, or who need a shorter, earlier Mass, this will be a place to rest in God without distraction.

11:30 a.m. High Mass in Monongahela – "All the Smells and Bells"

Later in the morning, at **11:30 a.m. in Monongahela**, we will offer a more solemn High Mass, with incense, processions, and fuller use of chant and hymnody. *Sacrosanctum Concilium* teaches that **"liturgical worship is given a more noble form when... celebrated solemnly in song"** (SC 113) and that the Church's musical tradition forms a "necessary or integral part of the solemn liturgy." (SC 112) This Mass will draw from the Church's "treasure of inestimable value" in sacred music and ritual, helping us experience the beauty and reverence of our tradition in a very tangible way.

6:00 p.m. Evening Mass in Monongahela – Contemporary Praise and Worship

In the evening, at **6:00 p.m. in Monongahela**, we will add a Mass that incorporates contemporary praise and worship music, while remaining reverent and faithful to the rubrics. Here again, we are following the Council's own guidance. *Sacrosanctum Concilium* says that the Church "does not wish to impose a rigid uniformity" and that she sometimes even admits elements from different cultures "into the liturgy itself, **provided they harmonize with its true and authentic spirit.**" (SC 37) For many younger Catholics—and many older ones, too—this style of music makes it easier to sing, respond, and pray with their whole heart. As the Council said, the goal is that the faithful "should not be there as strangers or silent spectators," but should "take part in the sacred action conscious of what they are doing, with devotion and full collaboration." (SC 48)

One Mass, Many Doors

Across **all** our Masses—old and new—the essentials do not change: the same sacrifice of Christ, the same proclamation of the Word, the same Eucharist, the same Roman Rite. What varies is the "door" through which people are helped to enter: silence or song, chant or folk harmonies, incense or a more understated style. The Council fathers were very clear that, **"provided that the substantial unity of the Roman rite is preserved,"** there is room for "legitimate variations and adaptations to different groups, regions and peoples" (SC 38). Our parish is simply living this out on a local level: one parish, one faith, several pathways to deeper participation. You may find one Mass that fits you especially well—that's fine. You may also discover that occasionally attending a different style of Mass opens your heart in a new way. Our hope is not to divide the community, but to **welcome all**.

As we move into this new schedule, I ask for your patience, your openness, and above all your charity. In every Mass—whatever the style—we remain **one Body in Christ**, gathered around **one altar**, worshipping **one Lord**.





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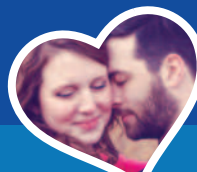
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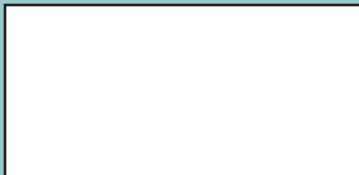
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OFFICE HOURS

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