



SAINT CLARE OF ASSISI PARISH

LOVE GOD, SERVE GOD: EVERYTHING IS IN THAT.



*I am the vine,
you are the branches.
Whoever remains in me
and I in him
will bear much fruit*

John 15:5

A Message from Fr. Matt

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I have said before that I was taught in Seminary that if a word is repeated in the Readings, this means we should pay special attention to it. Usually, a word is repeated twice or maybe three times. But, in our Readings this week there is a word that is repeated 13 times, if you count the Alleluia verse! Do you know what it is? Remain.



What does the word “remain” mean? When I hear it, I think of being on a plane and hearing the announcement, “Please remain in your seats until the captain has turned off the fasten seat belt sign.” So Jesus is saying, “Hey everyone, just sit there. Remain in your seats and you will be my disciple.” But that doesn’t seem right. Maybe they should have used another word? Actually, no. Remain, if we understand it correctly, is a perfect word for what Jesus is telling us today.

Remain is a word that came to English through Old French and Latin. It is not a passive word. The prefix “re” signifies action. It is about doing something. We hear Jesus say, “Remain in me as I remain in you.” He is not saying sit there and look at each other. He is not saying, “Keep your seats.” That is not at all what He is saying. The word “remain” means to endure, to hold on, to keep going even though it is hard. To fight, to love, to struggle, to get pruned and to keep going, to keep faith in Jesus. This is what Jesus means by “remain”. St. John says in the Second Reading that those who keep His Commandments “remain in Him”. That sounds pretty active. So, no, today Jesus does not ask us to stay in our seats. In fact, he is telling us the opposite.

Fr. Larry Richards says that the reason we struggle to understand these Readings is that we have become fans of Jesus rather than disciples. Fans sit in their seats and watch. Disciples remain, endure, struggle, put others first, and love. They act. Look at St. Paul in the First Reading. The disciples fear him and don’t accept him, but he keeps faith with Jesus. St. Barnabas encourages him and he endures, he keeps going. St. Paul wasn’t merely a fan of Jesus, he was a disciple. Paul didn’t just sit in his seat, he remained with Jesus.

Today Jesus is calling on us to remain in Him. In fact it is said 13 times! Remain is a word that can cause confusion, because we think it means that we should just stay in our seats, but it doesn’t. Jesus is asking us to be daring, to hold on, to keep going. He is commanding us to believe in Him and love one another. If, of course, we want to be disciples of Jesus, not merely fans.

This week, ask yourself if you are a fan of Jesus or a disciple of Jesus. Jesus doesn’t need fans. Showing up for Mass on Sunday is a good thing, but is that the extent of your relationship with Jesus? Is that all there is? For a fan, that’s enough. But are you just a fan? Pray. Talk with Jesus everyday. Put other people before yourself. Be willing to suffer for those you love. Be willing to love those you dislike. Encourage others who are struggling. Show others Jesus by the way you live. Share your gifts. Be an active part of the Church. Don’t just sit there. Endure. Keep going. Don’t just be a fan. Be a disciple.

Remain.

Peace and Love,
Fr. Matt



SPRING VOLLEYBALL

Kids in grades 9-12:
Join in Youth Group fun on
Sundays May 2 (**TODAY**) 16 & 23
Show up at the St. Wendelin
Ball Field at 1:45pm
Games start at 2pm

**COME AS YOU CAN!
BRING A FRIEND!**

MASS & CONFESSION SCHEDULE

THIS SCHEDULE IS ALTERED FOR HOLY DAYS & SPECIAL EVENTS

MONDAY

MATER DOLOROSA MASS - NOON

TUESDAY

ST. WENDELIN MASS - 8:00AM

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**

MASSSES, WITH CHURCHES AVAILABLE FOR

QUIET REFLECTION:

> AN HOUR AFTER THE TWO 8AM MASSES

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

WEEKEND MASS REGISTRATION

Registration for weekend (Saturday Vigils and Sunday) Masses will continue. Call 724-445-3713 X0 or email to registration@saintclareparish.com by 3pm on Fridays. Registration is for one week at a time. **IF YOU CALL OR EMAIL AFTER 3PM, YOU ARE NOT REGISTERED.**

Saint Clare of Assisi Parish Notes

BAPTISM CLASS TOMORROW

Parents are required to attend a Baptism Class prior to having their first child baptized, or if it has been a few years between children. Online Zoom classes are being scheduled on three Mondays in 2021, at 6:30pm. Dates are: **May 3, August 2 and November 1.** To register for a Zoom session or schedule a baptism, contact Barb at 724-445-3713 x4.

PICNIC BASKET RAFFLE

It's a few months away, but NOW is the time to start thinking about the Picnic Basket Raffle. We are looking for prepared baskets, gift certificates, money donations, and any items that we can use to prepare baskets. Parishioners have always been so generous and creative with basket donations. The new Basket Raffle contact person is Nicole Karenbauer at 724-445-3713, x7.

THE GLORIOUS MYSTERIES

Saint Clare Parish's online Rosary Series continues with the Glorious Mysteries on Tuesdays, 7-8:15pm. **Session THREE is May 3 and features THE DESCENT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.** The program continues through **May 25**, ending with a presentation on Pentecost and Mystagogy. Zoom links are posted on Tuesday mornings on the website. Questions? Sue@saintclareparish.com.

GREETING CARDS WELCOMED

May 16 is the 84th birthday of Sr. Georgia Litzenberg, S.C., whose family belonged to St. Joseph Church for many years. She is a Sister of Charity. Birthday cards and/or Thinking of You Greetings can be mailed to:

Sr. Georgia Litzenberg
441 Thor Rd.
Greensburg, PA 15601

GREEN THUMBS NEEDED!

St. Wendelin Church still has a few open flower beds. Gardeners can plant whatever they want in a designated area and tend to it for the summer months. Gardening tools provided, including a hose and wheelbarrow. Mulch is already in the lower lot: use what you need. If you would like to participate, call Linda in the Saint Clare office at 724-445-3713.

2022 LOTTERY CALENDAR

Saint Clare Parish personnel are beginning to lay out the 2022 Lottery Calendar and are looking for Sponsors. Our Lottery Calendar will be good for the entire year of 2022. There is a winner each day of the year based on the Pennsylvania Daily Evening number. There are 1,000 calendars printed. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor, contact Nicole in the Saint Clare office at 724-445-3713.



St. Clare of Assisi, our Parish namesake, is a beloved Italian saint born in 1193 to an aristocratic family. She renounced her wealthy status to follow St. Francis of Assisi's call to a lifestyle of humility and poverty. She joined other sisters in a small convent at the Church of San Damiano, given to them by Francis's Order, where she eventually became the Superior.

St. Clare ministered to many, and took up basic chores such as cooking and cleaning. Her devotion to the Eucharist was so great that she performed two miracles. On two different occasions, Saracen mercenaries were about to attack the convent and impose a siege on Assisi. St. Clare simply showed the invaders the Blessed Sacrament, and they ceased in their efforts. These miracles led to her 1255 canonization.

*Later in her life, St. Clare became too sick to attend Mass. It is believed that one day, she was lying in bed, when a large image appeared across her wall, as if it were a television screen. The image showed her the Mass, so St. Clare was able to watch Mass from her own bed and make an Act of Spiritual Communion. **When television was invented in the 1950s, Pope Pius XII named St. Clare the patron saint of televisions and screens, since she watched television before anyone had likely thought of the concept!***

We honor St. Clare because she devoted her life to the wholehearted pursuit of Christ. We can imitate her virtues by visiting the lonely, caring for the sick, or doing our menial tasks with love and without complaint.



SEALED WITH THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT! Congratulations to these 22 newly Confirmed! Braden Bergbigler, Casey Clouse, Vince Conerty, Brock Collins, Allison Fundark, Ella Karenbauer, Shylee Karenbauer, Travis Luchkiw, Aaron Lunn, Liam Madden, Brennan Michael, Keegan O'Donnell, Willie Parker, Maura Penrod, Emelia Rice, Laci Ritzert, Nathan Swain, Addison Tack, Kylie Tirk, Aaron Walker, Willow Womack

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

KYLIE BELLIS

*Kylie is in the First Grade
Class this year.*

*Kylie's favorite subject at
school is Art because she
loves making things.*

*She also enjoys Math, and
participating yearly in the
all-school Walk-a-Thon!*

*When she is not in school,
Kylie takes pleasure
in playing outside and
spending time
with her family.*

*Kylie has an infectious
smile that makes everyone
around her happy.*

*When she grows up,
she would like to
become a veterinarian!*

*Congratulations to
this week's*

*St. Wendelin School
Student of the Week,*

KYLIE BELLIS!

THURSDAY, MAY 6 NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

GOD INVITES US INTO A RELATIONSHIP WITH
HIM THAT IS PERSONAL AND COMMUNAL.

HE SPEAKS TO US THROUGH HIS SON,
JESUS CHRIST, THE WORD-MADE-FLESH.
PRAYER IS OUR RESPONSE TO GOD WHO IS
ALREADY SPEAKING OR, BETTER YET,
REVEALING HIMSELF TO US. PRAYER IS NOT
JUST AN EXCHANGE OF WORDS, BUT IT
ENGAGES THE WHOLE PERSON
WITH GOD THE FATHER, THROUGH THE SON,
AND IN THE HOLY SPIRIT.

Catholic Identity Program

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

This Week's Virtue:

GENTLENESS

Gentleness is one of the
Fruits of the Holy Spirit
that makes us both
humble and thankful for
God's grace, and willing to
resist judging, resenting or
doing harms to others.



CONGRATULATIONS!

These second graders
celebrated their
First Holy Communion
this past week at
St. Joseph Church!

Londyn Denham

Ashlynn Libecco

Hunter Ryan

Chloe Slater

Isabella Slater

Livviahna Sleighter

Lenox Trimbur

Saint Clare of Assisi Parish Information

MASSSES, CONFESSIONS, OPEN CHURCHES, MASS INTENTIONS

MONDAY, MAY 3

Noon **Mass** at MD
For Mary Louise O'Donnell
Open church 11am till Mass starts

TUESDAY, MAY 4

8am **Mass** at SW
For Robert Weiland
By Ron & Robin Hasychak
Open church after Mass till 10am

WEDNESDAY, MAY 5

10am School-only **Mass** at SW
For Paul Miller
By Ron & Brenda Hartzel

6:15pm **Confessions** at MD
Open church 6pm
till **Mass** starts at 7pm at MD
For Phil Summerville
By His Wife

THURSDAY, MAY 6

8am **Mass** at SW
For Gertrude Berteotti
By Raylan & Loretta

FRIDAY, MAY 7

Noon **Mass** at SJ
For Reposed of the Soul
Leonard Hodgkiss
By Regis Franz
Open church 11am till Mass starts

SATURDAY, MAY 8

Confessions are
11-11:30am at both MD & SW
11:45am-12:15pm at SJ
4pm **Mass** at SW
For Doris Stephenson
By Ron & Donna Weiland
5:30pm **Mass** at MD
For Harold Joseph Ritzert
By Scott & Jenn McAnallen

SUNDAY, MAY 9

7am **Mass** at SW
For Loretta Geibel
By Norma Geibel
8:15am **Mass** at MD
For Fr. William Ritzert
By Chuck & Joanie Spaulding
9:30am **Mass** at SJ
For Tom Snyder
By Keith & Melissa Snyder
10:30am **Mass** at SW
For Regis P. Neff
By Dick & Patty Sanderson



Parish Offertories

ST. CLARE OF ASSISI PARISH

April 24 & 25

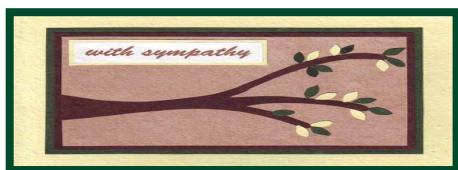
Offertory at Mass	\$5,524.00
Offertory ONLINE.....	\$1,046.00
TOTAL Offertory.....	\$6,570.00
Weekly Goal	\$10,700.00
Fiscal Year Goal	\$550,000.00
Total Toward Fiscal Year Goal...	\$252,083.97
Maintenance Fund	\$34.00
Maintenance Fund ONLINE.....	\$25.00
School Support.....	\$14.00
School Support ONLINE	\$00.00
Parish Share (PSP)	\$1,470.00
Parish Share ONLINE.....	\$30.00
TOTAL Parish Share.....	\$1,500.00
2021 Parish Share Goal.....	\$80,599.00
2021 Total PS Received	\$27,388.00
Easter	\$35.00
Holy Thursday	\$25.00
Holy Land - Good Friday	\$5.00
Catholic Relief Services.....	\$22.00
Peter's Pence.....	\$10.00
Feast of the Ascension.....	\$35.00

**Thank you for your support
of Parish Ministries!**



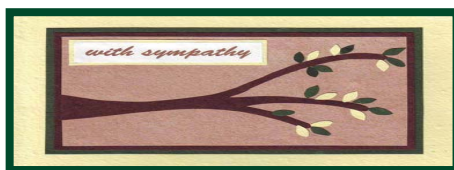
CONGRATULATIONS!

Aaron & Kaithyn Davis
on the baptism of their daughter
NORAH CATHERINE
on April 25, 2021



Sympathy is extended to the family of:

Leonard G. "Rabb" Hodgkiss
who passed away on April 20, 2021
Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon him.
May he rest in peace.



Sympathy is extended to the family of:

Joyce "Renee" Cicco
who passed away on April 19, 2021
Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon her.
May she rest in peace.



**MAY 3
THRU
MAY 9**

MONDAY:

1 COR 15:1-8; Ps 19:2-5; JN 14:6-14

TUESDAY:

ACTS 14:19-28; Ps 145:10-13AB, 21;
JN 14:27-31A

WEDNESDAY:

ACTS 15:1-6; Ps 122:1-5; JN 15:1-8

THURSDAY:

ACTS 15:7-21; Ps 96:1-3, 10; JN 15:9-11

FRIDAY:

ACTS 15:22-31; Ps 57:8-10, 12;
JN 15:12-17

SATURDAY:

ACTS 16:1-10; Ps 100:1B-3, 5;
JN 15:18-21

SUNDAY:

ACTS 10:25-36, 34-35, 44-48;
PS 98:1-4; 1 JN 4:7-10 OR 1 JN 4:11-16;
JN 15:9-17 OR JN 17:11B-19

Our Neighbors In Faith ...

DIVORCED & SEPARATED SUPPORT GROUP

The Divorced and Separated Support Group is sponsored by Sts. John & Paul Parish. The Group will meet virtually starting **TOMORROW, Monday, May 3**, 7-8:30pm, and will meet every Monday until August 9. This peer-led group provides support to anyone who is experiencing the pain of separation or divorce. Topics include anger, loneliness, annulment, forgiveness, finances and more. To register: Ralph Joy, 412-741-5456 or ralph.r.joy@gmail.com.

TO JESUS THROUGH MARY

St. Michael Rosary Makers have been making rosaries for 15 years and have sent more than 128,000 rosaries all over the world. If you would like to join this fun, worthwhile ministry, consider coming to our next meeting on **Tuesday, May 11**, 6:30pm in the St. Michael the Archangel Parish hall, 432 Center Ave., Butler. Rosaries are easy and fun to make. All materials are supplied by the Rosary Makers. For more information, contact Barb at 724-287-2805 or Rosemary at 724-282-8834. We still need to wear a mask and practice social distancing at our meetings.



VIRTUAL VISIT: SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH
Come behind-the-scenes at St. Titus Convent, in a virtual, live visit with Sisters as they share a prayer and a cup of tea at the Motherhouse on **Saturday, May 22, 1pm**. Enter Raffles and pre-order the Sisters' Sweets for the Soul cookbook.

Proceeds support the Sisters' ministries. Log on information and tickets at: Christina Thornburg at 724-869-6574 or cthornburg@stjoseph-baden.org.

CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES LAW

Any individual, paid or volunteer, who comes into contact with children in the course of his or her work is considered a mandated reporter of child abuse. A mandated reporter who has reasonable cause to believe that a child has been subjected to child abuse, or acts of child abuse, shall report immediately to the following agencies:

- PA Child Abuse Hotline (Childline): 800-932-0313
- Butler County Children & Youth Services: 724-284-5156
- Diocesan Victim Assistance Hotline: 1-800-808-1235
- Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator: 412-456-3093

Call 911 immediately if you suspect a child is in imminent danger.

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 a 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

mmcclain@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

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Vince Ritzert, Director of Music

musicdirector@saintclareparish.com

Vince Houpt, Music Minister/SJP

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Linda Green & Kit Lanier, Parish Receptionists

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kit@saintclareparish.com