

# ST. GERTRUDE PARISH

*A Parish of the Diocese of Greensburg  
A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust*



**303 Franklin Ave.  
Vandergrift, PA 15690**  
*www.sgcatholic.org*

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**JANUARY 29, 2012**  
**4TH SUNDAY IN  
ORDINARY TIME**

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## MASSES

### **Sunday Mass Schedule**

**Saturday** 4:00 p.m.

**Sunday** 8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m.

### **Weekday Mass Schedule**

**Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday**  
at 8:30 a.m.

**Wednesday** 8:30 a.m. outside of school time,  
9:00 a.m. during the school year.

## OFFICE HOURS

### **Monday–Friday**

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. or by appointment  
(724) 568-2331, Fax: (724) 568-2030

## PARISH STAFF

**Fr. James Loew, O.S.B.**  
Pastor

**Patti Donghia-Albert**  
Director of Music

**Ms. Kate Larko**  
Pastoral Minister

**Mr. James Peterman**  
Coordinator of Religious Formation  
(for St. Gertrude Parish & Christ the King Parish)  
(724) 568-2331 or (724) 845-8191

## REGIONAL SCHOOL

Cardinal Maida Academy  
(724) 568-3304 • Fax: (724) 567-1900

**Ms. Patrice Majeran**  
Principal

Athletes put hours into practice. It is not enough just to play the game. In practice a person learns the moves, discovers how muscles respond, trains all aspects of his or her body, and over time becomes so proficient at the selected sport that she or he can intuitively react during play. Practice in sports helps the athlete develop self-confidence. The same holds true for the musician, the salesperson, the new teacher. When an individual takes up something new he or she may initially be a bit shaky at it. Over time, we develop the skills so that something becomes second nature. A confident team takes to the field or the court with the belief that they will win.

In today's Gospel, Jesus is the confident, self-assured teacher. Yes, he works a miracle. But before we get caught up in that, we should look at how Mark portrays him. Right at the beginning of the Gospel, Jesus enters the synagogue in Capernaum and starts to teach. Unlike the scribes who would appeal to the words of Jewish teachers to support their teaching, Jesus comes across as confident in his own authority. He has no need to reference what others have handed on. Instead, his teaching commands respect because he shows its truth through his deeds.

Like the athlete who is confident in his game, we can become confident in our faith by practicing it. As we see in the Gospel from the very first chapter of Mark, Jesus was confident in both word and deed. We can do the same. By reading the Scriptures regularly we become attuned to Christ's teaching. We absorb the knowledge, just as any good athlete memorizes all the plays. And by acting on Christ's teaching through our worship of God and love of neighbor we are performing the deeds of faith. The skills become second nature as we put into practice what we have been taught by Christ.

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## SACRAMENTS

**Confessions:** Saturday **3:15 - 3:45 p.m.**

**Baptisms:** By appointment. Baptismal preparation is necessary. Call for classes.

**Marriage:** Arrangements must be made at least 8 months in advance. No marriage dates will be given until meeting with the priest & all preparation is ready.

**NEXT WEEK we will take up the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe.** This Collection supports Catholic organizations that provide food, shelter, medical care, catechesis, and companionship for the lonely in a region still struggling in the aftermath of atheistic Soviet rule. Your donations help to restore the strength of the Church in the region. Please give generously to the Collection next week. Visit [www.uscch.org/nationalcollections](http://www.uscch.org/nationalcollections) to learn more

**Sisters of Charity of Seton Hill Sponsor Food Drive** ~ The Sisters of Charity of Seton Hill of Greensburg will sponsor a food drive to benefit The Saint Vincent DePaul Society Food Pantry of Greensburg. Donations will be accepted at the sisters' motherhouse, Caritas Christi at 129 DePaul Center Rd. Greensburg. From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on February 3 and 4. Items that are in need include disposable diapers, canned soups, stews, tuna, and boxed meals. The food pantry also welcomes monetary donations.

**FESTA ITALIANA DI VANDERGRIFT** presents Festa Italiana Valentines Day Italian Buffet, Sunday, February 12 from 4-8 p.m. Primo Event Hall, Vandergrift. Donation: \$15. for adult, 10 years and under \$7. Pre-school: Free. Assorted homemade pastas made by our members. Italian Dinner Music. Tickets are available from any Festa Italiana member, or at Tommy's Catering, George's Plumbing and Tees-N-Tops or [www.FestaItaliana.US](http://www.FestaItaliana.US).

**40 DAYS FOR LIFE** ~ Christians throughout Pittsburgh are invited to take part in the national 40Days for Life effort that runs during Lent, from February 22 through April 1. This ecumenical 40 day campaign to end abortion, which consists of prayer, fasting and peaceful vigil...will kick-off on Sunday, February 19 at 6 p.m. in the beautiful sanctuary of First Presbyterian Church, 320 Sixth Avenue, Pittsburgh. Come! Join with other Christians for a meaningful time of praise and worship...music by the inspiring and talented band **Intent** and many motivating speakers! The event will close with a candle lit procession to the Planned Parenthood abortion clinic for prayer and hymns. *Bring your spouse, your family, your pastor and your friends!*

### SANCTUARY LAMP

*In memory of James Centorcelli by his wife & family*

### MEMORIAL CANDLES

*In memory of John Cortileso by his wife Delores*

**The Knights of Columbus are hosting an Essay Contest for Catholic students in grades 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 on the theme "The Responsibility of the Catholic Citizen in a Free Society."** All contestants will be recognized and the winners in each age group will receive a savings bond award and advance in this international competition. For entry forms and more information contact the parish office or call 724-882-1422. Deadline for entry is February 17.



### Girl Scout Spirit Day ~

The Diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting for Girls will host a "Mary, Queen of the Living Rosary" Spirit Day for all Girl Scouts in grades 2-12 on Saturday, March 24, at Mount St. Macrina in Uniontown, PA. The day begins with registration at 8:30 a.m. and concludes with the celebration of Mass at 4 p.m. (fulfills the Sunday obligation). Although this is a Catholic program, non-Catholics and non-Scouts may also participate. Registration forms are available by calling Glenda at 724-446-5197. Deadline is March 16.

**\$3,000. Super Bingo** on Sunday, March 4 at 1:30 p.m. West Leechburg Firehall. \$15 for 1st lapboard purchased. Every other board is \$10. Chinese Auction, Raffle Tickets, 50/50, Food & Refreshments. Proceeds benefit the Christ the King Building Fund. For tickets or info call Franci at 724-845-7360. Ticket will be sold in advance and at the door.

**Cardinal Maida Academy Cash Bash, Saturday, February 18.** Doors open at 6 p.m. West Leechburg Firehall. Call for tickets ~ 724-568-3304.

# dear Padre

January 29, 2012

## What is Candlemas?

My mother always went to church on Candlemas because she thought the candlelit procession was so beautiful. I haven't heard the name Candlemas in years. Do we still celebrate it?

Velma Mary

Dear Velma Mary,

Candlemas falls on February 2, forty days after Christmas. It's popular name for the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, which recalls the day Mary and Joseph presented their child to God in the temple at Jerusalem in accordance with the law of Moses. We remember how the elderly believers, Simeon and Anna, recognized Jesus as their longed for Messiah and how, addressing God in a canticle (song). Simeon proclaimed Christ to be "a light for revelation to Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel" (Luke 2:29-32).

On the Feast of the Presentation, Mass starts with a blessing and the lighting of candles, which the priest and people carry either in procession or in a solemn entrance into the church, They rejoice over the Good News of Christ-the light of the nations-entering the world. The name Candlemas springs from this ritual blessing of candles.

In 1997, Pope John Paul II added an extra layer of meaning to Candlemas by proclaiming the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord to also be the annual World Day for Consecrated Life. Now many religious brothers, sisters, and priests mark the day as a moment for renewing their vows of religious consecration and celebrating their special vocation within the Church.

Matthew Allman, CSSR  
sundaybulletins@liguori.org

St. Vincent de Paul ~ meeting on Wednesday, February 1 at 6:30 p.m. church hall.

**FEBRUARY 3, FIRST FRIDAY** ~ We will celebrate the Feast of St. Blaisé with the annual blessing of throats. Throats will be blessed after the 8:30 a.m. Mass.



January 21 & 22  
**Offertory Envelopes** ~  
 \$5,243.50  
**Children's Collection** ~  
 \$43.35  
**Loose Collection** ~  
 \$312.48

*Our Thanks to Each of you who faithfully support our parish each week and so generously contribute whenever asked. God Bless each one of you!*

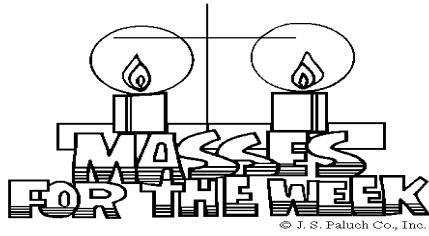
**PRAY for our PARISHIONERS & FRIENDS who are ill:** Please notify the parish office if a family member or a parishioner is in the hospital confined at home or in a rest home.

**Benedictine spirituality** will continue on Sunday, February 19 from 3 to 4:25 p.m. in Brownfield Room 202 of Saint Vincent Seminary. The topic will be "*Lectio Divina* (Holy Reading)" and Fr. Robert Roche, OSB, retired pastor and teacher and gifted retreat master, will be the presenter. **The OBLATES of SAINT BENEDICT**, Latrobe Deanery, will meet at 6:45 p.m. The topic of discussion will be Chapter Six ("Childhood and Conversion of Life") of the book *St. Benedict and St. Therese*. Those who have copies of the book should bring them, copies will be supplied to others.. Those wishing to pray Vespers with the monks at 5 p.m. and then stay for supper should contact Fr. Donald at 724-805-2291 in advance.

# BINGO

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**Sunday: Doors open at 5:30 p.m.**  
**BINGO at 7 p.m.**  
**Bring a friend or two along and enjoy an evening out!**



**Saturday, January 28, St. Thomas Aquinas, priest**

4:00 p.m. †Earnest & Eva Marie Supansic

**Sunday, January 29, 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:00 a.m. For the Parish

10:30 a.m. †Silvio Fasano

**Monday, January 30, Weekday**

8:30 a.m. †Walter Kaminski

**Tuesday, January 31, St. John Bosco, priest**

8:30 a.m. Martha & Dale Hoffman

**Wednesday, February 1, Weekday**

9:00 a.m. †Pauline Matarrese

**Thursday, February 2, Presentation of the Lord**

8:30 a.m. †Sara Fasano

**FIRST Friday, February 3, St. Blaise, bishop**

8:30 a.m. †Michelina Vernacotola

After Mass ~ Blessing of Throats

9-10 a.m. Exposition of Blessed Sacrament

**Saturday, February 4, Weekday**

4:00 p.m. †Charles L. Kunkle, Jr.

**Sunday, February 5, 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:00 a.m. For the Parish

10:30 a.m. †Leo O. Stoltz (An.)

**EVERY FRIDAY**, after the morning Mass there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 9 - 10 a.m. Sign up sheets are located on the table in the narthex.

**February 4 & 5**

4:00 p.m. ~ Austin Feydt,

: Angelo Principe, Kaitlyn Sciuillo

8:00 a.m. ~ Luke Poydence,

Gina Beneccio, Adam Ferraccio

10:30 a.m. ~ Josh Reynolds,

Marissa Molnar, Deana Callipare

