

Mass Times

SATURDAY

4:00 PM at Lucernemines
6:00 PM at Coral

SUNDAY

9:00 AM at Coral
11:00 AM at Lucernemines

WEEKDAY

8:00 AM at Coral (Tues-Fri)

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Collect Prayer

Second Week in Ordinary Time:

Almighty ever-living God, who govern all things, both in heaven and on earth, mercifully hear the pleading of your people and bestow your peace on our times. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME JANUARY 14, 2024

*Serving Indiana County's
Rt 119 Corridor since 1912*



OUR LADY *of the* ASSUMPTION

A PARISH OF THE DIOCESE OF GREENSBURG • A PENNSYLVANIA CHARITABLE TRUST

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Prayer Chain..... 724-464-8716

Prayer for Eucharistic Revival

Lord Jesus, You are the living bread who satisfies the hunger of the human heart. In the Eucharist, the bread and wine become Your Body and Blood, the gift of Yourself to the Church. Deepen our faith in Your Eucharistic presence and strengthen us as members of the Church, the Body of Christ. As we encounter and revere Your Eucharistic presence, open us to the needs of our brothers and sisters here and everywhere throughout the world. Help us to reveal Your love, Your promise, Your presence to them by our lives and in all we say and do. Amen.



Dear Parishioners,
Packing Away the Decorations



Because I don't subscribe to hanging Christmas decorations "early," or weeks in advance of December 25, to me, this year's Christmas season seemed to be especially short. Some older parishioners recall when Christmas concluded with *Candlemas* (February 2, the *Presentation in the Temple*), and some families kept their decorations in place until then whether the cut live tree had needles left or not. This year with the remembrance of the *Baptism of the Lord* on Monday, January 8, we officially concluded the *Season of the Nativity*, the annual remembrance of the coming of God into our human state or **Emmanuel-arrived**.

Once again, the Bowser Funeral Home provided our parish with "Catholic" calendars – we still have a few for the taking. Why do Catholics need their own calendar? In the **simplest way**, we need a **calendar for our faith-family** like our families do, to note their significant dates: birthdays, anniversaries of marriages or of graduations or of the dates of the passing of our family members. However, our faith family observes faith-passages associated with our Lord and Savior. **Research shows** that our Catholic faith-family has kept the **memory alive of the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus from earliest years, making every Sunday a remembrance on the first day of the week, the eighth-day, of the Resurrection**.

This past weekend, the Feast of the *Epiphany of the Lord*, at each of our four weekend liturgies, I read the *Epiphany Proclamation*, the abbreviated **listing of the commemoration of major feasts** which we Roman Catholics observe to alert us to what God has done for us in Jesus, the Anointed One, the Christ. Read with attention, the **list parallels the Creed**. I find that reading the list "grounds me": gosh, Lent begins on *Ash Wednesday*, February 14 (fast and abstinence a bit in conflict this year with the romance of *St. Valentine's Day!*), exactly a month from Sunday, January 14. And *Easter* comes on the last day of March.

Fr. William Saunders of *Catholic Answers* writes: "Quite simply, the liturgical year is the celebration of a *series of religious feasts and seasons*. **In so doing, we make sacred the ordinary time of a twelve-month calendar**. Actually, **we inherited this notion from our Jewish ancestors** of the Old Testament. In the Book of Leviticus, Chapter 23, we find the Jewish calendar which speaks of a week of seven days, with six for work and the seventh day, the Sabbath, for rest and for "sacred assembly." This Sabbath Day belongs to the Lord. Leviticus then continues to speak of the dates of Passover, Yom Kippur, and other special feast days.

"For Roman Catholics, we too have a liturgical calendar, which has evolved during the history of the Church. The **purpose of such a calendar was to trace the mystery of salvation and the course of salvation history**. Again, the idea is to **sanctify time**. Pope Pius XII wrote, 'By commemorating the mysteries of the Savior, the sacred liturgy **strives to bring all believers to participate in them in such a way that the divine Head of the Mystical Body may live in each of His members with the fullness of His holiness**' (*Mediator Dei*, #152)."

As Christmas concludes, let me say that I found it touching how many of us prayed at the Creche scenes in both of our beautiful churches in order to seek the special plenary indulgence on behalf of those most in need of mercy, in remembrance of St. Francis' concern that, turning to God, we love God in turn who has loved us. Once our displays are packed away, the opportunity for the special indulgence may cease, but not our awareness of our commitment to Christ as our Lord and Savior. Thank you for thinking of "poor souls" in your families and beyond.

Dr. Brant Pitre recalls a religious, even theological, debate between him and his older brother concerning whether *Christmas* or *Easter* was the greater Christian solemnity. Influenced by lights and trees and carols and sleigh bells and Santa, Brant concluded that the Easter Bunny and rainbow-colored eggs were a very poor second to the anticipation and joy of Christmas. His brother, slightly older, knew that Easter trumps all other feast days for any believer in the Christ.

From 100 AD we have kept alive the memory of Jesus as the Messiah, the Son of God, and the Lord of all Peoples. Our calendars will keep us on track.

Fr. John

Created in God's Image
Transformed
A Gathering for Men
January 22 at 6:30 PM
Blessed Sacrament Cathedral

Bishop Larry J. Kulick will be the main speaker.

The evening will have a reflection, small group discussion, and opportunity for adoration & reconciliation. Diocese of Greensburg

Created in God's Image
Beloved
A Gathering for Women
January 29 at 6:30 PM
Blessed Sacrament Cathedral

Bishop Larry J. Kulick will be the main speaker.

The evening will have a reflection, small group discussion, and opportunity for adoration & reconciliation. Diocese of Greensburg

Save the Date – 2024 Diocesan pilgrimage to National Shrine
Mark your calendar and plan to join in a Diocese of Greensburg pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, D.C., Saturday, Sept. 21, led by Bishop Larry J. Kulick. This will be the first Diocesan pilgrimage to our magnificent National Shrine since 2006, and is sure to be a very holy and special experience. Further information on the itinerary, transportation options and cost will be announced soon.

Mass Intentions for JANUARY 13—January 21, 2024

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13

Lucernemines 4:00 pm Mary Ann Barletta (Sam & Betsy Arone)
 Coral 6:00 pm † Living & Deceased Members of the Kuroishi Family
 (Mike & Kathleen DeSantis)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 14

Coral 9:00 am †ProPopulo
 Lucernemines 11:00 am..... †Patricia Buzi (Peggy Watkins)

MONDAY, JANUARY 15 **No Mass**

TUESDAY, JANUARY 16

Coral 8:00 am †Mary Popp (The Gonda Family)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17

Coral 8:00 am †Mike & Patty Buzi (Debbie Fawcett)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 18

Coral 8:00 am †John Zometsky (Wife, Donna & Family)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 19

Coral 8 am †Pauline Checlosky (Kathy Checlosky)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20

Lucernemines 3-3:30pm..... Sacrament of Reconciliation
 Lucernemines 4 pm ProPopulo
 Coral 6 pm †Dennis Buggiey (Wife Teresa & Children)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21

Coral 8:30 am Sacrament of Reconciliation
 Coral 9 :00 am †Ron Pozik (The Evanick Family)
 Lucernemines 11:00 am..... †Anthony & Eleanor Borzcik (Julie Mills)

The Sanctuary Candle burns in memory of:

Lucernemines George Taylor by Class of 1957

The Host is in memory of:

Coral Frank & Mary Gatskie by The Gatskie Family
 Lucernemines Frances Rado by John & Peggy Caruso

Happenings Around the Diocese

PATHWAYS AT SAINT BARTHOLOMEW Beginning on Saturday February 17 at 6:30 PM, at Saint Bartholomew Parish (2538 State Route 119, Crabtree, PA 15624) will be hosting a diocesan wide program called "Pathways". The purpose of the program is to offer an intense opportunity for attendees to deepen their walk with the Lord and enhance their lives as his disciples. After the initial program, a series of twenty evening encounters will follow. It is a time demanding program, but it is intended to help those interested to put Christ first and even support future evangelization efforts. You can find more information by calling St. Bartholomew's Parish Office at 724-834-0709, Please prayerfully consider participation in this effort.

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 p.m.

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.

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Dec 30 & 31, 2023	Offertory
Adult, Loose, Children & Online	\$5851.00
Votive Candles	\$158.55
Maintenance	\$135.00
Flowers	\$50.00
Catholic Accent	\$94.00
Special Collections	\$130.00
Diocesan Collections	\$1853.15
Cemetery	\$180.00
Families receiving envelopes	462
Envelopes used this week	266
Online giving this week	32
Jan 6 & 7, 2024	Offertory
Adult, Loose, Children & Online	\$6789.75
Votive Candles	\$123.50
Maintenance	\$175.00
Flowers	\$10.00
Catholic Accent	\$272.00
Special Collections	\$1019.00
Diocesan Collections	\$78.00
Cemetery	\$212.00
Families receiving envelopes	462
Envelopes used this week	215
Online giving this week	33

****Correction**-attendance at the Dec 25, 9am mass was 152.

Mass Attendance

Dec 30	Jan 6
Lucerne 4pm—90	Lucerne 4pm—64
Coral 6pm—67	Coral 6pm—38
Dec 31	Jan 7
Coral 9am—117	Coral 9am—92
Lucerne 11am—92	Lucerne 11am—101
Coral 6pm—53	
Jan 1	
Lucerne 11am—96	

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

All sessions will take place in Podowski Hall.

Sunday, January 14th

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

Sunday, January 21st

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

5:30pm-7:30pm Grades 6-12

Sunday, January 28th

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

ASSUMPTION CINEMA (6pm in Podowski Hall)

Wednesday, January 17th Route 60, The Biblical Highway (NR, 100 mins., 2023 documentary) Discover the historic and sacred link to the roots of Judaism and Christianity along Route 60 as you trace the steps of Abraham, Jacob, and Jesus.

ADULT ENRICHMENT SERIES

WHAT TO SAY AND HOW TO SAY IT by Brandon Vogt (author of RETURN)

Reflect on how to discuss your Catholic Faith with confidence on the following subjects: Two identical sessions will be held on each of the above dates. The morning session will begin following the 8am Mass in the Coral Social Hall. The evening session will begin at 6pm in Podowski Hall at Lucernemines. A \$10 donation will help to defray the costs of refreshments and resources.

Explaining the Eucharist (January 25th)

Answering Atheism (February 8th)

Trusting the Gospels (February 15th)

Evil and Suffering (February 22nd)

Join us for Season 3 of The Chosen

Wednesday evenings at 6pm in Podowski Hall

No charge; light refreshments provided.

1/24, 2/7, 2/21, 2/28, 3/6, 3/13, 3/20, and 4/3

EPIPHANY HOME BLESSING KITS

Youth Group members would like to thank everyone who supported our latest fundraising project! We hope that you enjoy the kits as you bless your homes! May 2024 find us all filled with the light of Christ, that our love for each other may go out to all!

Recycling Old Palms

A red bin has been placed at each worship site to collect any old palms that you might have. These palms will be burnt and their ashes will be distributed on Ash Wednesday (February 14th) as we kick off the Lenten season. If you are interested in experiencing the palm burning process, please join us on Saturday, February 10th to participate in this event. We will have a 9am burning at Coral, and a 10:30am burning at Lucernemines.

Sacramental Prep Workshop Reminders

Second grade students are to be accompanied by one parent/caregiver on Monday, January 22nd at 6pm in Podowski Hall as they continue to prepare to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation in February. This session will focus on "The Prodigal Son" and the power of forgiveness. Light refreshments will be provided.

Our Parish will be the host site for a Confirmation Retreat sponsored by the Diocese of Greensburg on Wednesday, January 31st from 6-8:30pm in Podowski Hall. This is a mandatory session for all eighth grade students in Deanery 2 as they prepare to receive Confirmation on April 27th. Parents are also invited to accompany their children to this event. Bishop Kulick and his staff will facilitate this retreat which will include prayer, breakout sessions, and a presentation on the Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit.

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Saint James Church, New Alexandria, will host a Winter Breakfast & Bake Sale on Sunday, January 21st, 2024 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Menu includes: Ham, Sausage, Pancakes, Eggs, Potatoes, Juice, Coffee and Tea. Price is \$10.00 Adults/ \$5.00 Child (Ages 6 to 12)/Children (Under 6 - Free). There will also be a basket raffle. Breakfast sponsored by Saint James Holy Name and Rosary Altar Societies. For more information, please contact the Parish Office at 724-668-2829

DCCW Pray for Life Day Jan. 19 at Christ Our Shepherd Center, Greensburg

Everyone is invited to join in a day of prayer hosted by the Greensburg Diocesan Council of the National Council of Catholic Women (DCCW) at Christ Our Shepherd Center, Greensburg, on Friday, Jan. 19, the day of the March for Life in Washington, D.C. The day will begin with the Rosary for Priests at 11:30 a.m., followed by Mass at noon, Rosary for Life, Stations of the Cross for Life, Divine Mercy chaplet at 3 p.m., Litany for Life at 3:30 p.m. and closing prayer at 4 p.m. There is no cost, and those attending can stay all day or part of the day. The DCCW will also be accepting donations of baby items for pregnancy centers in the Diocese.

Virtus – Protecting God’s Children Training

An in-person session for the Protecting God’s Children Training will be held on Saturday January 27, 2024, at Church of the Good Shepherd. The session will begin at 9:00 a.m. and conclude by Noon. Individuals may sign up via their Virtus Account, or by creating an account if they do not presently have one, at the following link: <https://www.virtusonline.org/>. Individuals may also sign up by contacting the Parish Office at 724-479-3881. All parish volunteers are required to complete the Virtus Training every five years and this session will fulfill the requirement. New volunteers also need to complete the training. In the event of inclement weather, the session will be rescheduled to the following Saturday, February 3, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.