



Saint Gertrude Parish

A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust

303 Franklin Ave • Vandergrift, Pennsylvania 15690

February 24, 2019

The Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Fr. James Loew, O.S.B. *Pastor*,
(724) 568-2331 Fax: (724) 568-2030

Fr. Michael J. Sciberras
Senior Priest Active

Sr. Mercy Francis, S.M.I.,
Pastoral Minister

Katie Tyliniski (724) 212-6740
Regional Director of Faith Formation
ktyliniski@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Mr. James Peterman
Assistant to the Regional Director of Faith Formation
(724) 568-2331 or (724) 845-8191.

Cardinal Maida Academy
Mrs. Patricia Visnick, *Principal*
School Phone (724) 568-3304
School Fax (724) 567-1900

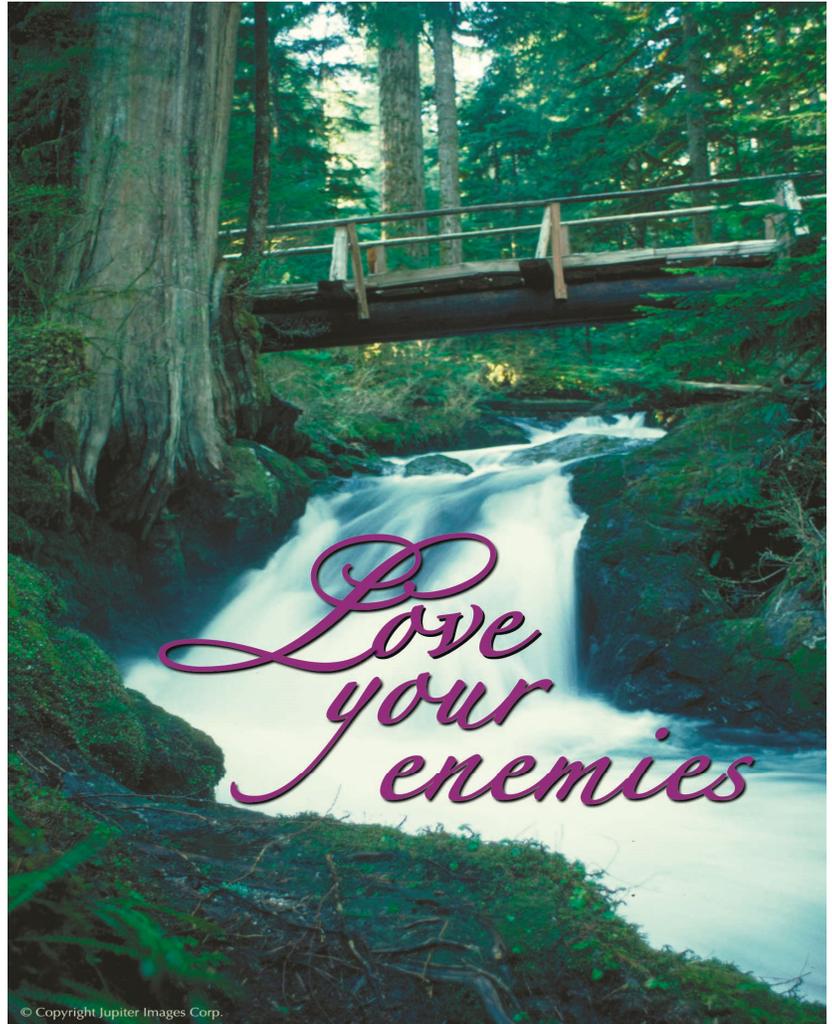
Baptisms
By appointment. Baptismal preparation is necessary. Call for classes

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

Sunday Mass Schedule
Saturday Vigil 4:00 p.m.
Sunday 8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m.

See Bulletin for daily Mass Schedule
Wednesday 9:00 a.m. During School Year
Holy Day Mass Schedule
Holy Day ~ 9:00 am, 6:00 pm

Office Hours
Monday-Thursday 9:00 am - 4:00
Friday- Closed
Confessions Saturday ~ 3:15-3:45pm or by Appointment



Pastoral Council Mission Statement

We, the partnered parish communities of St. Gertrude and Christ the King, are faith-filled Catholics who have been called by our Baptism and empowered by the Good News of Jesus Christ to be Church for all. Although made up of multi-cultural faith communities we are ever united by our common faith.

We are committed to "building up the Body of Christ" through Word, Worship, Evangelization, Leadership, Service, Stewardship, and Fellowship. Dedicated to deepening our love of Christ and one another, together we strive to become a living reflection of Christ for our region.

We willingly accept our obligation to be the "Light of the World" for others and in that spirit we promise to use our resources to practice gospel justice, to heal divisive wounds among God's People and to join with all people of good will in addressing the spiritual and physical needs of all.

ST. GERTRUDE

Treasures from Our Tradition

When the Roman Empire turned a favorable eye toward the once-persecuted Christians, among the effects was a population explosion in the baptismal font, as Christian sympathizers stepped from the shadows. With more and more people becoming Christians, laws were passed to protect Sunday as a work-free day. Soon, it became possible to celebrate Mass later in the morning, rather than the older custom of gathering before dawn to celebrate Eucharist. Amazingly, despite the increasing numbers of Christians, there was great resistance to adding to the number of worship events; the Eucharist that began as a few friends around a table soon was transformed into a more formal event with throngs crowding a large hall. All the Christians in a city or town would gather around the bishop for the one Sunday Eucharist, and only when the crowds became unmanageable was there an impulse to divide the assembly by splitting off a new bishop and flock. Now, sixteen hundred years later, many parishes see a need to trim or combine Mass schedules. This is often seen as tough surgery. Yet our forebears in the faith would see it as a gain: a filling up of the Eucharist with a large and vigorous assembly, a fullness of ministry, an opportunity to make the Church more fully visible and stronger for service.

Readings for the Week

Monday: Sir 1:1-10; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Mk 9:14-29

Tuesday: Sir 2:1-11; Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40; Mk 9:30-37

Wednesday: Sir 4:11-19; Ps 119:165, 168, 171, 172, 174, 175; Mk 9:38-40

Thursday: Sir 5:1-8; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mk 9:41-50

Friday: Sir 6:5-17; Ps 119:12, 16, 18, 27, 34, 35; Mk 10:1-12

Saturday: Sir 17:1-15; Ps 103:13-18; Mk 10:13-16

Sunday: Sir:27:4-7; Ps 92:2-3, 13-16; 1 Cor 15:54-58; Lk 6:39-45

Today's Readings

First Reading -- David found Saul in a deep sleep, but would not harm him (1 Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23).

Psalm -- The Lord is kind and merciful (Psalm 103).

Second Reading -- We shall bear the image of the heavenly Adam (1 Corinthians 15:45-49).

Gospel -- Give to everyone who asks of you. Lend expecting nothing back (Luke 6:27-38).

Living Stations

The Youth Ministry at St. Ferdinand Parish, Cranberry Twp., will be presenting **Living Stations at Christ the King Church, 125 Park Road, Leechburg, on Sunday, March 17th at 7:30 PM.** The youth ministry consists of teens in 8th through 12th grades. They travel to different churches on Sunday's throughout the Lenten season with their presentation. Please make plans to join us for their very inspiring

depiction of the passion, death and resurrection of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Mount Saint Peter Parish

Fish fry Fridays March 8 to the 12th. Eat in or Take out. 11:00 to 6:00. Take out orders call 724-335-1458. Call in orders accepted from 11:00am to 5:00pm. Orders must be picked up by 6:00pm. Credit/Debit cards accepted for payment for all orders. Allow a minimum of 45 to 60 minutes for order prep before pick up.

Do no Harm

We listen quite a while before we get to the punch line of the first reading today: even though it would be an easy thing to do, David will not harm the anointed one of the Lord. We, of course, know that Jesus is the Messiah, the anointed one of God, but the Bible uses this term for many different people. It is scripture's way of indicating who has been chosen by God for a special place and mission in salvation history. In today's Gospel, Jesus presents a greatly enlarged list of those who, as children of God, we should not harm, but love instead: our enemies, those who curse us or do us harm, those who owe us money, the ungrateful, the wicked. The point of Jesus teaching is not to encourage these kinds of behaviors in others, but rather to form us in the image of our heavenly Father by increasing our opportunities to love unconditionally, expecting no return; to be merciful and forgiving, even when it would be easier not to.

March 2nd 3rd

4:00p.m. ~ Lauren Pullet
Ashley Scanga

8:00a.m. ~ Joey & Nicholas
DiFilippio

10:30a.m. ~ Rylie Hoch
Ashley Scanga

Collection February 9th & 10th

Envelopes ~ \$3,793.05

Children's ~ \$5.00

Loose ~ \$357.00

Church Restoration ~ \$8.00

Utilities ~ \$121.00

Christ the King

Christ the King Parish, 125 Park Road, Leechburg, will be selling nut, poppy seed and apricot rolls for \$11.50 each, and Paska bread (round or braided/with or without raisins) for \$6.50 each. Deadline for roll orders is Monday, March 25th; deadline for Paska bread orders is Monday, April 1st. To order, call 724-842-0623 or 724-845-8615.

Salt and Light Awards

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Greensburg will host the 21st annual Communities of Salt and Light Awards Dinner April 25 at 6 p.m. at Stratigos Banquet Centre, North Huntingdon. Bishop Malesic will present three awards – humanitarian, philanthropy and outstanding human service organization. All net proceeds

benefit people in need in the diocese's four counties. Contact Heather Rady, director of community relations and special events, at 724-837-1840 for sponsorship and ticket information.

Celebrate with Joy

The Ministry of Cantor!" workshops around the diocese. All cantors in the diocese are invited to join Thomas Octave, the diocese's director of sacred music, for a FREE evening workshop to reinvigorate your ministry. It will start with a review of practical skills and move toward building confidence and passion for your ministry. The workshops will be held March 11 at 7 p.m. at Immaculate Conception Parish, Irwin; March 13 at 7 p.m. at Mount St. Peter Parish, New Kensington; and March 18 at 7 p.m. at St. John the Baptist Parish, Scottdale. Respond to Becky Bouille at bbouille@dioceseofgreensburg.org.

Women's retreat

"Discerning the Call" at St. Emma March 15-17. The Greensburg Religious Vocation Council will host a retreat for women ages 18-35, "Discerning the Call," March 15-17 at St. Emma Retreat House, Greensburg. The cost is \$30. Register at basmelko@scsh.org or by calling 724-454-8524.



Catholic Daughters of The Americas

Catholic Daughters of The Americas Court 1008 will meet Tuesday, March 5th at 7:00 P M in the Church Social Hall. Guest speaker will be Attorney Shirley Makuta. Please remember to bring non-perishables for St. Vincent DePaul Society.

XLT--Adoration of Our Lord

Adoration of Our Lord is Sunday, March 10th from 6:00-7:30 PM at St. James the Greater. We have music from our worship band, an inspiring talk, a time for silent adoration, Benediction and Confession. We will not be having a reception afterwards. The speaker is Jamie Dillon; Pastoral Associate for Faith Formation at Mount Saint Peter's Parish, New Kensington. The topic is "When the Body Fails Can Faith Prevail?: Addressing all types of illness (physical, mental, emotional)." Bring a friend! All are welcome!

If you have any suspicion about the sexual abuse (or any other type of abuse) of a minor child by anyone – please contact PA Childline immediately at 1-800-932-0313. If the alleged abuser is functioning in a parish, school or diocesan position as clergy, religious, paid staff or volunteer you are also requested to contact the Bishop's Delegate for Matters of Sexual Misconduct after you have called the Childline number and made the report. The Bishop's Delegate may be reached at 724-837-0901, Ext. 1221.

**Calendar of Faith Formation Sessions (Grades K-5) for February/
March (6:00-7:30 PM) at St. James**

*Faith Formation makeup session for grades Kindergarten – 5th will take place on Sunday, February 24th from 6:15-7:30 PM (note the time change).

March 10th—Pancake dinner before Faith Formation (includes 6th-12th graders) and XLT after dinner (for parents and 6th-12th graders) & March 17th

Save the date: Pancake dinner for Faith Formation families (grades K-12 and their parents) at 5:00 PM on Sunday, March 10th. Volunteers needed. Menu: pancakes, sausage links, potatoes, fruit and beverages. Free will offering to cover expenses. Please turn in your RSVP form by this Thursday, February 28th. Join us for a wonderful time of fellowship!

Be sure to check KDKA-TV for snow cancellations.

Youth Ministry Section:

FUSED 4 ~ February/March LIFETEEN/EDGE CALENDAR

(EDGE: Grades 6th-8th/LIFETEEN: grades 9th 12th ~ St. James Parish Underground/Upper Rooms ~ 6:00-7:30 PM)

February: 24th—Youth Mass

March: 3rd—EDGE Session/NO LIFETEEN ~ 10th—Pancake dinner/XLT ~ 17th—NO SESSION (see note below) ~ 24th—Youth Mass ~ 31st—
Session

Extra activities: March 1st-3rd—Winter Retreat at Laurelville Retreat (in place of LIFETEEN session), March 14th—Volunteer at St. Gertrude's Spaghetti Dinner, March 17th—Living Stations at Christ the King (in place of EDGE/LIFETEEN), March 28th—Kiski's musical, "The Sound of Music"

Be sure to check KDKA-TV for snow cancellations.

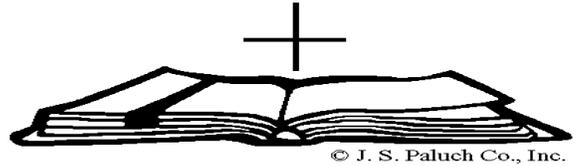
The deadline for the National Catholic Youth Conference has been extended. Please contact the Youth Ministry Office as soon as possible if you are interested in attending or would like more information. Don't miss out on this life-changing experience!

Save the date: Pancake dinner for Faith Formation families (grades K-12 and their parents) at 5:00 PM on Sunday, March 10th. Volunteers needed. Menu: pancakes, sausage links, potatoes, fruit and beverages. Free will offering to cover expenses. Please turn in your RSVP form by this Thursday, February 28th. Join us for a wonderful time of fellowship!

Attention 6th-12th graders: Thursday, March 28th—Kiski High School Musical, "The Sound of Music". Please register no later than this Thursday, February 28th. *Cost: FREE!* Location: Kiski Area High School. The show begins at 7:30 PM. Please meet at the Hyde Park King's parking lot promptly at 6:45PM. Permission slips are required when you register if you have not yet completed one. We will contact you before we leave Kiski Area High School so that you know when to pick up your child at King's. If we reserve a ticket for you and you cancel, then you will owe the church the cost of the ticket. Hope that you can join us! Chaperones with clearances are needed.

Service opportunity! Volunteers in grades 9th-12th are needed to help with the Spaghetti Dinner at St. Gertrude's on Thursday, March 14th from 3:45 PM-6:30 PM. Please sign up by Wednesday, March 6th.

Mass Intentions



Saturday, February 23, Vigil The Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00p.m. †Living and Deceased of Our Parish

Sunday, February 24, The Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00a.m. †Edward Medice, Jr.

10:30a.m. †Joseph Misho

Monday, February 25, Weekday

8:30a.m. †Virginia Tryban

Tuesday, February 26, Weekday

8:30a.m. †Mary Anuszek

Wednesday, February 27, Weekday

9:00a.m. †Vince Biancucci

Thursday, February 28, Weekday

8:30a.m. †Cashimer Tryban

Friday, March 1, Weekday

8:30a.m. †Silvis Deluca

Saturday, March 2, Weekday

8:30a.m. †Mass at Christ the King

Saturday, March 2, Vigil, Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00p.m. †Aurelio Ferraro

Sunday March 3, Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00a.m. †Living and Deceased of Our Parish

10:30a.m. †Joseph & Henrietta Martier