



Saint Gertrude Parish

A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust

303 Franklin Ave • Vandergrift, Pennsylvania 15690

March 31, 2019

The Fourth Sunday of Lent

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 Tylinski (724) 212-6740
Regional Director of Faith Formation
ktylinski@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

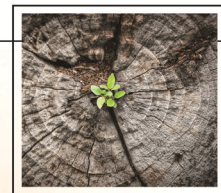
Baptisms
By appointment. Baptismal preparation is necessary. Call for classes

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



Whoever is in Christ is a new creation: the old things have passed away; behold, new things have come.
~ 2 Corinthians 5:17



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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

Today, Laetare Sunday, breaks the somberness of Lent for a little rejoicing, and the readings all summon us to an awareness of reconciliation. One of the best-loved stories of our tradition is today's Gospel story of the runaway son and the prodigal father. Prodigal, of course, is an adjective meaning spendthrift or extravagant to a degree bordering on recklessness, and although the boy maxes out the credit cards, it is really the father who is prodigal with forgiveness. Part of the excitement of this Laetare Sunday is rooted in the ancient catechumenate. Long ago, midway through Lent, the elect were focusing more and more on the gift of reconciliation accomplished for them by Christ and about to be realized in the Easter sacraments they were preparing to celebrate. In some places, the elect were even bedecked with roses on this day. A person bedecked with roses sticks out in a crowd; a person formed by the Eucharist and committed to living a life of reconciliation does, too. That's you!

Readings for the Week

Monday: Is 65:17-21; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13b; Jn 4:43-54

Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; Jn 5:1-16

Wednesday: Is 49:8-15; Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18; Jn 5:17-30

Thursday: Ex 32:7-14; Ps

106:19-23; Jn 5:31-47

Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Ps 34:17-21, 23; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30

Saturday: Jer 11:18-20; Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-12; Jn 7:40-53

Sunday: Is 43:16-21; Ps 126:1-6; Phil 3:8-14; Jn 8:1-11

Alternate readings (Year A): Ez 37:12-14; Ps 130:1-8; Rom 8:8-11;

Jn 11:1-45 [3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45]

Today's Readings

First Reading -- The Israelites ate of the yield of the land of Canaan (Joshua 5:9a, 10-12) or 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a.

Psalms -- Taste and see the goodness of the Lord (Psalm 34) or Psalm 23.

Second Reading -- Whoever is in Christ is a new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17-21) or Ephesians 5:8-14.

Gospel -- This man welcomes sinners and eats with them (Luke 15:1-3, 11-32) or John 9:1-41 [1, 6-9, 13-17, 34-38].

God Forgives

The Lord said to Joshua,

Today I have removed the reproach of Egypt from you. After forty years of wandering in the desert, this hard-headed people have finally reached the Promised Land. No more do they eat the manna in the desert, but they partake of the fruits of their new homeland. God has kept the promise to their parents in Egypt. Even though they were a sinful people, many times questioning God and even wor-

shipping false gods, God has forgiven them and fulfilled the promise. The take-away for us is that there is no sin that is unforgivable. We may have offended our neighbors, given a bad example to someone, even worshiped the false gods of money and power. But God is a merciful God, true to the words spoken to us. God forgives all and calls us back to love.

Seder Dinner

Attention students in K-5 and their families: Please join us for our Seder Dinner on Sunday, April 14th at Christ the King Hall at 5:00 PM. Seder (meaning "order" in Hebrew) is a story shaped by prayer and praise. Christians share with Jews, the story of slavery to freedom through a covenant with the Lord and delivery to a Promised Land. This ritual is celebrated as a springtime holiday—with the hope of creation that life is made new again. Please plan to join in this special Passover Celebration. Please RSVP no later than Sunday, April 7th to the Faith Formation Office and indicate the number attending. The traditional Seder is followed by a dinner. Cost: Free.

God's Capacity for Forgiveness

Where is the foolish person who would think it in his or her power to commit more than God could forgive?

--St. Francis de Sales

Fourth Sunday of Lent
March 31, 2019

*Sanctuary Lamp
In Memory of
Mark Maszgay
By
Debby*

*Memorial Candle
Gilsa & Fred Massari
By
Rita Massari*

April 6th & 7th

4:00p.m. ~ Renee & Casey
Tomiczek

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

10:30a.m. ~ Lauren Paullet &
Maria Safranyos

Collection March 23rd & 24th

Envelopes ~ \$3,950.80
Children's ~ \$5.00
Loose ~ \$432.00
Church Restoration ~ \$43.00
Utilities ~ \$27.00

Mount Saint Peter Parish

Fish fry Fridays March 8 to April 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.

Diocesan Lenten Appeal

"Open your heart to HOPE," the 2019 Diocesan Lenten Appeal, helps HOPE shine. In our Catholic schools, the DLA helps more than 2,300 students shine! Go to dioceseofgreensburg.org/HOPE to see a video of Jesse Dermotta, who attends Queen of Angels Catholic School. She was one of the founding members of the Kindness Club, which strives to walk the path of Christ, doing unto others as they would have done unto them. To make an online donation visit dioceseofgreensburg.org/HOPE.

Saint Gertrude Men's Club

The Men's Club wishes to thank all of our sponsors who helped make this year's Night at the Races a big success. Most of our sponsors have been supporting us for over 20 years and we want to thank them and keep them in our prayers. Please support their businesses. We would also like to thank everyone who bought a horse and those who could attend the event; without you the Night at the Races could not be possible.

Catholic Daughters of the Americas

Catholic Daughters of the Americas will meet Tuesday, April 2nd at 7:00 P M in the Church Social Hall. All members urged to attend.

24 Hours for the Lord

"24 Hours for the Lord" was

started in 2014 by Pope Francis as a way of encouraging local churches to make the sacrament of reconciliation, along with Eucharistic Adoration, available for a continuous period of 24 hours. "24 for the Lord" will be held at St. Thomas More University Parish, Indiana, beginning at 1 p.m. Friday, April 5, through 1 p.m. Saturday, April 6, featuring praise and worship April 5 from 8:30-10 p.m. For more information, visit www.stmup.org.

Bishop Malesic to lead Divine Mercy Sunday

Bishop Malesic will lead an outdoor service and eucharistic procession for Divine Mercy Sunday, April 28, at 3 p.m. in St. Clair Park on North Maple Avenue, Greensburg. In case of inclement weather, the service will be moved to Blessed Sacrament Cathedral on North Main Street.

Regional Penance Service Schedule

Thursday, April 4: Our Lady, Queen of Peace, East Vandergrift, 7:00pm.

Tuesday, April 9; St. Joseph Church, New Kensington, 7:00pm

Wednesday, April 10; Christ the King Leechburg, 7:00pm.

Thursday, April 11; St. Margaret Mary, Lower Burrell, 7:00pm.

April 7th & 14th—Seder Dinner at Christ the King replaces the session

Be sure to check KDKA-TV for snow cancellations.

**FUSED 4 ~ March/April LIFETEEN/EDGE CAL-
ENDAR**

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

March: ~ 31st—Session

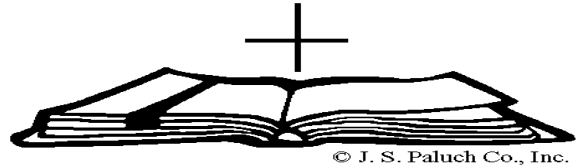
Extra activities: March 28th—Kiski’s musical,
“The Sound of Music” (if you registered)

April: 7th—No EDGE/LIFETEEN (see note below) ~ 14th—No EDGE/LIFETEEN (see note below) ~ 21st—NO EDGE/LIFETEEN ~ 28th—Youth Mass at 5:00 PM at St. James with AMP to follow in the parish hall

Extra Activities: April 7th—Tajci Lenten Service at 6:00 PM at St. James (in place of EDGE/LIFETEEN), 14th—Seder Dinner at Christ the King at 5:00 PM

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.

Mass Intentions



Saturday, March 30, Vigil The Fourth Sunday of Lent
4:00p.m. †Anthony DePanicis

Sunday, March 31, The Fourth Sunday of Lent
8:00a.m. †Living and Deceased of Our Parish
10:30a.m. †Fr. Arnel Estrella

Monday, April 1, Lenten Weekday
8:30a.m. †Robert Reilly

Tuesday, April 2, Lenten Weekday
8:30a.m. †Special Intention

Wednesday, April 3, Lenten Weekday
9:00a.m. †Frank & Kathy Bruno

Thursday, April 4, Lenten Weekday
8:30a.m. †Special Intention

Friday, April 5, Lenten Weekday
8:30a.m. †Angie Tinelli
12:10p.m. Stations of the Cross at St. Gertrude
6:30p.m. Stations of the Cross at Christ the King

Saturday, April 6, Lenten Weekday
8:30a.m. †Mass at Christ the King

Saturday, April 6, Vigil, Fifth Sunday of Lent
4:00p.m. †Dolores Palatella

Sunday April 7, Fifth Sunday of Lent
8:00a.m. †Living and Deceased of Our Parish
10:30a.m. †Mary & John Kasecky