



Saint Gertrude Parish

A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust

303 Franklin Ave • Vandergrift, Pennsylvania 15690

June 23, 2019

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

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.

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

Holy Day Mass Schedule

Holy Day ~ 9:00 am, 6:00 pm

Office Hours

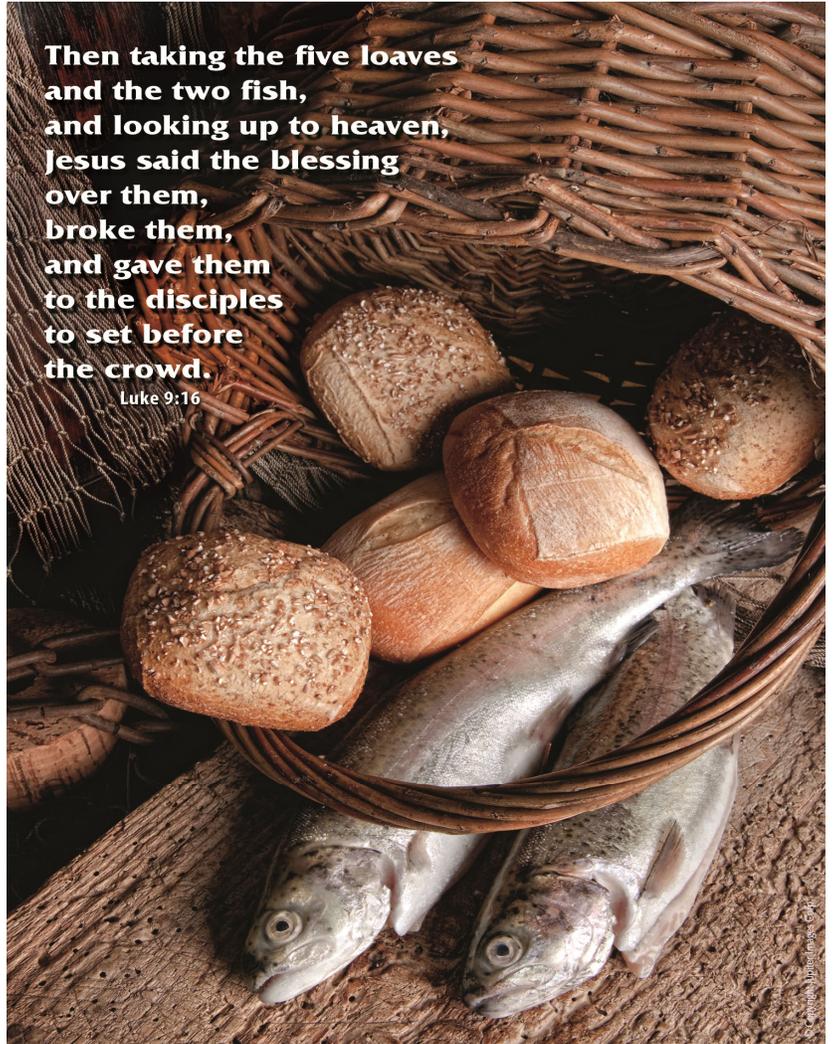
Monday-Thursday 9:00 am - 4:00

Friday- Closed

Confessions Saturday ~ 3:15-3:45pm or by Appointment

**Then taking the five loaves
and the two fish,
and looking up to heaven,
Jesus said the blessing
over them,
broke them,
and gave them
to the disciples
to set before
the crowd.**

Luke 9:16



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

We owe today's beautiful feast to a valiant woman who suffered a great deal to establish a feast out of her love for the Eucharist. Juliana was a nun in Belgium in the thirteenth century. She served in a hospital for lepers. She became convinced through her prayer that the liturgical year was incomplete because it had no feast for the Eucharist. Her efforts were not welcome, and a supervising priest sought to punish her for promoting a feast that nobody wanted. He even had her accused of financial mismanagement and banished her from her convent.

Shortly after she was exiled, the bishop approved the feast. It quickly spread through Europe. In those days, people very seldom received Holy Communion, and so the processions through the streets with the eucharistic bread not only led to an awareness of Christ's hunger to be with us, but prepared the way for a deeper desire to receive Christ's Body and Blood in more frequent Communion. The feast grew rapidly, but Juliana disappeared into poverty and a hidden life. She ended her days as an anchoress, a woman living in seclusion in a room attached to a parish church. Imagine her delight at seeing us gathered at the table of the Lord on this day, aware of Christ's presence in our midst, sharing fully in Christ's Body and

Blood. Our celebration today invests her struggle and sorrows with dignity and meaning.

Readings for the Week

Monday: Vigil: Jer 1:4-10; Ps 71:1-6, 15, 17; 1 Pt 1:8-12; Lk 1:5-17

Day: Is 49:1-6; Ps 139:1-3, 13-15;

Acts 13:22-26; Lk 1:57-66, 80

Tuesday: Gn 13:2, 5-18; Ps 15:2-4ab, 5; Mt 7:6, 12-14

Wednesday: Gn 15:1-12, 17-18; Ps 105:1-4, 6-9; Mt 7:15-20

Thursday: Gn 16:1-12, 15-16 [6b-12, 15-16]; Ps 106:1b-5; Mt 7:21-29

Friday: Ez 34:11-16; Ps 23:1-6; Rom 5:5b-11; Lk 15:3-7

Saturday: Vigil: Acts 3:1-10; Ps 19:2-5; Gal 1:11-20; Jn 21:15-19

Day: Acts 12:1-11; Ps 34:2-9; 2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18; Mt 16:13-19

Sunday: 1 Kgs 19:16b, 19-21; Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-11; Gal 5:1, 13-18; Lk 9:51-62

Today's Readings

First Reading -- Melchizedek brought out bread and wine and blessed Abram (Genesis 14:18-20).

Psalm -- You are a priest forever, in the line of Melchizedek (Psalm 110).

Second Reading -- Paul gives his description of the institution of the Eucharist (1 Corinthians 11:23-26).

Gospel -- Jesus spoke to the crowd about the kingdom of

God and then fed them with five loaves and two fish (Luke 9:11b-17).

This Sacred Meal

Today we celebrate the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. Each of the readings includes a blessing and a sharing of food. They remind us of the central place of meals in our lives. Each meal brings to mind other meals: the sharing of cookies and milk, pizza and beer, loaves and fishes, bread and wine. When we prepare a meal for our family, our friends, even strangers, we always put something of ourselves into the preparation and the meal itself. The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ reminds us of what God put into the preparation for this meal that we celebrate today. We share this sacred meal and are transformed as we remember the death of Jesus and the sacrifice that nurtures our faith, sustains our lives, and supports our work.

The Eucharist

Just as the bread, which is made from the earth, when God is invoked is no longer common bread but the Eucharist, both earthly and heavenly, so our bodies, after we have received the Eucharist, are no longer corruptible, since they hold the hope of the resurrection.

--St. Irenaeus

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ
June 23, 2019

*Sanctuary Lamp
James & Angela Ravicchio
By Angela Desantis*

*Memorial Candle
John & Rose Querio
By Angela*

*Memorial Candle
Charles & Mary Dolza
By Angela*

June 29th & 30th

4:00p.m. ~ Rylie Hoch
Domenic Dellemonache

8:00a.m. ~ Lauren Pullet
Maria Safranyos

10:30a.m. ~ Joseph Collini
Ashley Scanga

Collection June 15th & 16th

Envelopes ~ \$4,139.10
Children ~ \$4.00
Loose ~ \$388.00
Church Restoration ~ \$133.00
Utilities ~ \$131.00

Second Collection:

Peter's Pence Collection helps to fund the charitable works of the Holy Father. The proceeds from this collection provide emergency relief assistance to those throughout the world who suffer from war, oppression, and natural disasters. The Peter's Pence Collection gives us the opportunity to extend a sign of peace to the Body of Christ around the world. Our gifts to this annual collection help the Holy Father

to support people most in need of assistance. The Peter's Pence Collection is used to strengthen dioceses, religious orders, and struggling communities of faith when they need it most. Thank you for your support of this worthy effort. Together let us ask the Lord to bless the Holy Father, as well as those in need served by the collection throughout the world.

Spaghetti Dinner

Ministries asked to provide dessert and/or work at the June 27th Spaghetti Dinner: Eucharistic Ministers and Prayer Chain.

Diocesan Lenten Appeal

Congratulations we have now met our Diocesan Lenten appeal. All money now donated will go towards the parish portion of the goal which is an upgraded sound system. Thank you again for your generosity.

Knights of Columbus News

K of C Council 6715 next meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 26th at 7:00 pm at Christ the King Hall. If you are a member but have not been active recently, we invite you to come and get re-acquainted with your council. Other Upcoming Events:

July ~ Member's Picnic
August ~ Family Picnic and our booth at Festa Italia

The Baby Bottle Campaign will end on June 30th. We hope you can support this pro-life initiative. Please return your bottle (full or empty) by June 30th.

Vacation Bible School

What a great week we had at To Mars and Beyond VBS. We learned about the awesome power of our God and how He shows us to go beyond with Faith, Boldness, Thanksgiving, Kindness and Hope. Thank you to parishioners from all four of our regional parishes who volunteered in any way: decorating, teaching, kitchen help, registration, our teen star guides, those who prayed for us, parents and grandparents who faithfully brought their families to join in the fun. It's a great experience to share the love of God with others all week long and especially with the youth of our church. God loves you all.

The St. Gertrude's Men's Club

The St. Gertrude's Men's Club—Save the date-- On Sunday, August 18th we will be going to cheer on the Altoona Curve baseball team. We will be traveling via coach bus. We will join FUSED 4 Youth Ministry .and the active St. Gertrude's/Christ the King altar servers at the game. More details forthcoming.

Please check out the opportunities to be involved in Youth Ministry this summer for those who are entering 6th-12th grades in the fall and recent high school grads! Lots of fun!

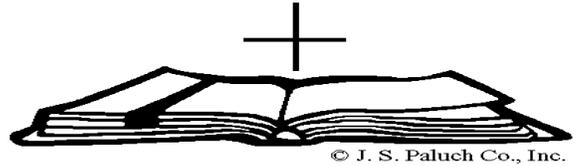
Save the date for a service opportunity! We are looking for volunteers to help with the Fresh Express (food distribution for the poor) at St. Gertrude's parking lot Monday, July 15th from 3:00-5:00 PM. Please sign up by calling the Youth Ministry Office by Monday, July 8th. Pizza will be provided after. Help those in need!

Open to those entering 6th-12th grades: Please join us for the Wave Pool at Boyce Park on Thursday, July 18th. Meet at St. James at 12:15 PM and we will return to St. James around 6:30 PM or 7:00 PM. Only \$8. Cash is preferred. A pizza dinner is included. Money and permission slips are due no later than Monday, July 8th. Bring a friend!

Open to those entering 6th-12th grades: Save the date! Our Youth Ministry has a fundraising opportunity at Festa Italiana on August 11th. We will be selling fried dough and fried dough sandwiches.

Open to those entering 6th-12th grades: Save the date: On Sunday, August 18th we will be going to cheer on the Altoona Curve baseball team. This trip is also open to St. Gertrude's and Christ the King active altar servers who will attend for free. The St. Gertrude's Men's Club will also be joining us on their own bus. More details forthcoming.

Mass Intentions



**Saturday, June 22, The Most Holy Body & Blood of
Christ**

4:00p.m. †Mario & Theresa Massetto

**Sunday, June 23, The Most Holy Body &
Blood of Christ**

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

10:30a.m. †Mr. & Mrs. Paul Linkes

Monday, June 24, Nativity of St. John the Baptist

8:30a.m. †Mike & Lena Mendicino

Tuesday, June 25, Weekday

8:30a.m. †Lena Pugliese

Wednesday, June 26, Weekday

8:30a.m. †Dom Caratelli

Thursday, June 27, Weekday

8:30a.m. †Angeline Vallosio

Friday, June 28, The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

8:30a.m. †Wendell S. & Mary Pacuch

Saturday, June 29, Sts. Peter and Paul

8:30a.m. Mass at Christ the King

**Saturday, June 29, Vigil, The Thirteenth Sunday
in Ordinary Time**

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

**Sunday, June 30, The Thirteenth Sunday In
Ordinary Time**

8:00a.m. †Joseph & Irene Boland

10:30a.m. †Frances Petrarca