



SAINT CLARE OF ASSISI PARISH

LOVE GOD, SERVE GOD: EVERYTHING IS IN THAT.

The Spirit drove Jesus out into the desert, and he remained in the desert for forty days, tempted by Satan.



February 21, 2021

The First Sunday of Lent

A Message from Fr. Matt ...

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Do you remember walking through Noah's Ark at Kennywood? It is still there, after all these years. I loved Noah's Ark! The part when the wooden floor moves back and forth under your feet was scary when I was little. But when I got older, it was one of the best parts. When our family went with friends to Kennywood, our moms would let us loose in the Park. Every three or four hours we would have to meet the moms at the merry-go-round, but we were pretty much free. These days, I don't think people do that. Maybe it is because the world is a more dangerous place, or maybe because we have the technology to stay in contact now. But there was something so free and so innocent to those old days at Kennywood. You ran around and had as much fun as you could. But you also had a bargain to keep. You better check in at the merry-go-round or your roaming was over! I miss those days, that innocence and freedom. I wish I could go back sometimes.



Obviously I was thinking about Noah's Ark because it is mentioned in both the First and Second Readings. The covenant that God kept with Noah and with Israel is also referenced in the Responsorial Psalm. But what about the Gospel? It seems strange that the Gospel doesn't connect obviously with the Readings or the Psalm. There is a connection, though, if you note what happened just before our Gospel Reading starts. In the verses just prior, Jesus is baptized in the Jordan by John. Immediately after this baptism, the Spirit drives Jesus into the desert. St. Paul tells us in the Second Reading that the waters of the great flood in the time of Noah and his Ark prefigure the waters of baptism, making an end to sin and a new beginning of goodness. So really, the Scriptures we hear today are all connected. They are about a new beginning and a new covenant.

I hope that you and I can see Lent in this light. So often we see Lent as a time of hardship, of giving up things or taking on new and tough challenges. Those things are a part of Lent and they are good. But we need to remember the purpose of these penitential practices. They are not just for themselves. They are not just to make us stressed or irritated. The purpose of Lent is to get back to basics. The Spirit leads us into the desert to be with Jesus so that we can remember who we are. We are a people in covenant with God, through baptism. So Lent is a time when we are called back to the innocence of our baptism, all the way back to our beginning. Lent promises us we can begin again. How do we do that? Remember who you are and keep the covenant! Love God. Love your neighbor. Get simple. Get innocent. Get back to the basics, the beginning. Remember that you are God's beloved and live like that. This is what the desert is for. This is what Lent is for.

I long for the simple summer days of Kennywood with my friends. We were free, riding the Jackrabbit and laughing through Noah's Ark. We were free, if we met moms every so often at the merry-go-round. Life is more complicated now. Yeah, it's called being an adult, but kids' lives are more complicated now, too. The Lord gives us a great opportunity today. Come with me into the desert. Get simple with me. Remember who you really are. You can begin again. Come to the desert. Check in with me at the merry-go-round. Then you can be free.

Peace and Love,
Fr. Matt



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

FRIDAYS AT 7PM

FEBRUARY 26 - ST. JOSEPH

MARCH 4 - ST. WENDELIN

MARCH 12 - MATER DOLOROSA

MARCH 19 - ST. JOSEPH

MARCH 26 - ST. WENDELIN

MASS & CONFESSION SCHEDULE

THIS SCHEDULE IS ALTERED FOR HOLY DAYS & SPECIAL EVENTS

MONDAY

MATER DOLOROSA MASS - NOON

TUESDAY

ST. WENDELIN MASS - NOT CELEBRATED THIS WEEK

WEDNESDAY

ST. WENDELIN MASS - 10:00AM

SCHOOL-ONLY - IF SCHOOL IS IN REMOTE
LEARNING STATUS, MASS IS CANCELED

MATER DOLOROSA CONFESSION - 6:15-6:45PM

MATER DOLOROSA MASS - 7:00PM

THURSDAY

ST. WENDELIN MASS - 8:00AM

FRIDAY

ST. JOSEPH MASS - NOON

SATURDAY

MATER DOLOROSA CONFESSION - 11:00-11:30AM

ST. WENDELIN CONFESSION - 11:00-11:30AM

ST. JOSEPH CONFESSION - 11:45AM-12:15PM

ST. WENDELIN VIGIL MASS - 4:00PM

MATER DOLOROSA VIGIL MASS - 5:30PM

SUNDAY MASSES

ST. WENDELIN - 7:00AM

MATER DOLOROSA - 8:15AM

ST. JOSEPH - 9:30AM

ST. WENDELIN - 10:30AM

OPEN PRAYER TIMES WRAP AROUND **WEEKDAY
MASSES**, WITH CHURCHES AVAILABLE FOR
QUIET REFLECTION:

> AN HOUR AFTER THE THURSDAY 8AM MASS

> AN HOUR BEFORE THE TWO NOON MASSES
AND THE ONE 7PM MASS

WEEKEND MASS REGISTRATION

Registration for weekend (Saturday
Vigils and Sunday) Masses needs to
continue for a while longer. Call 724-
445-3713 X0 or email to [registration@
saintclareparish.com](mailto:registration@saintclareparish.com) by 3pm on Fridays.
Registration is for one week at a time.

Saint Clare of Assisi Parish Information

PARISH NOTES



THE LIGHT IS ON FOR YOU CONFESSION OPPORTUNITY

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10
6-9PM @ MATER DOLOROSA

ADDITIONALLY, ALL REGULAR CONFESSION TIMES ARE AVAILABLE THROUGH LENT. NO CONFESSIONS WILL BE HEARD ON HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 3.

LENTEN ROSARY SERIES: SORROWFUL MYSTERIES

Saint Clare Parish's online Rosary Series continues with the Sorrowful Mysteries on Tuesdays, 6:30-8:00pm. **Session One is February 23 and features THE AGONY OF CHRIST IN THE GARDEN.** Contact Sue Fraley to sign up for Zoom links at 724-445-3713 or sue@saintclareparish.com. *Attend all five sessions or whatever you can make.* The Sorrowful Mysteries Rosary Series might be just what you need this Lent.



GIRL SCOUT COOKIE SALES

Girl Scout cookies will be for sale AFTER all Saint Clare Parish Masses **NEXT WEEKEND, February 27 and 28.** Boxes are \$5 each and include your favorites: Lemon-Up, Trefoil, Do-Si-Do, Samoa, Tagalongs, Girl Scout S'mores, Toffee-tastic and those irresistible Thin Mints!

40 DAYS SAVES LIVES! Join our Parishes' Campaign

Help save lives in Pittsburgh by participating in the **LENTEN 40 DAYS FOR LIFE CAMPAIGN.** You can:

JOIN OUR PEACEFUL PRAYER VIGIL – The Vigil is daily from 7am-7pm, outside Planned Parenthood, 933 Liberty Ave., Pittsburgh. Our Parishes signed up for the following times:

- **St. Francis – Sunday, February 28, 1-3pm** (leaving after 11am Mass)
- **St. Clare – Saturday, March 6, 11am-1pm**

Contact Sue by **Monday, March 1** (sue@saintclareparish.com, 724-504-3166) to sign up for St. Clare Vigil. Or Cil (cecilia@saintfrancisparish.net, 724-822-0614) to sign up for St. Francis Vigil. Weekly trips will be made to the Vigil **on Thursdays**, too, departing from St. Joseph, Cabot, at noon and returning about 4pm. Contact Cil; carpooling can be arranged.

See the 40daysforlifePittsburgh.com website for more information.

Join this worldwide effort to save lives, offer hope, and raise awareness.



ONE CALL NOW MESSAGE SYSTEM

Saint Clare Parish has purchased a subscription to *One Call Now*, a messaging service, which will allow the Parish to send text messages, emails, and phone calls with updates about important information. It is understandable that people do not like receiving robocalls similar to this, but there are numerous

benefits. Not everyone has a computer to access the website or receive emails, but everyone does have a phone. Telephone numbers associated with the parish census will be used. For future notifications if you would like to receive a text and not a phone call, notify Barb at 724-445-3713 x4 or barb@saintclareparish.com.

EASTER SCHEDULE

HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 1

MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER
7:00PM MATER DOLOROSA

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 2

ROSARY

12:45PM SAINT WENDELIN

GOOD FRIDAY OF THE LORD'S PASSION

1:30PM SAINT WENDELIN
2:00PM SAINT JOSEPH

DRIVE THRU ONLY FISH DINNER
3-7PM SAINT WENDELIN

HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 3

DECORATE CHURCHES

SEE UPCOMING BULLETIN
FOR INFORMATION

BLESSING OF EASTER FOODS

1:00PM SAINT WENDELIN

EASTER VIGIL MASS

8:30PM SAINT WENDELIN

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 4

MASSSES AT:

7:00AM SAINT WENDELIN
8:15AM MATER DOLOROSA
9:30AM SAINT JOSEPH
10:30AM SAINT WENDELIN

REGISTRATION FOR HOLY WEEK MASSES

REGISTRATION FOR
HOLY THURSDAY, GOOD FRIDAY
AND EASTER MASSES AVAILABLE:

**MONDAY, MARCH 22 THRU
MONDAY, MARCH 29 AT 3PM**

REGISTRATION IS THE SAME AS
FOR WEEKEND MASSES:
724-445-3713 X 0 OR
REGISTRATION@
SAINTCLAREPARISH.COM

**The Fridays of Lent are
days of abstinence,
refraining from eating meat.**

This week's St. Wendelin School
Student of the Week is:

FINNIAN MOONEY

Finn is a Kindergarten student at St. Wendelin School, but he also attended our school for two years of preschool.

Finn has one sister whose name is Maggie. Finn's favorite subject is math because he thinks it is fun and easy!

Finn is a smart student who always has a smile on his face!

When he is not at school, his favorite things to do are play Xbox and Minecraft while enjoying his favorite foods of hot dogs, pizza or chocolate milk.

When he grows up, Finn would like to be a woodworker.

Congratulations to this week's

St. Wendelin School Student of the Week,
FINNIAN MOONEY!

Catholic Identity Program

This program highlights a variety of virtues and values through short lessons, prayers, Scripture references, and more.

This Week's Virtue:

GENEROSITY

Generosity is a readiness to give to others in the way God gives to us, free from smallness of mind or character.



St. Wendelin School is holding **VIRTUAL REGISTRATION MEETINGS** for the 2021-22 school year on:

- Tuesday, February 23, 6:00pm for Grades K-8
- Thursday, February 25, 6:00pm for Preschool

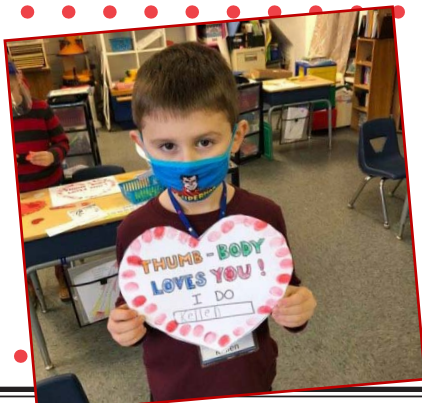
At these Virtual Meetings procedures for completing the online School registration process will be reviewed.

Registration is required for these virtual meetings.

Call the School office at 724-285-4986 to register.

Visit our website at www.stwendelinschool.com to take a virtual tour. Registration packets emailed upon request.

St. Wendelin School Valentine's Day Parties



Saint Clare of Assisi Parish Information

MASSES, CONFESSIONS, OPEN CHURCHES, MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22

Noon **Mass** at MD
For Bernard Callihan

By Tom & Toni Knoll

Open church 11am till Mass starts

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23

8am **Mass** at SW - *not celebrated this week*

Open church - *unavailable this week*

8:00am **Mass** at St. John's, Coyleville

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24

10am School-only **Mass** at SW

For Gaye Lackey

By Floyd & Dolores Neigh

6pm **Confessions** at MD

Open church 6pm

till **Mass** starts at 7pm at MD

For Anthony Fello

By Sue Fraley

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25

8am **Mass** at SW

For Robert D., Robert A.,

& Marian Kepple

By Family

Open church after Mass till 10am

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26

Noon **Mass** at SJ

For Mary Smulski

By Sue Fraley

Open church 11am till Mass starts

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27

Confessions are

11-11:30am at both MD & SW

11:45am-12:15pm at SJ

4pm **Mass** at SW

For Mr. & Mrs. Frank Weiland

By Family

5:30pm **Mass** at MD

For Elizabeth Rice

By Bob & Norma Miller

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28

7am **Mass** at SW

For Stella Lucas

By Leonard & Eleanor Baptiste

8:15am **Mass** at MD

For Ron Thoma

By Pauline Boyle

9:30am **Mass** at SJ

For Helen Covert

By Jim Clouse

10:30am **Mass** at SW

For Matthew Baptiste

By Larry & Family



Parish Offertories

February 13 & 14

ST. CLARE OF ASSISI PARISH

Offertory at Mass \$3,676.00

Offertory ONLINE..... \$926.00

TOTAL Offertory..... \$4,602.00

Weekly Goal\$10,700.00

Fiscal Year Goal\$550,000.00

Total Toward Fiscal Year Goal... \$196,320.97

Maintenance Fund \$35.00

Maintenance Fund ONLINE... \$205.00

School Support..... \$90.00

School Support ONLINE \$5.00

Parish Share (PSP) \$930.00

Parish Share ONLINE..... \$00.00

TOTAL Parish Share..... \$930.00

2020 Parish Share Goal.....\$74,984.00

2020 Total PS Received.....\$72,674.60

St. Anthony & DePaul Schools..... \$50.00

*Thank you for your generosity
to Parish Ministries!*



FEBRUARY 22-28

MONDAY:

1 PT 5:1-4; Ps 23:1-3A, 4-6; MT 16:13-19

TUESDAY:

Is 55:10-11; Ps 34:4-7, 16-19; MT 6:7-15

WEDNESDAY:

JON 3:1-10; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19;
Lk 11:29-32

THURSDAY:

EST C:12, 14-16, 23-25;
Ps 138:1-3, 7c-8; MT 7:7-12

FRIDAY:

Ez 18:21-28; Ps 130:1-8; MT 5:20-26

SATURDAY:

DT 26:16-19; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8;
MT 5:43-48

SUNDAY:

GN 22:1-2, 9A, 10-13, 15-18;
Ps 116:10,
15-19; ROM 8:31B-34; Mk 9:2-10



SWS
Valentine's
Day
Parties





PREPARING FOR LENT

TO THE LEFT, POSING WITH JESUS THE GOOD SHEPHERD ARE A FEW OF THE 40 CHILDREN IN SECOND GRADE WHO CELEBRATED FIRST RECONCILIATION LAST WEEK.

CONGRATULATIONS, KIDS!

ABOVE, CCD STUDENTS LEARN ABOUT LENT WITH *THE LENT SONG*, **L - E - N - T**, AND THE PRINCIPLES OF **PRAYER, FASTING, AND GIVING**.

St. Joseph Church & Administrative Center

Located at 864 Chicora Road, Chicora, PA 16025

724-445-3713 Fax: 724-607-1183

Office Hours: M. W. F. - 9am-Noon

Offices for ALL Clergy and Staff are located here.

Names and emails listed to the right.

Mater Dolorosa Church

Located at 409 North Main Street, Chicora, PA 16025

Office Hours at St. Joseph Administrative Center

St. Wendelin Church & School

Located at 210/211 St. Wendelin Road, Butler, PA 16002

Office Hours at St. Joseph Administrative Center

WEBSITE: <https://www.saintclareparish.com/>

Sunday Mass Registrations (temporary)

Reservations are required for the six Sunday Masses.

Call 724-445-3713 X0 or email by Friday at 3pm to registration@saintclareparish.com. You will receive at call to confirm and be assigned an attendance number. Until further notice, you must call every week.

Prayer List

For ALL Prayer List updates, call Fran Parker @ 724-445-7421

Cemetery Inquiries

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

Bulletin & Website Information

Submission deadline is Tuesdays at 10:00am.

Contact Gina at communications@saintclareparish.com
To place an ad, call 1-800-945-6629, Parish Number 947100

Facilities Scheduling

Contact Barb @ 724-445-3713, barb@saintclareparish.com
Facility usage temporarily suspended due to Covid

Saint Clare of Assisi Clergy and Staff

Father Matt McClain, Pastor

mmclain@diopitt.org

Father Ward Stakem, Senior Parochial Vicar

Father Lou Pascazi, Senior Parochial Vicar

frlou@saintclareparish.com

Father Jim Kurtz, Senior Parochial Vicar

Barb Boltz, Parish Administrative Assistant & Facilities Scheduler

barb@saintclareparish.com

Martha Birch, Parish Accountant

martha@saintclareparish.com

Nicole Karenbauer, Parish Administrative Assistant,

School Accountant, Safe Environment Coordinator

nicole@saintclareparish.com

Sue Fraley, Director of Evangelization,

Youth & Young Adult Ministry

sue@saintclareparish.com

Vince Ritzert, Director of Music

musicdirector@saintclareparish.com

Vince Houpt, Music Minister/SJP

haupt@saintclareparish.com

Adam Murray, Director of Digital Media

adam@saintclareparish.com

Gina Beaver, Director of Religious Education,

Bulletin/Website Editor

communications@saintclareparish.com

dre@saintclareparish.com

Vanessa Birch, Religious Education Program Manager

vanessa@saintclareparish.com

JoLynn Clouse, St. Wendelin School Principal

stwend@zoominternet.net

Linda Green & Kit Lanier, Parish Receptionists

linda@saintclareparish.com

kit@saintclareparish.com