

ST. GERTRUDE PARISH

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



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

FEBRUARY 5, 2012
**5TH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME**

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

It was a year ago that I was in the hospital for the first time in my life. The minor surgery meant that I had to stay overnight. When it came time for the dressing change the next day, I thought that I was going to die from the intense pain. Of course my brief experience of pain was nothing compared to the chronic conditions or acute illnesses that so many people suffer each and every day. When you think of all the people in hospitals or nursing homes, and the countless others around the world who endure without any medical care, the enormity of suffering seems overwhelming.

It is no wonder then that in Jesus' time once the crowds had heard that he cured Simon's mother-in-law, they raced to bring to him all who were ill or possessed by demons. If someone could alleviate the pain, cure the sick, and cast out demons this was definitely an opportunity of which to take advantage.

While modern medicine may help us with our physical illness and psychological pain, there is still a spiritual dimension to sickness that we should not ignore. Sickness separates us. It makes us question our faith. Illness strikes at our heart as well as our body. That is why the church offers the sacrament of the anointing of the sick for any who are ill. When we are sick, we are also alone. We need the support of the community of faith. And we need their prayers.

When a loved one is ill-or if you are sick yourself-don't hesitate to request the sacrament of anointing. If your illness confines you for a longer time, ask to receive Communion regularly to nurture you spiritually even as you seek to be strengthened physically. People sought out Jesus in this weekend's Gospel. When we or a loved one is ill, we can seek him out today.

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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.

CEMETERY REMINDER ~ PLEASE REMOVE YOUR CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. ANYTHING LEFT IN THE CEMETERY PAST MARCH 17, WILL BE DISCARDED.

PASTORAL COUNCIL ~ meeting on Wednesday, February 8, at 7 p.m. in the church hall.

SECOND COLLECTION TODAY ~ *“Christ is the light which illumines the way”* (Blessed John Paul II). The Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe illuminates the way for the people of the region by helping Catholic organizations provide food, shelter, medical care, and compassion for the depressed and lonely, in addition to pastoral care and catechesis. Your donation today helps to reinforce the Christian ideals of charity, family values, and kindness in a place struggling in the aftermath of 70 years of atheistic Soviet rule. Please be generous to the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. Visit www.uscch.org/nationalcollections to learn more about the important projects funded by the Collection.

SAINT VINCENT COLLEGE ~ Continuing Lecture Series on Aging and Spirituality ~ Wednesday, February 15, 3 p.m. ~ Fred M. Rogers Center ~ Speaker: Jason King, Ph.D. Chairperson, Theology Department, Saint Vincent College ~ Topic: *“Intimacy and Aging”* ~ All are welcome to attend this FREE program. Reservations are not required, but appreciated. Call 724-805-2522.

Do you enjoy singing? Then consider joining the Greensburg Diocesan Choir. Comprised of singers from around the Diocese, this ensemble sings for Diocesan liturgies at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral. Rehearsals for *Rite of Election* will be held on Monday, February 20 and Tuesday, February 21 at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral at 7:30 p.m. For more information, contact Christopher Pardini, Diocesan Choir Director at (724) 834-3710.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS
ST. GERTRUDE MEN'S CLUB
NIGHT AT THE RACES
MARCH 24, 2012

SANCTUARY LAMP

In memory of Leo O. Stoltz by his wife Elizabeth & the Family

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.



Congratulations to the following Cardinal Maida Academy Students who made Honor Roll for the 2nd Nine Weeks of School.

Grade 4:

Seth Beck, Christoph Bernas, Ashley Scanga, Holley Shuster, Zachary Zambo

Grade 5:

Alaina Aulerich, Madison Cipriani, Madison Hall, Stephanie Edwards, Marah Williams, Casey Tomiczek, Isabella Maritz

Grade 6:

Stephen Aulerich, Sydney Cipriani, Teresa DeSimone, Frank Poydence, Brianna Scanga.

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

Greensburg DCCW invites all men, women and children to come as the local body of Christ to pray at our Priest Prayer Service scheduled for Tuesday, February 7 at Immaculate Conception Parish in Irwin beginning at 5:45 p.m. with the Blessed Sacrament already exposed in Adoration. Adoration concludes at 6 p.m. followed by the Prayer Service for Priests.

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING INSTRUCTION ~ CM-BBT is a medically based, scientifically researched and highly effective NFP method that can be used to avoid, postpone or plan pregnancy with no harmful side effects. The next CM-BBT Method of Family Planning INSTRUCTION Session is scheduled for MONDAY, MARCH 12, beginning at 6 p.m. at the Catholic Charities office in Greensburg. Participants are required to attend only one session. Contact Mary Ann Newhouse at Catholic Charities at 724-837-1640, ext 658 for additional information.

dear Padre



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January 28 & 29
 Offertory Envelopes ~
 \$5,603.50
 Children's Collection ~
 \$13.65
 Loose Collection ~
 \$381.05
 Utilities ~ \$184.00

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: Elizabeth DeStefano. 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.

Bishop Morrow Personal Care Home, Leechburg, has a resident opening. For more information call 724-845-2828.



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Sunday: Doors open at 5:30p.m.

BINGO at 7 p.m.

**Bring a friend or two along
 and enjoy an evening out!**

February 5, 2012

What does a parish council do?

I've been an active member of our parish council for ten years. Our diocesan guidelines say that parish councils are advisory groups for the pastor, but they don't say he has to take our advice. He isn't addressing people's needs, and my parish is losing members. My friends on other parish councils have the same problem. What can we do?

Isabelle

Dear Isabelle,

You certainly understand the nature of parish pastoral councils: "A pastoral council possesses a consultative vote only and is governed by the norms established by the diocesan bishop" (Code of Canon Law, 536.2).

The question is, what constitutes consultation? Canon 536.1 says the pastor presides over the pastoral council, in which the "Christian faithful, together with those who share in pastoral care by virtue of their office in the parish, assist in fostering pastoral activity." Consultation, then, is "assist {ing} in fostering pastoral activity" in the parish.

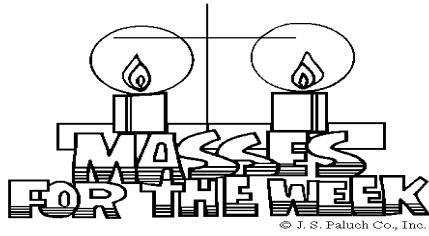
The Code is clear: The diocesan bishop established norms regarding pastoral councils, so if you don't have a copy of the norms, ask the chancery for them. Then ask your pastor what the council can do to "foster pastoral activity" in your parish.

It might be helpful if your council and your pastor attend a workshop on pastoral councils together. If your diocese doesn't offer this and other resources to help parishes, ask the chancery to recommend one that does.

I applaud your commitment to making your parish more responsive to its members.

Patrick Keyes, CSSR
 sundaybulletins@liguori.org

The Catholic Daughters of Americas, Court #1008, meeting on Tuesday, February 7, at 7 p.m. in the church hall. Please turn in tickets and money.



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.)

Monday, February 6, St. Paul Miki & Companions

8:30 a.m. †Charles Sadecky

Tuesday, February 7, Weekday

8:30 a.m. †Edith Yansky

Wednesday, February 8, Weekday

9:00 a.m. †Frank Bruno

Thursday, February 9, Weekday

8:30 a.m. †Anthony Facchine

Friday, February 10, St. Scholastica, virgin

8:30 a.m. †William DeBiasio (An.)

9-10 a.m. Exposition of Blessed Sacrament

Saturday, February 11, Weekday

4:00 p.m. †Helen Pecus

Sunday, February 12, 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. For the Parish

10:30 a.m. †John Naccarato

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 11 & 12

4:00 p.m. ~ Joseph Caporali, Kaitlyn
Lewandowski, Nicholas Difilippio

8:00 a.m. ~ Dylan Ruffner,
Ashley & Brianna Scanga

10:30 a.m. ~ Michael DePanicis,
Casey & Renee Tomiczek

