



Our Lady of the Assumption

A Parish of the Diocese of Greensburg
A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust



Phone: 724-479-9542

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PARISH OFFICE

P.O. Box G, 2434 NEAL RD.
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OFFICE HOURS

Monday thru Friday
9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Closed 1:00 pm– 2:00 pm
2:00-4:00 pm

SUNDAY MASSES

Saturday 4:00 pm - Lucernemines
Saturday 6:00 pm - Coral
Sunday 9:00 am - Coral
Sunday 11:00 am - Lucernemines

Schedule for daily Masses, Holy Days, & other services can be found in this bulletin

Parish Website: www.olaparishpa.org

The Sanctuary Candle
burns in memory of

Dick Farabaugh

by

Wife, Jenny

(Lucerne)

&

Vilcek Family

(Anonymous)

Coral

Host is in memory of

Dick Farabaugh

By Wife, Jenny

(Lucerne)



The third Sunday of Advent is December 11, 2022. Called "**Gaudete Sunday**," meaning rejoice, a pink candle on the Advent wreath represents this Sunday. At Mass, you'll also see priests and deacons in pink vestments, leading us to await the birth of Jesus joyfully.

What are you thankful for?



Amelia is thankful for her cat, her dog, her family... and everything!



All Christmas clothing and merchandise is BOGO this week at the **St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store** in Indiana. Located in the BiLo Plaza on N. 4th

Street, store hours are Monday thru Saturday from 10am to 2pm with donations accepted at the back door from 10am to 1pm (as space permits).

SAVE THE DATE!

Come join us as our many church's located in the Homer City area perform the Music Cantata, "Christmas Changes Everything" at the Homer City Church of the Nazarene located at 3513 Route 119 Hwy S, Homer City, PA on December 18th.

Here at HCN we are hosting a **Community Christmas Service** featuring the **Music Cantata Christmas Changes Everything** performed by a choir of our community members. There will be a time of fellowship and snacks after the service. Look for Sign up Sheets soon providing snacks for this event.



**Sunday,
12/18
6:00 pm**

Prayer Shawl will meet the first Thursday of every month in the downstairs of our Lucerne Church. All are welcome to join in!

Regional Penance services will begin this week. Check the insert in this weeks bulletin for more information. The mass schedule for Christmas and New Years is also included on the insert.

Public Rosary Rally – Saturday, 17

December 2022, 10:00 a.m.: Join local-area Catholics in praying a public Rosary on the sidewalk in front of the **Indiana County Courthouse**, 825 Philadelphia Street, on **December 17th at 10 a.m.** During the month of December, we will honor the Immaculate Conception of Our Lady and the gift of Our Savior during Christmas. The Rally will occur **rain or shine**, so please come prepared for the weather in modest attire and bring a friend! It will last approximately 45 minutes to an hour. Call/text Marianne 724-717-3278 with any questions



Dear Parishioners,

Conserve & Protect: A Gift to God at Christmas?

Our Capuchin Friars once studied philosophy for their seminary training in Victoria, Kansas. If ever you have traveled by Interstate 70 through the Great Plains, then you may have driven within sight of twin belltowers from a grand church built by the villagers and local farmers right in the middle of Kansas. The parish church of St. Fidelis in Victoria is a replica of a grander church in Munich, Germany, as is St. Augustine Church in Lawrenceville. The **friars went to Kansas** from industrialized western Pennsylvania **for fresher, cleaner air** than they could find in mill-dominated Pittsburgh, which, at the time they arrived, was **famously described** as **"Hell with the lid off of it."**

The **same industrialization** that fueled settlement and growth here in Indiana County and **provided good jobs and a livelihood to support our families** also exposed some of the weaknesses of a hurried economy so determined to grow and to **prosper at any cost**. If hillsides and ridges here in the east were devoid or denuded of the large, green-leafed trees that then fed the appetite for construction and growth, in places like Kansas, farmers pushed the soil until it surrendered to the winds. One priest remembered **huge dust storms** that brought grit onto every windowsill. **"Nebraska blew over us yesterday," he recalled.** My grandfather, newly arrived from Europe, said that he recalled seeing hills in Pennsylvania devoid of what makes these hills so beautiful and so reminiscent of Central and Eastern Europe. I once visited a logging display near the Allegheny National Forest and saw photographs of what my grandfather recollected at the turn of the twentieth century. Forests were later replanted. Wildlife rebounded. People had to learn how to **care for the earth that was serving us** and had to devote money, science, and energy to restore the earth. One **contemporary dairy farmer in Kansas** lamented to us that he and his peers were again pushing the limits by pumping up too much water from the ancient aquifers beneath the seas of grass that were the prairies. He said **he wondered what the future would hold for his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.**

Pope Francis speaks to us often about our generation's relationship to "Mother Earth." Taking a clue from his namesake, St. Francis of Assisi, **this Pope boldly advises** us to take greater **care for the planet on which we reside, and which God has abundantly blessed with resources.**

This Pope found a 800 year-old poem or song that **St. Francis penned in primitive Italian** in which the Saint refers to you and me as **brothers and sisters to one another and to all the aspects of creation.** Having more than a little Italian Romanticism, St. Francis calls the Sun our brother, refers to Sister Fire, and even names Water as a precious and chaste brother to serve us; later in the story of his life and in further stanzas the Poor Man of Assisi calls upon Sister Death as a reality of human life that no one will escape.

Pope Francis advances the **cause of a new conservation** along with **pleas to us to honor our Mother Earth**, by **using less** of her **selfishly**, by **sharing** the things taken from the earth (what isn't ultimately taken from it?), and by **renouncing greed** that **claims too much for us.** You and I are at a **different place** from the persons who wrestled with the earth **nearly ninety years ago**; we learn almost daily of **toxicity** from our work that has **sickened unto death many** of us. We also learn about particles of plastic that have penetrated even the deepest leagues of the seas and of fish tangled in the plastics we cast off too carelessly. Even Mt. Everest has snowfields replete with small plastic particles.

Pope Francis would hope that **you and I could make a gift to the Creator** this Christmas of renewed **acts of personal conservation and care.** Maybe we can do with a little less, so we can secure a legacy of hope for our youth and join the Holy Spirit in renewing the face and the soul of the earth.

Fr. John

Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA/RCIA)

Next Session: Tuesday, December 13th @7pm in Podowski Hall
Topic: Prayer Traditions

Faith Formation 2022

All sessions will be held in Podowski Hall at the Lucernemines worship site.

December 11th

9:30am-10:45am Grades K-5

5:30pm-7:30pm Christmas Caroling (Coral/Graceton)

December 18th

9:30am-10:45am Grades K-5

December 25th

No Sessions: Have a blessed Christmas!

January 1st

No Sessions: Have a blessed New Year!

Snapshots from December 4th



As we welcomed the second week of Advent, Faith Formation students read about the meaning behind Advent and lighting the Advent wreath which adorns our prayer table.



Community Christmas Caroling

Our Faith Formation/Youth Group is hosting Christmas Caroling in the Coral/Graceton area on Sunday, December 11th from 5:30pm-7:30pm. We will get together at the Coral Social Hall to begin caroling at 5:30pm, and end there at 7:30pm for hot chocolate and assorted goodies! We will provide lyric booklets, banners, and noisemakers. Santa hats welcome! If you are interested in participating, please contact cmarco@dioceseofgreensburg.org or our main office at 724-479-9542, Ext. 15 so that we know how many to expect!

New this year: Lindsey and Steve Holt will be our callers for Christmas Carol Bingo!

St. Anthony's Chapel and the Pittsburgh Creche both proved to be meaningful and inspirational landmarks during the recent field trip for Youth Group members and friends on December 4th! You almost felt as if you were being drawn into the Stations of the Cross and the Nativity due to the life size models on display re-creating the events. Incredibly, the Chapel housed over 5,000 relics of saints including shards from the Cross of Jesus, the Manger, and the Crown of Thorns, and a small piece of cloth from one of Mary's garments. It was a wonderful experience!



LIGHT UP NIGHT

Thanks to Caden and Sofia Costello, Addy Henry, Libby Brown, and Chase Shoup for volunteering at Light Up Night on December 2nd at the Homer City Fire Hall! Our snowflake theme included homemade ornaments, pencil sets, hot chocolate sets, and candy bars! It was a very enjoyable holiday fundraiser!



HAPPENINGS AROUND THE DIOCESE

Live Nativity Dec. 16-17 at Church of the Good Shepherd Parish, Kent
Church of the Good Shepherd Parish, Kent, will host a Live Nativity Friday, Dec. 16, and Saturday, Dec. 17, from 6-8 p.m. Drive or walk through and meditate on the birth of Christ and enjoy music by our parish choirs, hot chocolate and other refreshments. For information, call 724-479-3881.

Masses in Spanish in Jeannette

All are invited to Mass in Spanish Sundays at 6 p.m. at Ascension Parish, Jeannette, with reconciliation at 5 pm.

Todos están invitados a la Misa Espanol en Domingos en Jeannette: La Santa Misa en Espanol, Todo los Domingos a 6 p.m., reconciliación a 5 p.m., Iglesia La Ascensión.

Catholic Relief Services

The Sahel crisis is worsening with more than 2,000 civilian deaths in the first 8 months of 2022, which is more than all of 2021. As a result, 3 million people have fled from the violence. In response, CRS and partners developed the Sahel Humanitarian Response Strategy to aid the complex needs of those impacted. Visit www.crs.org to learn more about our plan and to see how you can help!



Visit on Thursday, December 29
between 1:00PM and 4:00PM to tour
Saint Vincent Basilica, a local historic treasure.
The perfect family holiday outing!
Tours and light refreshments.

No reservations necessary.
Contact Erin at the Parish Office
for more information
724-539-8629 ext. 16; erin.colcombe@stvincent.edu
Hosted by Saint Vincent Basilica Parish
300 Fraser Purchase Road, Latrobe, PA 15650

FEEL THE LOVE OF CHRISTMAS

Experience a rockin' way to witness the true love of Christmas through a classic Christmas concert performance by B.E. Taylor.

Originally performed at Heinz Hall in Pittsburgh, this concert has become a family tradition for thousands. The concert will be replayed in lifesize theatre quality sound and video. Surely an evening to remember!



St. Paul Church, Greensburg
Sunday, Dec. 18th • 7-9pm • Open to all no charge

Come and celebrate "The reason for the Season"

Doors open at 6pm

MASS INTENTIONS

For December 10 thru December 18



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10

4:00 pm (Lucernemines) +Dick Farabaugh
(Jenny & Family)
6:00 pm (Coral) +August Bertig (Family)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11

9:00 am (Coral) Pro Populo
11:00 am (Lucernemines) +Joe Gonda (Colette Cippollini & Pablo Moncada)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 12- NO MASS

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13- Coral

8:00 am +John Stipcak (Children)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14- Coral

8:00 am +Lou Guerry (Anne Marie Halo)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15- Coral

8:00 am +Gusty & Rose Vilcek (Vilcek Family)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16 - Coral

8:00 am +-+ JR Reed (Wife, Marianna)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17

4:00 pm (Lucernemines) +Julie & Ben Carnish & Norman Short
(Carolyn & Bob Short)
6:00 pm (Coral) +David Stossel (Becky Segere & Linda Gardner)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18

9:00 am (Coral) +Sophia Esachina (Ann & Paul; Esachina)
11:00 am (Lucernemines) Pro Populo

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday, October 22-3:00pm (Lucerne)
Sunday, October 23-8:30am (Coral)

| DECEMBER 3 & 4, 2022 | OFFERTORY |
|----------------------------------------|-----------|
| Adult, Loose, Children & Online Giving | \$8667.11 |
| Votive Candles | \$148.40 |
| Maintenance | \$140.00 |
| Catholic Accent | \$146.00 |
| St. Vincent de Paul | \$20.00 |
| Cemetery | \$250.00 |
| Flowers | \$330.00 |
| Children/Family | \$75.00 |
| Solemnity of Mary | \$112.00 |
| Poverty Relief | \$22.00 |
| Military | \$30.00 |
| Immaculate Conception | \$162.00 |
| Christmas | \$375.00 |
| Thanksgiving | \$130.00 |

Mass Attendance

Lucerne

Dec 3, 4pm—94
Dec 4, 11am—85

Coral

Dec 3, 6pm—44
Dec 4, 9am—128