

SAINT ANDREW THE APOSTLE PARISH

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD | JANUARY 4, 2026



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

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
JAN 5		MEMORIAL OF ST. JOHN NEUMANN, BISHOP	
8:30 am	CHA	Rose Cutrara by The Abba's House Book Group	
JAN 6		MEMORIAL OF SAINT ANDRÉ BESSETTE, RELIGIOUS	
8:30 am	DON	Andrew, William, Victor & Robert Salat by Sister, Veronica	
JAN 7		WEDNESDAY AFTER EPIPHANY	
7:00 pm	MON	Mary Ann Ghilani by Rick Ghilani	
JAN 8		THURSDAY AFTER EPIPHANY	
8:30 am	DON	Paul & Rita Sambol by Suzanne Corbin Family	
JAN 9		FRIDAY AFTER EPIPHANY	
8:30 am	MON	Helen Craig by Daughter, Sandy Craig	
JAN 10		WEDNESDAY AFTER EPIPHANY	CELEBRANT
8:30 am	CHA	Martin & Judy Flaherty by Dorothy Flaherty Weldon	
4:00 pm	DON	Sam & Jean D'Emidio by Gloria Mongelluzzo	
5:00 pm	CHA	Ed "Red" Latuu by Joe & Cathy Gadzad	
6:00 pm	MON	People of the Parish	
JAN 11		THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD	CELEBRANT
8:30 am	DON	John & Ann Veliky by Philip & Sharlene Veliky	
9:00 am	CHA	People of the Parish	
11:00 am	MON	Paul, Frances & Paula Hazen	



GIVE WITH EASE!

We're excited to introduce our new giving platform — PushPay. It's quicker, safer, and helps us save on costs compared to traditional envelopes.

Simply scan the QR code to give today:
<https://pushpay.com/g/saintandrewmidmon>

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








- 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 reflete jou ferye oswa jou apa pou Bondye.

STEWARDSHIP

Sunday, December 21st:
\$16,009

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.



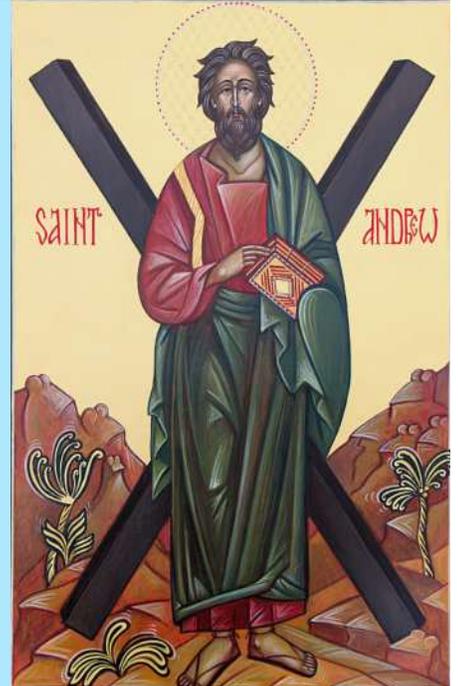
MARRIAGE

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
KEN ZIMMARO**

By: Joe & Donna Caruso & Family

**DONORA FOR
FLAHERTY FAMILY**

By: Dorothy Flaherty Weldon

**MONONGAHELA FOR
PEOPLE OF THE PARISH**

CLERGY

A WORD FROM FR. LEVI

Grace and peace to you in Christ! Happy Feast of the Epiphany!! Today we celebrate the revelation that Jesus is Lord, God, and Savior not only for Israel, but for all people! This is the Good News! He has come to save all of us and each one of us! Glory to God in the Highest!!

In the Gospel today, we hear of the three magi who have been patiently observing the night sky for years. They noticed one particular star and followed it to Bethlehem. This star led them on a very long journey in deed, estimates say between 40 days and a whole year, depending on their place of origin. Even if it was “only” a 40 day journey, that would have been no small feat in their time. Even today, a 40 day journey would be a big deal, but on top of the logistical difficulties, the magi would also face the dangers of travel that were common in their time. These men risk so much and spend so much time and treasure following the star and giving baby Jesus his gifts. Why did they do this?

The Gospel also speak of Harrod, the King who governs the region of Bethlehem. When Harrod learns that a “new king” is to be born, he is thrown into a panic, and all of Israel with him. Harrod fears that he will lose everything that he has and he immediately gets to work to destroy the new born baby. Why is Harrod so afraid of the new born baby?

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ, we have a choice. We can be like the magi who were watchful, patient, and excited to follow the star to Christ, or we can be like Harrod, and get defensive when we hear that Jesus Christ wants to be Lord and Savior of our lives. Of course, most of us are quite happy to have Jesus save us, but to place him as Lord of our lives is another story. It is not easy to live in loving obedience to Christ each day, but it is what we are called to do. He must come before our spouse, children, grandchildren, etc.

We must become like the magi if we are going to be true followers of Christ! That is to say, we must be constantly seeking the Kingdom of Heaven and willing to risk everything to find it! We must leave behind the things that keep us from Jesus and persevere in following the things that leads us to him. We need faith, hope and love if we are going to make the long journey through this life! May the grace of God make us ever more like the magi in this coming year! May we be filled with a holy zeal for grace-filled adventures and may we ever grow closer to the heart of Jesus so that we can offer him all that we have and are!



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

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

I always used to wonder about the meaning of the chalk-written numbers and letters above the doorway of churches and homes on the Feast of the Epiphany. It sort of looked like an algebra equation to me, but in reality it's not that complicated. The tradition of "chalking the doors" goes back through the centuries and is a literal marking to dedicate each new year to the Lord. The formula is this: 20 + C + M + B + 26. The 20 stands for the first two digits of the year and the 26 at the end are the last two digits of the new year. The C, M, and B represent two things: the names of the three Magi - Casper, Melchior, and Balthazar, as well as the Latin phrase, "Christus mansionem benedicat," or "May Christ bless the house." Lastly, the "+" represents the cross. The inscription read in its entirety is asking that, throughout the new year, Christ bless our church or home and all who live within, and those that cross our threshold. There are some places that use this blessing on New Year's Day, but it's more commonly used on the Feast of the Epiphany, which is the 12th Day of Christmas (January 6th). The Epiphany is celebrated on the Sunday after New Year's Day, which doesn't always line up exactly with January 6th.



Amanda Nicholson
Music & Liturgy

Usually when a priest blesses a church, he'll use incense and holy water to bless the entrance, as well as a special prayer and blessing. However, when it comes to blessing individual homes, lay people have the ability to do that. Our parish will have blessed chalk that everyone can take home to perform the blessing, and instructions for the home blessing are below.

The chalking of our homes is a good way to remind ourselves that as we come and go from our homes to keep the Lord in our minds and hearts. It can also be a good way to evangelize to those that visit, pointing to the fact that this home, and those within, are blessed by the Lord and its occupants wish to live lives dedicated to Him. If anyone asks about the meaning of those letters and numbers you'll be able to explain everything to them, and maybe encourage them to do the same at their home.

Instructions for Blessing the Home

Optional Scripture Reading: Matthew 2:1-16. Also optional: you can sprinkle holy water in each room of your house while singing hymns or praying the rosary. Then gather at the front door to your home. Using the blessed chalk, mark the lintel of your front door (or front porch step, or a wall within your home) as follows: 20 + C + M + B + 26, saying: *The three Wise Men, Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar followed the star of God's Son who became human two thousand and twenty-six years ago. May Christ bless our home and remain with us throughout the new year. Amen.*

Then say the following prayer:

Visit, O blessed Lord, this home with the gladness of your presence. Bless all who live or visit here with the gift of your love; and grant that we may manifest your love to each other and to all whose lives we touch. May we grow in grace and in the knowledge and love of you; guide, comfort, and strengthen us in peace, O Jesus Christ, now and forever. Amen.



THE ORDER OF MASS

OPENING HYMN

WE THREE KINGS



1. We three kings of O - ri - ent are; Bear - ing gifts, we trav - erse a - far
2. Born a King on Beth - le - hem's plain, Gold I bring to crown him a - gain;
3. Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; In - cense owns a De - i - ty night;



Field and foun - tain, Moor and moun - tain, Fol - low - ing yon - der star.
King for - ev - er, ceas - ing nev - er, O - ver us all to reign.
Prayer and prais - ing, Glad - ly rais - ing, Wor - ship - ing God on high.



O — star of won - der, star of night, Star with roy - al beau - ty bright,



West - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, Guide us to the per - fect Light.

Text: Matthew 2:1-11; John H. Hopkins, Jr. Tune: KINGS OF ORIENT; John H. Hopkins, Jr., 1820-1891

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

ISAIAH 60:1-6

Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem! Your light has come, the glory of the Lord shines upon you. See, darkness covers the earth, and thick clouds cover the peoples; but upon you the LORD shines, and over you appears his glory. Nations shall walk by your light, and kings by your shining radiance. Raise your eyes and look about; they all gather and come to you: your sons come from afar, and your daughters in the arms of their nurses.

shall throb and overflow, for the riches of the sea shall be emptied out before you, the wealth of nations shall be brought to you. Caravans of camels shall fill you, dromedaries from Midian and Ephah; all from Sheba shall come bearing gold and frankincense, and proclaiming the praises of the LORD.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Then you shall be radiant at what you see, your heart

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RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PSALM 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13



Lord, ev - 'ry na - tion on earth will a - dore you.

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

1. O God, give your judgment to the king,
to a king's son your justice,
that he may judge your people in justice,
and your poor in right judgment.
2. In his days shall justice flourish,
and great peace till the moon is no more.
He shall rule from sea to sea,
from the River to the bounds of the earth.
3. The kings of Tarshish and the islands shall pay him
tribute.
The kings of Sheba and Seba shall bring him gifts.
Before him all kings shall fall prostrate,
all nations shall serve him.
4. For he shall save the needy when they cry,
the poor, and those who are helpless.
He will have pity on the weak and the needy,
and save the lives of the needy.

SECOND READING

EPHESIANS 3:2-3, 5-6

Brothers and sisters: You have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for your benefit, namely, that the mystery was made known to me by revelation. It was not made known to people in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the

Spirit: that the Gentiles are coheirs, members of the same body, and copartners in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

The word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia,

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!

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

We saw his star, his star in the east, and have come to adore Christ the Lord.

GOSPEL

MATTHEW 2:1-12

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, saying, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star at its rising and have come to do him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was greatly troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. Assembling all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, He inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it has been written through the prophet: *And you, Bethlehem, land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; since from*

you shall come a ruler, who is to shepherd my people Israel." Then Herod called the magi secretly and ascertained from them the time of the star's appearance. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and search diligently for the child. When you have found him, bring me word, that I too may go and do him homage." After their audience with the king they set out. And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was. They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated them

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selves and did him homage. Then they opened their treasures and offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed for their country by

another way.

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.

PREPARATION HYMN

WHAT CHILD IS THIS

1. What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mar - y's lap is
 2. Why lies he in such mean es - tate Where ox and ass are
 3. So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peas - ant, king, to
 sleep - ing, Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet While
 feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here The
 own him. The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; Let
 shep - herds watch are keep - ing? This, this is
 si - lent Word is plead - ing.
 lov - ing hearts en - throne him.
 Christ the King, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;
 Haste, haste to bring him laud, The babe, the son of Mar - y.

Text: Willian C. Dix, 1837-1898. Tune: GREENSLEEVES; English melody, 16th C.

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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

THE FIRST NOWELL

Musical notation for 'The First Nowell' in G major, 3/4 time. The melody is written on a treble clef staff. The lyrics are: No - well, No - well, No - well, No - well! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

Text: English Carol, 17th C.; Tune: THE FIRST NOWELL, Irregular; English Melody; harm. From Christmas Carols New and Old, 1871

1. The first Nowell the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay; in fields where they lay keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep. **R/.**
2. They looked up and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far; and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night. **R/.**
3. And by the light of that same star three wise men came from country far; to seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went. **R/.**
4. This star drew nigh to the northwest, o'er Bethlehem it took its rest; and there it did both stop and stay right over the place where Jesus lay. **R/.**
5. Then entered in those wise men three, full rev'rently upon their knee, and offered there in his presence their gold and myrrh and frankincense. **R/.**
6. Then let us all with one accord sing praises to our heav'nly Lord, who made the heavens and earth of naught, and with his blood our life has bought. **R/.**

RECESSIONAL HYMN

EPIPHANY CAROL

Musical notation for 'Epiphany Carol' in B-flat major, 3/4 time. The melody is written on a treble clef staff. The lyrics are: 1. Ev-'ry na - tion sees the glo - ry Of a star that pierced the night. As we 2. Ev-'ry tongue shall sing the prais - es Of his birth in deep - est night. He is tell the won - drous sto - ry We are bathed in ra - diant light. Star sent heal - ing for the a - ges; He is Christ, our God's de - light. He pro - forth from high - est heav - en, Danc - ing light of God's de - sign, Shine up - claims with - in his be - ing All our hopes, our greatde - sires. He shall on the gift that's giv - en: Word made flesh now born in time. die to rise, re - deem - ing All who fol - low with their lives.

Text: Francis Patrick O'Brien, b.1958, © 2002, GIA Publications, Inc. Tune: BEACH SPRING, 8 7 8 7 D; The Sacred Harp, 1844. Reprinted under One License #729427. All rights reserved.

GROWING CLOSER TO CHRIST

In today's Gospel, the *"wise men from the East followed a star to Jerusalem, asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews?'"* (Mt 2:2). One of the things that strikes me about the Gospel narrative for Epiphany is that God begins a conversation with the Magi in a language they understand: astronomy. God speaks to them through creation. As astronomers, they are studying the sky, and while they are not Jews, they appear to have knowledge of a prophecy about the coming Messiah. When that knowledge is combined with their scientific study, it leads them to interpret the new star they have observed and set out to seek *"the king of the Jews."*

What stands out to me is that God meets the Magi exactly where they are. He does not ask them to become something or someone different before He speaks. He sends them a message they can recognize and interpret through their intellect and lived experience. God meets each of us in the same way. He does not need us to be "better" or "different" first. He is a God who pursues us and speaks to us in a language we can hear.

That raises an important question: *How can we hear and interpret Him?* One way is through studying and praying with Scripture. The practice of *Lectio Divina*, or holy reading, invites us to listen attentively to God's voice in His Word. Have you ever read a passage of Scripture and suddenly seen it in a new way? Has a Gospel reading spoken directly into your life, so much so that you thought, *"That's exactly what I needed to hear"?*

God spoke to the Magi through His creation. Have you ever encountered God in nature? I love summiting a mountain and experiencing what I call a "mountain moment." Standing still and looking out over creation fills me with awe. Those moments take my breath away and deepen my appreciation for the power and majesty of God.

When the Magi finally enter the house where Jesus is, they bow down, pay Him homage, and offer their gifts. They do not come empty-handed. Their gifts carry deep meaning: gold representing Christ's kingship, frankincense His divinity, and myrrh foreshadowing His suffering and death. This Epiphany, we are invited to unlock the gifts of our own hearts through prayer and discernment and offer them to the King with humility.

After their encounter with Jesus, the Magi are warned in a dream not to return to Herod, so they depart by another way. An authentic encounter with Christ always changes us. How might our encounter with Jesus be calling us onto a different path? Perhaps it is an invitation to deepen our prayer life, to spend time with the Lord in Adoration, to serve others with renewed zeal, or to reach out to someone who has been on our heart. Take time this Epiphany to ask the Lord what new paths He is setting before you in this new calendar year.

The Magi remind us that Christ comes for all people, men of science from the East who journey far to find Him. In a homily for Epiphany, Pope Francis reflected that *"the Magi represent men and women throughout the world who are welcomed into the house of God. Like the Magi, countless people have a restless heart, stirred by the Holy Spirit, looking for a star to show them the path to Bethlehem."*

As a parish, we walk this journey together. Throughout the year, our formation offerings are meant to help us slow down, listen more deeply, and learn to recognize how God is speaking in our lives today. If your heart feels restless, consider joining us as we seek the star together.



Diane Kooser
Formation



Wednesday January 14 | 6:30pm
St. Benedict The Abbot - O'Brien Hall
Join us for dinner and discussion!

Register at john23.org/alpha



If you are looking to increase your faith journey, consider attending a great program called "Alpha" which starts January 14, 2026, at St. John 23 Parish, McMurray, PA. This will be a 10–12-week program on Wednesday's starting at 6:30pm. To sign-up scan QR Code. For additional details please feel free to contact kris D'Andrea at 412-780-5364 or kdandrea22@gmail.com

TEMPORALITIES & STEWARDSHIP

Looking Ahead: A New Year of Growth, Outreach, and Celebration

As we usher in 2026, our parish family enters this new year with gratitude for God's blessings and with renewed energy for the mission before us. This is not a season for looking back, but for pressing forward—toward growth, outreach, and deeper connections with Christ.

Generosity from parishioners has strengthened our foundation. Stewardship in this form is fiscally responsible and necessary for sustainment, ensuring that our parish remains vibrant, welcoming, and prepared to serve generations to come. We also fully embrace our strategic fundraising, friendraising, and partnership retention, recognizing that these efforts are vital to sustaining our mission and expanding our reach.

The coming year promises new opportunities to enrich ministries and extend outreach to those most in need. At the center of this commitment are five pillars that define our mission in 2026: food assistance, service ministry, pastoral care, community partnerships, and elevating our hearts through the liturgy. These pillars embody Christ's compassion in tangible ways and remind us that mercy, hope, and worship remain at the heart of all we do.

Excitement builds around the many events that bring our parish together. The beloved Fish Fry in Donora begins on Ash Wednesday, February 18, and continues each Friday during Lent (February 20–March 27), leading up to Good Friday. Summer will shine with Summerfest in the Parish Park on July 10–11, while August 8 will mark the return of the Festival of Nations in Charleroi, behind Marian Hall, celebrating the rich diversity of our parish family. Alongside these signature gatherings, parishioners will also enjoy Pop-Up Bakeries, including Donut Saturdays, the Cinnamon Roll Sale in the spring, and the Apple Dumpling event in the fall. Rounding out the year, the All Saint's Day Spaghetti Dinner will bring warmth, fellowship, and tradition to our parish table. Each of these moments sweetens our fellowship and showcases the creativity and hospitality of our parish family.

A highlight of 2026 will be the grand opening of the refurbished Formation Center, complete with a beautiful new chapel. This space will serve as a hub for learning, prayer, and community life, equipping disciples to grow in faith. New formation activities will deepen understanding of the Gospel, while customized liturgical experiences will elevate worship and draw hearts closer to the mystery of God's presence.

The year ahead is also a year of invitation—an invitation to grow in faith, to welcome neighbors into the joy of parish life, and to encourage those who have been away to return to Christ's embrace. Together, our parish will not only sustain but thrive, not only serve but transform, not only gather but send forth disciples into the world.

Let us step boldly into 2026, confident that the Lord who has begun this good work in us will bring it to completion. Happy New Year, and may God bless you.



Joe Caruso
Business Manager



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. Monongahela
6:00 p.m. Monongahela

MEET 'THE LORETO PROJECT'

It is truly amazing how God orchestrates events to occur in such perfect timing to create a beautiful harmony if we only allow our eyes and ears to see and hear through faith. In last week's bulletin for the Solemnity of the Holy Family we – Joseph and Mary – shared about ourselves so you can get to know us a bit before we start providing music for the 6pm mass. This week we want to fulfill the promise we made last week and share more about what the Lord has been doing with our music ministry since we got married. How ironic and fitting it was that we shared about ourselves last week (given our names and what we were celebrating), and we think it is no less fitting that we would share about our ministry as we celebrate the Epiphany.

Since getting married, the Lord has brought our individual lives and united them into one. That has included some incredibly difficult steps in faith along the way. When deciding where to go for a honeymoon – or if we could really afford one at all – in prayer we felt the Lord invite us to book a flight to Rome. You read that right! We said Rome... like the one in Italy. We try to trust the Lord, but that was not a small task given our humble ministry wage: we simply couldn't afford that.

The Lord continued to prompt us in prayer. We felt like he was inviting us to go to Rome, visit Assisi, and then to receive a mission He had for us and our music in Loreto. But how could this be possible when we were basically broke? Following several confirmations that this was the voice of the Lord (including a very notable one from St. Joseph) we did step in faith. We spent the entirety of the money we could allocate for a honeymoon on very discounted round-trip flights.

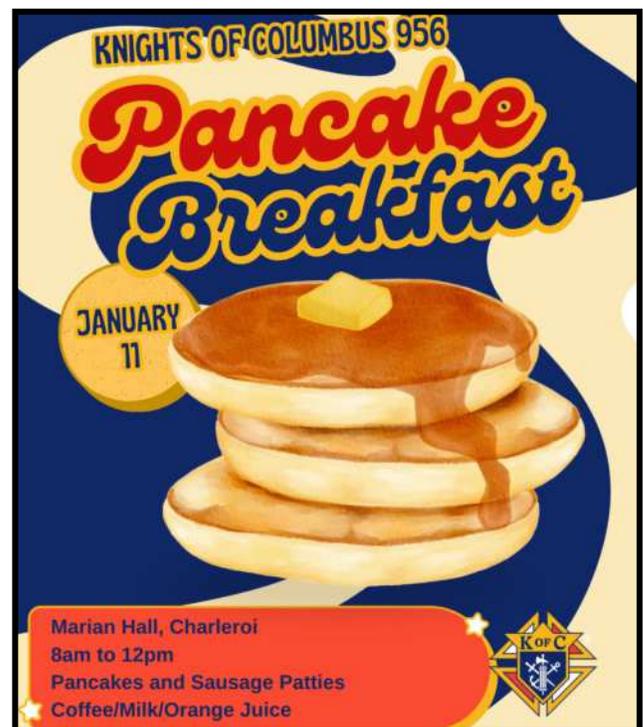
The Lord orchestrated the rest. Through various means and abundant generosity, we were able to go to Rome, Loreto, and Assisi. We very intentionally made this not a sight-seeing trip but a pilgrimage. The Lord brought us there to tell us something, and He was faithful to that promise. In Loreto we were given our mission praying in the very house where the Blessed Mother received hers (three quarters of the house where the annunciation took place now resides in Loreto, Italy). The Lord told us he wanted our music to be used for the sake of Eucharistic revival and that He would carry that mission where He wanted it to go.

This was the birth of our ministry called The Loreto Project. Since then, the Lord has continued to provide in tremendous ways and in such perfect timing. We've been blessed to work with many parishes and communities to provide music for masses, holy hours, conferences, retreats, and more. The Lord's faithfulness continues to shine through.

So how does this all connect with the Epiphany? The Gospel account we hear today reveals how an encounter with Christ can transform us. The magi give over their very livelihoods and selves to Christ, and from that encounter are changed so much "they depart for their country by another way" (Mt 2:12). It is that new way where true life is found. It is the mission of The Loreto Project to help foster encounters like this with Christ, Who is present with us in the Eucharist.



DONORA KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #1941
WINTER BINGO
Get ready to shout "BINGO!" and win at this fun-filled event!
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KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS 956
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JANUARY 11
Marian Hall, Charleroi
8am to 12pm
Pancakes and Sausage Patties
Coffee/Milk/Orange Juice



This ministry is intended to bring men together in the spirit of fellowship and spiritual growth. MAN UP is a vehicle for men to discuss, learn and deal with issues, concerns, and topics that all men struggle with and to bring the Holy Spirit into that setting to guide and strengthen them. MAN UP meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the month at 7pm. All are welcome. If you're new and to find out where to meet, please call Dave at (703) 473-6447.



Women of Wonder (WOW) Meeting

At the heart of our mission is a profound belief that wonder—a *compassionate curiosity and awe*—is an essential aspect of our faith journey, inspired by Jesus' own relationships & interactions. So together we accompany other women in their journeys toward spiritual wholeness through sacred curiosity, care, and contemplative prayer. WOW meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month at 7pm studying together The Gospel of John. All are welcome! If you're new and to find out where to meet, please call Kate at (443) 799-0325.

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

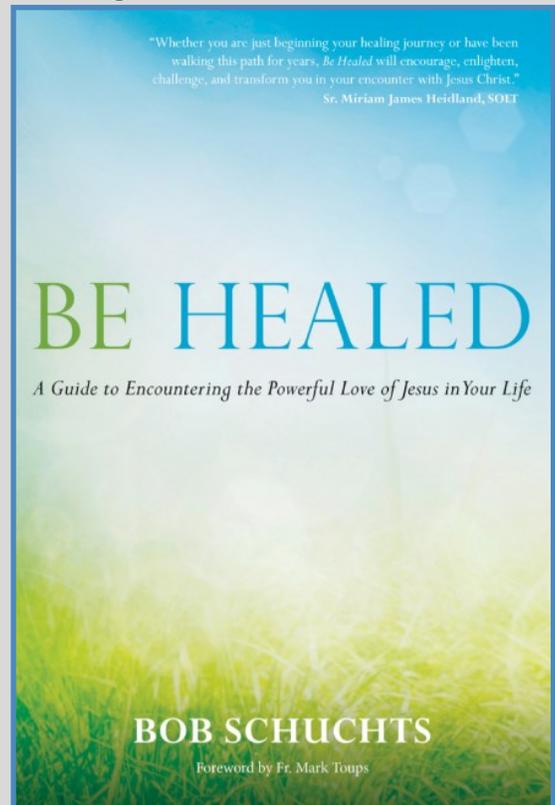
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There is no cost to participate, just buy your own book.

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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By Margie Kirby

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- Crackers
- Cereal
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- Canned Meat
- Canned Fruits & Vegetables
- Ramen Noodles
- Hamburger Helper
- Rice & Beans
- Toilet Paper
- Dish Soap
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Donora
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ccphg.org/diaper-days

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St. Andrew the Apostle Parish

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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 (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.





ON FIRE FOR CHRIST



Today is The Epiphany of the Lord which celebrates Jesus' manifestation as God's light for all nations, not just Israel. The Gentile Magi (Wise Men) follow a star to find and worship Him, bringing gifts representing His kingship, priesthood, and divinity, and returning transformed by this encounter. This teaches us to seek Jesus, offer our whole selves, and allow Him to change our path. It's our call to see God's presence in everyday life, offering ourselves as gifts, and following the "star" (God's call).

Jesus appears as the universal Savior, revealing God's glory to the Gentiles and fulfilling Isaiah's prophecy of nations walking in His light. The star symbolizes God's guidance. Our journey of faith involves following this light, even through uncertainty, leading to profound discovery and a changed life. The Magi brought gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Our true gift isn't material but ourselves—our worship, service, and obedience to God. After meeting Jesus, the Magi went back "by another way" showing that encountering Christ always leads to a life-altering change and a new direction. The Magi fell to their knees in worship, showing pure adoration. We are invited to encounter Jesus in the vulnerable child and to offer Him our complete selves, discovering His presence in our daily lives.



Deacon Frank Bursic

This week you are challenged to reflect seriously on the following questions and to determine where you are on your faith journey and to ponder what you might do to become closer to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ in the new year. 1. What "star" (God's sign) am I following in my life right now? 2. How has knowing Jesus transformed my path or my way of seeing the world? 3. What am I holding onto that keeps me from giving my full self to God? 4. How can I show God's light and love to others?

Subject Change: Some of you may have heard my wife, Karen and I recently moved to Zelienople where we will begin our new journey, our new pilgrimage. As of January 5, 2026, through my request of Bishop Mark Eckman, I will begin my new assignment at Divine Grace Parish up in the Zelienople area and Karen will join the Parish. Karen and I are excited to begin this new path God has asked us to follow, especially because we will be close to all our children and grandchildren. Even though this brings much joy to our lives, it also brings great sadness in having to leave St. Andrew the Apostle Parish family. Over the past year, I have found love, kindness and incredible faith at St. Andrew. We have all grown and become on fire for Christ. Even though our time together has been short, I want to thank you for all the love you have embraced me with during my time here. I am now being called to be elsewhere. I will not say goodbye. I will say "see you later", because we know of the phenomenal promise of our Savior Jesus Christ. We know we will be together again if we but form that radical love relationship with Jesus and follow His ways. Even though we will be at different churches celebrating, we will be at the same table, His table, every time we celebrate the Mass. Know that you will be in my prayers and I kindly request that you keep Karen and me in your prayers. We pray that you have a very happy, healthy and holy New Year! Until our paths cross again, love you all! Go be on fire for Christ! God bless.

Let us pray: Dear Lord, as we go our separate ways, let us continue to carry the Spirit of Christmas into our homes and neighborhoods, becoming the Church that serves as a model of Your boundless love for all families, building a legacy of hope for those who will follow. May we continue to build a faith community where everyone feels known, loved, and guided to You, carrying the light of Christ into every corner of our lives and the world. May the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph bless us, protect us, and help us grow in unity, peace, and love as we continue our journey of faith. Amen.



FAITH FORMATION

This weekend we celebrate Epiphany, remembering the Wise Men who followed the star to find Jesus. Many believe that our tradition of exchanging gifts is connected to the gifts they offered. Whether your family exchanged gifts at Christmas or plans to do so on Epiphany - take a moment to reflect together on the meaning behind giving. Invite family members to share the best gift they've received and what made it special, the gift itself, the thought and love behind it, or the person who offered it.

In today's Gospel (Matthew 2:1-12), the Magi present Jesus with gold, frankincense, and myrrh, each with a special meaning:

- Gold honors Jesus as a king.
- Frankincense recognizes Him as divine and worthy of worship.
- Myrrh foreshadows His suffering, death, and the salvation He would bring.

These gifts reveal who Jesus is and why He came. Like the Wise Men, may we recognize Jesus as our Savior and honor Him through our words, actions, and care for others.



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

Y W A Y L X P H C H H M Q D H
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 O V N R T E A C H E R S R O G
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 D P R O N Y E T V A E G H L Q
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GOD	CHILD	HOUSE	INCENSE	MARY
STAR	MAGI	TEACHERS	WORSHIP	MOTHER
WORSHIPED	EAST	SEARCH	BORN	HEROD





Music Ministry Mass Schedule

Music Ministry Schedule		
January 4	Parish Choir	9am Charleroi
January 11	Folk Group	9am Charleroi
January 17	Laudate	4pm Donora
January 18	Parish Choir	11:30am Mon City
January 24	Parish Choir	4pm Donora
February 1	Children's Choir	11:30am Mon City

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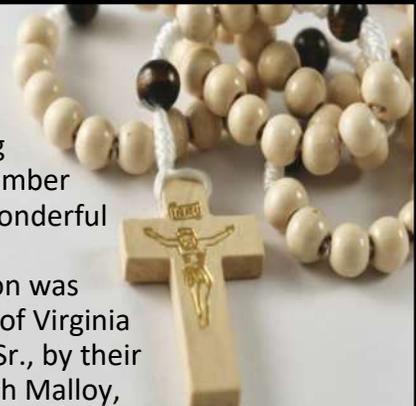
Bible Study

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.

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GROWING TOGETHER IN HOPE

As we come closer and closer to implementing a parish wide Mass schedule change, I thought I'd reflect on the processes and factors that are involved. The whole process is a little funny for me because I was involved with you in a similar circumstance when I was here with Fr. Kevin and Fr. Jerry, when Saint Andrew officially became a parish. Huh, déjà vu.

Back when Grouping 326 (St. Damian of Molokai, Monongahela; Our Lady of the Valley, Donora; and Mary, Mother of the Church, Charleroi) was forming to what was to become Saint Andrew the Apostle Parish, that original process was challenging. We had to go through all the requirements for the Diocese, which were extensive. We had to meet certain requirements before going to any next stage. Some of you might remember doing surveys and the like. We had a trial period for almost everything. Then, when we thought we had everything accounted for, we met with some more considerations from the Diocese. More changes and rearrangements followed. These procedures were long and arduous. Tempers flared, and many cups of coffee were consumed by the clergy and staff as we met into the wee hours of the morning on some days to submit forms for a deadline. Many people complained. Many people were supportive. It was a messy process that we tried to keep from the general congregation.

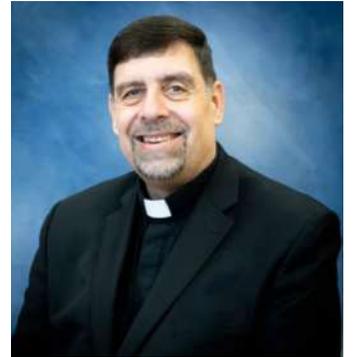
When I look at those days I keep thinking that it would be nice just to have things as they used to be. For me that meant as I was growing up, Mass was at 7:30, 9:30, or 11:30 am. Things were so simple back then. You just picked a convenient Mass and went. If the pastor was sick, one of the neighboring parish assistants would cover as needed.

However, with all the parameters that we have today, nothing is really simple anymore. In our parish, we have three buildings that we need to care for, with all three of them needing extensive work. We only have two full-time priests that are ministering to the parish. Fr. Jerry is an added bonus, but technically retired. We have to deal with Faith Formation for three communities and the logistics for gathering them. We have to deal with the possibilities that this parish will go from two full-time priests to one. Because of the low number of priests, we also have to have a plan in place where only one priest can cover the whole mass schedule, say, if someone becomes ill. I have had complaints in the past that the diocese was punishing the parish because they weren't sending a second or third priest, that they were keeping him in reserve only for parishes that were worthy, or who had money, etc.

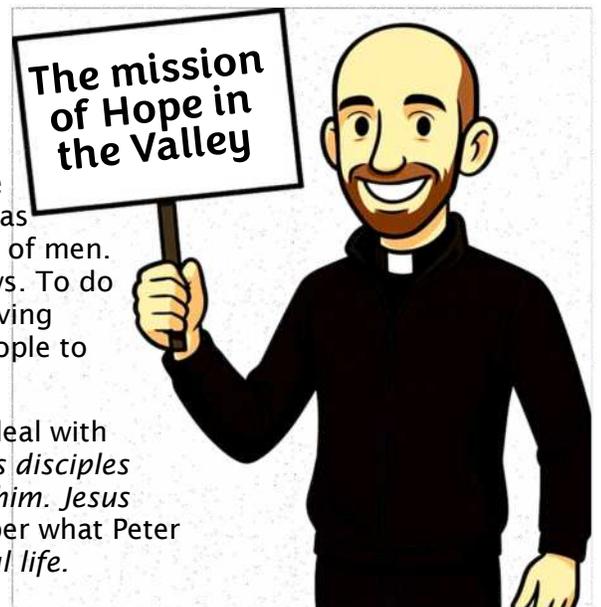
So, it is a necessity to change Mass times. Yes, we may not like it. And, yes, we priests are hearing things like "You're taking away my Mass" and "You're taking away my convenience" and "it's too far". None of these procedures are easy. And guess what, we might have to do this again in another five years (this only a speculation; nothing is factual! Nothing is written in stone.) As congregation sizes shrink, as the number of eligible priests that are available for ministry decrease, as costs of upkeep of our old buildings skyrocket, we are going, by necessity, to have to constantly re-evaluate things. Times change and we have to adapt or die.

I don't like it. You don't like it. Nobody likes it. But things need to be done. Yes, we may be tired of the phrases of "growing into a lively community of believers", or "we are making things that bring value to everyone" - or other types of phrases - most of which we are sick of hearing. However, necessity dictates that we have to look at these things. We chose Saint Andrew the Apostle as our patron, knowing and understanding that we are to be fishers of men. We are called to go out to all the world and preach the Good News. To do so takes a lot of energy and motivation, not just sitting around living comfortably. It takes a lot of grit and determination to gather people to God. Remember...with great work comes great rewards.

People might give up and just leave, feeling bitter. Jesus had to deal with similar things. Read John 6:67-68. *As a result of this, many of his disciples returned to their former way of life and no longer accompanied him. Jesus then said to the Twelve, "Do you also want to leave?"* But remember what Peter said *"Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.* We are trying. We ask that you try also.



Fr. Pat Barkey
Parochial Vicar





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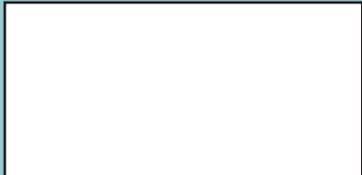
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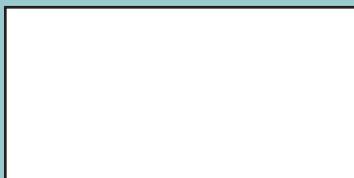
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OFFICE HOURS

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9:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M.

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