

## Partner Parishes of the Diocese of Greensburg - Pennsylvania Charitable Trusts

### ST. GERTRUDE PARISH

303 Franklin Ave.  
Vandergrift, PA 15690  
sgcatholic.org



### CHRIST THE KING PARISH

125 Park Road  
Leechburg, PA 15656  
ctkleechburg.org

MARCH 17, 2024

## FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

**Parish 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 multicultural 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

### OFFERTORY AND CONTRIBUTIONS

During this season of repentance and reflection, let us contemplate what this time means and how it can lead us to a closer relationship with God. The word Lent comes from an old English word meaning "spring," or "a new birth." This sacred time offers a unique opportunity to deepen our relationship with God, reflect on our lives, and prepare our hearts for the resurrection joy of Easter. Each of us is invited to discern a personal plan for this special spiritual season and our continued journey with Christ. In order to be fully

immersed in the Lenten experience, the Church gives us three extraordinary ways to draw closer into this mystery: Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving. Prayer is conversation with God and is essential for fasting and almsgiving because prayer gives us the strength to fast, draws us into a closer relationship with God and makes us grateful for the blessings we have received. Prayer is the cornerstone of our Lenten journey and is vital to all of our actions in life. Fasting reminds us of our hunger for God. In addition to the traditional forms of fasting, try fasting from social media or gossip. Almsgiving is the sharing of our blessings with others and is a way to live out our gratitude for all that God has given us. Justice, mercy, and charity are integral elements of our baptism that call us to be disciples of Jesus. May this sacred time encourage spiritual growth, self-examination and renewal that have a profound impact for you during this Lenten season and your continued journey with Christ.



Christ the King

**Parish Office**

125 Park Road Leechburg, PA, 15656  
(724) 845-8191

**Monday to Friday**.....9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

**Pastor**

The Reverend Alan N. Polczynski  
apolczynski@dioceseofgreensburg.org

**Senior Priest Active**

The Reverend Michael J. Sciberras

**Deacon**

Rev. Br. Romuald Duchene, O.S.B.

**Pastoral Assistant to the Homebound**

Sr. Lilly Aseervatham, SMI (SG)  
srlillyaseer1984@gmail.com

Sr. Vinaya Kurian, SMI (CTK)  
srvinayactk@gmail.com

**Business Manager**

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Sharon Robson  
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Heather Hensley  
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**Music Director and Organist**

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pdonghia@dioceseofgreensburg.org

George Pecoraro (CTK)  
gpecoraro@dioceseofgreensburg.org

**Cemetery Contact**

St. Catherine Cemetery and St. Gertrude Cemetery  
ctkstgcm@gmail.com

**Mass Times****Monday**

8:30 AM.....St. Gertrude

**Tuesday**

8:30AM.....Christ the King

**Wednesday**

8:30 AM.....St. Gertrude

**Thursday**

8:30 AM.....Christ the King

**Friday**

8:30 AM.....St. Gertrude  
9:00 AM – 10:00AM (Holy Hour)

**Saturday**

8:30 AM.....Christ the King  
9:00 AM – 10:00AM (Holy Hour)  
4:00 PM.....St. Gertrude  
5:30 PM.....Christ the King

**Sunday**

8:00 AM.....St. Gertrude  
9:30 AM.....Christ the King  
10:30 AM.....St. Gertrude

**CONFESSION / RECONCILIATION**

Saturday, 3:15 PM-3:45 PM.....St. Gertrude  
Saturday, 9:00 AM.....Christ the King  
(or by appointment)

**SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE**

Arrangements must be made at least six months in advance of the anticipated date.

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

Must have a Baptism Preparation Class.  
Must be scheduled in advance.



**All bulletin submissions must be and turned into the parish office by Tuesday, 12:00 noon.**

**FINANCE COUNCILS****ST. GERTRUDE**

Joe Caporali  
James Kunkle  
John Kuruc  
Allan Lundburg  
Margaret Yucas

**CHRIST THE KING**

Bill Anderson  
James Favero  
Martha Frech  
Don Marco  
Anne Troya

**JOINT PARISH COUNCIL**

Amanda Biagioni  
Debbie Biagioni  
Sue Iagnemma  
Carol Rzewnicki

Dolores Lucjak  
Joseph Rice  
Margaret Stull

**MATTERS OF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT INFORMATION**

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.



**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND SHUT-INS  
OF OUR PARISHES.**



## St. Gertrude Parish

### WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, March 18

*St. Cyril of Jerusalem*

8:30 AM            + Mary and Ray Beaumont  
   *by Carol and Family*

Wednesday, March 20

8:30 AM            + Joseph and Ida Misho  
   *by The Misho Family*

Friday, March 22

8:30 AM            + Melinda Silvestri  
   *by Jim Soska*

10:10 AM           Stations of the Cross

### PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

Saturday, March 23

4:00 PM            + Myron Hartos  
   *by Carol and Family*

Sunday, March 24

8:00 AM            + Michael Schneider  
   *by Family*

10:30 AM           + Ron Groholski  
   *by Family*

Memorial Candle

In Memory of : Ronald Arduino

*by Edie Tinelli*

### MINISTRY SCHEDULE

March 23 & 24	Eucharistic Minister	Lector	Altar Server
Saturday 4:00 PM	Gerri Michela	Sue Safranyos Lector Needed	Nick Pityk
Sunday 8:00 AM	Stephanie Enciso	Tammie Amendola Christine Lamanna-Smith	Anthony/ Nico
Sunday 10:30 AM	Deacon	Crystal Dellemonache Rebecca Borland	Dom

### WEEKLY COLLECTION

March 9 & March 10

Not available at transmission time



### SPAGHETTI DINNER

The next spaghetti dinner will be held on Thursday, March 21 in the church hall from 4-7 pm. We are once again asking parishioners to please drop off donated desserts at the church hall on the day of the event. During the February spaghetti dinner we served 157 sit down dinners and 95 takeout dinners. Thank you for your continued support of the spaghetti dinners.

### CDA MEETING AND BUS TRIP

The next meeting is Tuesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 PM. CPR demo is scheduled for this meeting. All members are encouraged to attend.

A bus trip is being planned for Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, to St. Anthony Chapel in Pittsburgh, PA. Saint Anthony Chapel is a Catholic chapel in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, within the Diocese of Pittsburgh. The chapel is notable for the large number of relics it contains. The only place that has more relics is the Vatican. We need 14 people to fill the bus. It's first come first serve. It's \$26 for the bus which includes a gratuity. St. Anthony Chapel appreciates a donation, and we can stop on the way home for a late lunch/early supper for which each person will be responsible. Please contact the parish office by March 30<sup>th</sup> at 724-845-8191 if you are interested.

### MOBILE FOOD BANK

On Thursday, March 21 from 11 AM to Noon the Westmoreland Food Bank Mobile Market will be at St Gertrude parking lot between the church and school (or in case of inclement weather in the back of the school). The fresh food giveaway is free to all and no ID, registration or proof of income is required; recipients must be at least 16 years old. The Mobile Market is sponsored by St Gertrude Conference of St Vincent de Paul.



## Christ the King Parish

### WEEKLY MASS SCHEULE

Tuesday, March 19

*St. Joseph*

8:30 AM            + Elizabeth Ravotta  
                              *by Fran Huskuliak*

Thursday, March 21

8:30 AM            + Robert J. Sprumont  
                              *by Clarice Hooks and*  
                              *Weslyn McMullen*

Friday, March 22

6:00 PM            Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 23

*St. Turibius of Mogrovejo*

8:30 AM            No Mass

1:00 PM            Regional Penance Service

### PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

5:30 PM            + Marie Kowalczyk  
                              *by Richard and Nicole Arduino*

Sunday, March 24

9:30 AM            + Marie Kowalczyk  
                              *by Adult Choir*



*Please pray for the soul of the recently deceased*  
***Arnold J. Ferrando***  
*May the consolation of the Lord be with his family.*

### MINISTRY SCHEDULE

March 23 & 24	Hospitality	Lector	Eucharistic Minister
Saturday 5:30 PM	Pam Pastiva	Linda Fedorchak SMI	Chris Vigna
Sunday 9:30 AM	Andy & Kathy Balbo	Margie Stull Don Marco	SMI

### WEEKLY COLLECTION

March 9 & March 10

Not available at transmission time



### 2024 PARISH EASTER BAKE SALE



#### Paska Bread

**Pick-up: March 20<sup>th</sup>**

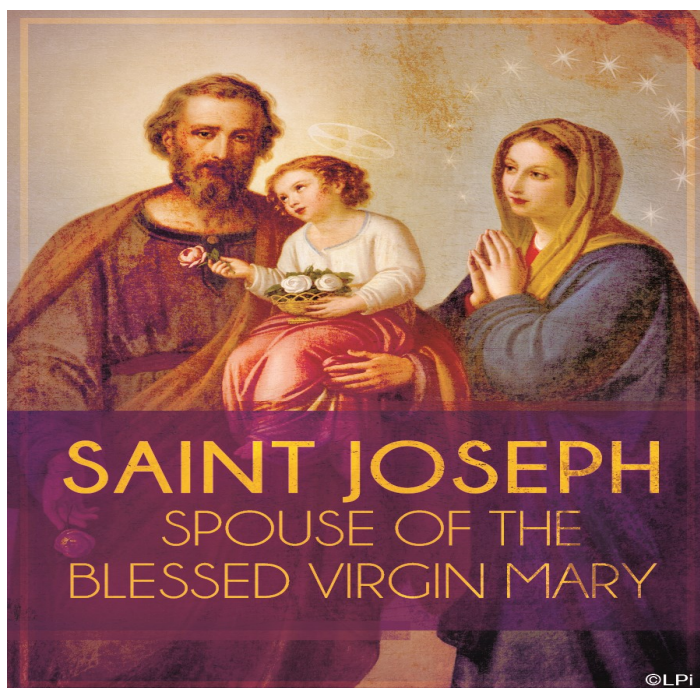
**between NOON - 4PM**

Orders not picked up by March 20<sup>th</sup> will be sold.



### THANK YOU

Thank you to the parishioners who volunteered and donated desserts for Christ the King's hosting of the Leechburg Ministerium's Lenten Luncheon on Friday, March 8<sup>th</sup>. The offering of your time and talent was much appreciated. Thank you also to those from Christ the King who attended the luncheon.





Mass Intentions are available for **April** at both parishes.  
Please call the church office at (724) 845-8191 if you would like to schedule a Mass.



### FAITH FORMATION (GRADES K - 5)

Classes will be SUNDAY evenings for Kindergarten through Fifth Grades from 6:00-7:30 PM at St. Gertrude Parish Center.

*There will be no Faith Formation on Easter Sunday.*

**RECEIVE AND Share**  
2024 Diocesan Lenten Appeal

**Build Regional Faith Formation**

Our goal is to work together as a Diocese to engage entire families in a relationship with Jesus. Rather than accepting the declining participation in the Church, we need your support as we seek new ways of forming disciples that will respond to the needs of our people.

Diocese of Greensburg

**Donate today at [DioceseofGreensburg.org/DLA2024](https://DioceseofGreensburg.org/DLA2024)**

### YOUTH MINISTRY (GRADES 6-12)

Grades 6-12 will meet on Wednesdays from 6:30-8:00 PM at Saint Margaret Mary Church.

On Saturday, March 9th, Confirmation candidates gathered for their retreat. A talk was given on the sacrament of confession and candidates had the opportunity to go to confession.



We also made rosaries, played a game, ate ice cream, and went to Mass! Please pray for all the candidates receiving Confirmation this spring!



### BISHOP KULICK TO LEAD DIOCESAN ST. JOSEPH PILGRIMAGE

Bishop Larry J. Kulick will lead a pilgrimage to the four St. Joseph parishes across the Diocese of Greensburg, and at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, as he dedicates the Diocese to the patronage of St. Joseph on March 18 and 19. Bishop Kulick's dedication is for the Eucharistic Revival Year of Mission in 2024, the Jubilee Year of 2025 and the 75th anniversary of the Diocese of Greensburg in 2026.

Patron of the universal Church, families, workers, immigrants and a happy death, St. Joseph nurtured the child Jesus in the first Eucharistic Adoration chapel in his home in Nazareth, responded with faith each time he was called by God and is a model to us of faithful discipleship as we live our mission as Eucharistic people.

Each site along the pilgrimage will focus on a different aspect of Joseph as a faithful disciple, helping us to strengthen and rededicate our own relationship with Jesus Christ. The faithful are encouraged to participate in the pilgrimage, which will include the following:

#### **Monday, March 18:**

- St. Joseph Parish, New Kensington, 6 p.m. – evening prayer with a special presentation on St. Joseph the worker and a reception afterward.

#### **Tuesday, March 19:**

- Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Greensburg, 11:45 a.m. – Mass for the Solemnity of St. Joseph with Bishop Kulick and promulgation of Bishop Kulick's Pastoral Letter on Dedicating the Diocese to St. Joseph.



## NEED FOR A LIVING KIDNEY DONOR

Sheila Mendicino, a long-time St. Gertrude parishioner who also lends her voice to CTK's Joyful Praise Choir, is in need of a kidney transplant. Anyone interested in inquiring about being a living kidney donor can contact the Allegheny General Hospital Living Kidney Donor Center at 412-359-5109 or her website with the National Kidney Registry: [nkr.org/FWC379](http://nkr.org/FWC379). Please feel free to post this on your shareable Facebook page to help with the search. Sheila and her family greatly appreciate your efforts and your prayers.



Monday, March 18 at 1:30 PM, Our Lady Queen of Peace, East Vandergrift

Wednesday, March 20 at 6:30 PM, Saint Margaret Mary, Lower Burrell

Saturday, March 23 at 1:00 PM, Christ the King, Leechburg

Monday, March 25 at 1:15 PM, Saint Joseph, New Kensington

## THE CATHOLIC ACCENT TV SHOW

*The Catholic Accent* TV Show, *Receive and Share*, airs on WPXI, Channel 11, Sunday, March 17, at 11:30 AM. The program will also air on Channel 11 on Sunday, March 25, and a half-dozen more times on MeTV.

On this edition of *The Catholic Accent*, we are reminded of Jesus' miracle of the loaves and fishes and how disciples of Christ, throughout the Diocese of Greensburg, are sharing what they have received. Watch how Ukrainian refugees are making new lives and careers because of the generosity of many through the Diocese of Greensburg Ukrainian Relocation Project.

Rather than accepting the declining participation in the Church, Bishop Larry J. Kulick is seeking support in finding new ways of engaging activities and experiences designed to form disciples who will respond to the needs of our people.

And we introduce you to the two men who are being honored at the Catholic Charities Communities of Salt and Light Award Dinner next month.

*The Catholic Accent* is always on at [TheAccentOnline.org](http://TheAccentOnline.org).

# SHADOWS OF THE CROSS

**WHEN:**  
Friday, March 22, 2024  
8:00 PM

**WHERE:**  
St. Lawrence Parish  
114 Main Street, Cadogan, 16212

**COST:**  
Free

**Special Guest Bishop Larry J. Kulick**  
Open to all Ages

SPONSORED BY CHRIST PRINCE OF PEACE/  
ST. LAWRENCE YOUTH MINISTRY

**Let us prepare our hearts for the holiest week of the year!**

**FISH FRY**

Prior from 5:00-7:00 PM

Come, visit with the Bishop

20<sup>TH</sup> Anniversary of Shadows Stations of the Cross

## HOLY LAND COLLECTION

The holiest days of our liturgical year are quickly approaching. The Sacred Triduum invites us to enter into the central mysteries of our faith, where we can draw closer to God and find His life and transforming power in our own daily living. Good Friday is the day when we commemorate Christ's death and recall that saving act by which we are purified by his loving mercy upon the Cross.

The Pontifical Good Friday Collection is taken for the support of the services and facilities of the Church in the Holy Land. This is a special place where Jesus taught, healed, forgave, and finally suffered, died, and rose for our salvation. As good stewards of this place, we are responsible for the upkeep and preservation for future generations of the faithful. Monies from this collection are also used for the education and social service support of our Christian brothers and sisters in the Holy Land. Your support to this collection is a means of expressing our solidarity with our brothers and sisters in this most sacred place and helping to meet the basic needs of the people living in the Holy Land, especially during this time of war and upheaval.

## *Pray + Fast + Give alms*

Of the three marks of Lent — prayer, fasting and almsgiving — almsgiving is surely the most neglected.

And yet, in the only place where the Bible brings all three together, the inspired author puts the emphasis firmly on the last: "Prayer with fasting is good. Almsgiving with righteousness is better than wealth with wickedness. It is better to give alms than to store up gold, for almsgiving saves from death, and purges all sin. Those who give alms will enjoy a full life (Tob 12:8-9).

Why is almsgiving better than prayer and fasting? Because it is prayer, and it involves fasting. Almsgiving is a form of prayer because it is "giving to God" — and not mere philanthropy. It is a form of fasting because it demands sacrificial giving — not just giving something, but giving up something, giving till it hurts.

Jesus presented almsgiving as a necessary part of Christian life: "when you give alms, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by men. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing" (Mt 6:2-3). He does not say IF you give alms, but WHEN. Like fasting and prayer, almsgiving is non-negotiable.