



# Saint Gertrude Parish

*A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust*

303 Franklin Ave • Vandergrift, Pennsylvania 15690

*September 8, 2019*

*The Twenty-Third 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.

**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 ~ 8:30am, 6:00 pm

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

SEPTEMBER 8, 2019

Anyone of you who does not renounce all your possessions cannot be my disciple.

Luke 14:33



TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

#### *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

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### Treasures from Our Tradition

Eastern Catholic and Orthodox Christians share a love for the Byzantine liturgy because it is during the Eucharist that the Church is most true to its identity, expresses its integrity, and discovers its vocation. Eastern Catholic and Orthodox Christians celebrate essentially the identical liturgy, with only very slight variations. It is a fairly complex ritual weaving together three separate layers of prayers: a liturgy prayed in the sanctuary by priests, often hidden by a curtain or screen; a liturgy sung by the assembly and led by a deacon in front of a screen formed of painted icons; and a third layer of private prayer by the priest, who prays in support of the deacon and the faithful. It is an eyes-wide-open experience, gorgeous in visuals, and filled with the sound of God's people singing prayer. The energy of the worship centers on the presence of Christ, largely through an awareness of heaven touching earth when the Church gathers to celebrate. In the late twentieth century, Latin Rite Catholics were encouraged to embrace a style of worship that was full, conscious, and active, a value that has never been lost in the East. The liturgy has great impact in its beauty, in its poetry and contemplation, and by the actions of bowing, signing with the cross, and chanting that are required of the assembly. Contact with the Eastern Church reveals some key values that have been ob-

scured in our own Church and are slowly being recovered.

### Readings for the Week

**Monday:** Col 1:24 -- 2:3; Ps 62:6-7, 9; Lk 6:6-11

**Tuesday:** Col 2:6-15; Ps 145:1b-2, 8-11; Lk 6:12-19

**Wednesday:** Col 3:1-11; Ps 145:2-3, 10-13ab; Lk 6:20-26

**Thursday:** Col 3:12-17; Ps 150:1b-6; Lk 6:27-38

**Friday:** 1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14; Ps 16:1b-2a, 5, 7-8, 11; Lk 6:39-42

**Saturday:** Nm 21:4b-9; Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-38; Phil 2:6-11; Jn 3:13-17

**Sunday:** Ex 32:7-11, 13-14; Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 17, 19; 1 Tm 1:12-17; Lk 15:1-32 [1-10]

### Today's Readings

**First Reading** -- You sent your holy spirit from on high and thus were the paths of those on earth made straight (Wisdom 9:13-18b).

**Psalm** -- In every age, O Lord, you have been our refuge (Psalm 90).

**Second Reading** -- Paul asks Philemon to accept back his slave Onesimus as a brother (Philemon 9-10, 12-17).

**Gospel** -- Which of you wishing to construct a tower does not first sit down and calculate the cost to see if there is enough for its completion? (Luke 14:25-33).

### Post-Summer Challenges

With any luck, summer delights will continue a while past last weekend's Labor Day: refreshing recreation (with maybe an occasional swim) or enjoyable relaxation on the deck (with tasty outdoor grilling). Truth is, for some of us, this year's Labor Day came way too early. With many schools

back in session for a while already, mealtimes and driving schedules needed readjustment to coordinate youth sports with adult commitments. Some religious education and parish programs resumed, too. No surprise, then, that this weekend's scriptures sound a little like post-summer challenges. For instance, Wisdom reminds us that believers in God can never be content with timid deliberations and unsure plans. Paul challenges longtime friend and follower Philemon to let the good you do be voluntary. Jesus instructs great crowds traveling with him--including us--on three things necessary for all true disciples to accomplish. On this early autumn weekend, our scriptures describe disciples' lifelong labors.

### Faith Formation

Have a child over the age of seven who has not been baptized?

Was baptized Catholic as a child, but has not celebrated the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist?

We offer an opportunity to come together in a small group to learn more about our faith. Sessions focus on the teachings and experience of Church and prepare individuals to celebrate the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist during the Easter season. There are separate sessions for children or youth. You are welcome to participate in the process with your questions, your insights and your faith story in a warm accepting setting. For information please contact Jim Peterman at 724-845-8191, or [jpeterman@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:jpeterman@dioceseofgreensburg.org)

**September 14th & 15th**

4:00p.m. ~ Nick and Joey  
DiFilippio

8:00a.m. ~ Rylie Hoch  
Domenic Dellemonache

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

**Collection August 31 & September 1**

Envelopes ~ \$4,301.10  
Loose ~ \$350.00  
Children's ~ \$2.00  
Church Restoration ~ \$212.00  
Utilities ~ \$27.00

**Save the Date**

Halloween Dance at Christ the King on Saturday, October 26th. More information to follow.

**Spaghetti Dinner**

Ministries asked to provide dessert and/or work September 12 Spaghetti Dinner: Lectors and Men's club

**Six Steps to Sanity**

Six Steps to Sanity is a faith-based ministry and support group adapted from the best-selling book, *Setting Boundaries with Your Adult Children*, by Allison Bottke for people who are dealing with addiction in their families. The course is being offered at St. Margaret Mary Church beginning Tuesday, September 17, from 7:00-8:00 p.m. in the parish center,

room B-1. Please register by calling Detective John Marhefka at 724-334-1403 ext. 2079 or email [jmarhefka@lbpolice.org](mailto:jmarhefka@lbpolice.org). You may view a brief video explaining the program at: <https://vimeo.com/138096408>.  
**Chicken 'n Biscuit Dinner**

A Chicken n Biscuit Dinner sponsored by St. Gertrude Parish and the Vandergrift Fire Dept. #1 is planned for Saturday, September 21 from 4:30 to 7pm in St. Gertrude's Social Hall. Dinner will include mashed potatoes, corn, beverage and dessert. Tickets are \$10.00 per person, take out available; children 5 to 12 eat only meals \$6. For Tickets call Fran at 412-780-0164 or the church office at 724-568-2331.

**Experience the Passion Play of Oberammergau, Germany in 2020**

You are invited to join the Diocese of Greensburg as we journey in 2020 on pilgrimage to witness the world-famous Passion Play of Oberammergau, Germany. Pilgrimages are set for May 22 - June 3 and August 25 - September 5. Space is limited. Itinerary includes sites and shrines of Bavaria, Prague, Krakow, and Warsaw in addition to the Passion Play. Contact Father Willie Lechnar, Diocesan Pilgrimage Director via email at [wlechnar@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:wlechnar@dioceseofgreensburg.org) or by landline phone at 724.552.2645 for details and registration

**Christ Life**

We will be continuing the journey with a seven-week series entitled FOLLOWING CHRIST. Christ didn't invite us to become theologians or bible scholars. He didn't call us to become more religious; He asked us to follow him. Come and learn how to make this possible with enlightening discussions and fellowship each Sunday from 3-5pm, September 22nd-November 3rd at St. Gertrude's Parish Hall.

When Jesus called His first disciples, He said "Come follow me." We receive this call ourselves today. God is calling us to Himself to become followers. When you think about becoming better in any area of your life, you know that it will take effort on your part. It takes discipline. As we strive to live the Christian life, we have the best coach in the world: Jesus Christ! We are encouraged to make the effort to follow Him and lean into the grace of God, so I am inviting you to join me in Season II of ChristLife. "Following Christ" will give you the opportunity to grow and be transformed by the grace of God.

Sept. 22 - Nov. 3  
Sundays 3 PM - 5 PM  
St. Gertrude's Social Hall#

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
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This year FUSED 4 Youth Ministry and Region 2 Faith Formation will be held at the St. Gertrude's Parish Center (formerly Cardinal Maida Academy). Please contact the Faith Formation Office if you did not receive the recent mailing. Our first Faith Formation, LIFETEEN and EDGE session will be held on Sunday, September 15th. Looking forward to another great year!

If your child is a second grader who is enrolled in Catholic School or is home schooled, please contact the Faith Formation Office at 724-212-6740 to let us know that your child would like to receive their First Communion this Spring and to obtain more information.

K-5th Grade Faith Formation Schedule (6:00-7:30 PM at St. Gertrude's Parish Center) September 15th, September 29th, October 13th, October 27th, November 10th, November 24th December 8th \*This does not include event or Sacramental prep dates.

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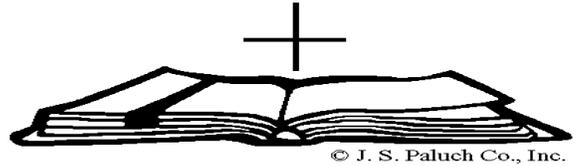
Looking for ways to help pay for activities/conferences/retreats? We are excited about an upcoming year-round fundraising opportunity! We are looking for parents to volunteer to help

Save the date: Join us for a mandatory Confirmation meeting for 8th graders and their parents on Sunday, September 8th at the St. James Parish Center. Please refer to mailing for more information. If you did not receive the mailing, please contact Katie Tylinski at 724-212-6740 ASAP.

Service Opportunities! Great way to earn community service hours! Please help with the St. Gertrude's Spaghetti dinner on Thursday, September 26th from 3:45 to 6:30 PM. Please sign up to help by Wednesday, September 18th. Also, please help with St. Gertrude's Chicken 'n Biscuit dinner on Saturday, September 21st from 4:30-7:00 PM. Please sign up to help by Sunday, September 15th. FUSED 4 ~ September/October LIFETEEN/EDGE CALENDAR

(EDGE: Grades 6th-8th/LIFETEEN: grades 9th 12th ~ St. Gertrude's Parish Center ~ 6:00-7:30 PM) September: 15th—Session ~ 22nd—NO SESSION ~ 29th—Session October: 6th—Session ~ 13th—Session ~20th—Session ~ 27th—Session Extra activities: September 21st—Volunteer at St. Gertrude's Chicken 'n Biscuit dinner ~ September 26th--Volunteer at St. Gertrude's Spaghetti Dinner

# Mass Intentions



**Saturday, September 7, Vigil The Twenty-Third  
Sunday In Ordinary Time**

4:00p.m. †Nicholas & Margaret Dilick

**Sunday, September 8, The Twenty-Third Sunday In  
Ordinary Time**

8:00a.m. †Jenny Locorotondo

10:30a.m. †Living and Deceased of our Parish

**Monday, September 9, St. Peter**

8:30a.m. †Angeline Vallosio

**Tuesday, September 10, Weekday**

8:30a.m. MASS AT CHRIST THE KING

**Wednesday, September 11, Weekday**

8:30a.m. †Adeline Marsinetti

**Thursday, September 12, Weekday**

8:30a.m. †NO MASS

10:30a.m. Anointing Mass at Christ the King

**Friday, September 13, St. John Chrysostom**

8:30a.m. †Jenny Locorotondo

**Saturday, September 14, Exaltation of the Holy Cross**

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

**Saturday, September 14, Vigil Twenty-Fourth Sunday In  
Ordinary Time**

4:00p.m. †Giovanna Jean DiFilippio

**Sunday, September 15, Twenty-Fourth Sunday in  
Ordinary Time**

8:00a.m. †Vincent & Josephine Naccarato

10:30a.m. †Living & Deceased of our Parish

**CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS**

St. Gertrude Church #254530  
303 Franklin Avenue  
Vandergrift, PA 15690

**TELEPHONE**

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**CONTACT PERSON**

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