### 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)

#### **Donate Here**



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Facebook facebook.com/OLAParishPA 😤



Today the Church celebrates the Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord. "The Lord and ruler is coming; kingship is his, and government and power." With these words the Church proclaims that today's feast brings to a perfect fulfillment all the purposes of Advent. Epiphany, therefore, marks the liturgical zenith of the Advent-Christmas season. -Pius Parsch

### THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD **JANUARY 7, 2024**



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

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Prayer Chain

#### **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.

Join us for Season 3 of *The Chosen*, Wednesday evenings at 6pm beginning January 24th in Podowski Hall. Refreshments will be served.

#### **EPIPHANY HOME BLESSING KITS**

On Epiphany weekend (January 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>), Home Blessing Kits will be available to purchase for only \$10 after all Masses in the back of the churches. Our Youth Group has created a limited number of kits for this special occasion. The kits contain blessed chalk, holy water, incense, a blessed St. Benedict medal, and special prayer card in a gift box. Blessed chalk will also be distributed to all parishioners. Special thanks to Caden Costello for helping to assemble the Home Blessing kits.

A special thank you from Share the Joy to all those who took a tag and purchased gifts or gave a contribution. It was greatly appreciated.

The Knights of Columbus would like to thank everyone that purchased a 2024 Saint Anne Calendar. We were able to send \$2370.00 to the Saint Anne Home. Good luck to all that are participating this year!

A very special thank you to our student volunteers and to all of the donors who came out on December 28th to support our annual blood drive through the American Red Cross! We were able to collect 33 pints of blood which exceeded our goal! Thank you for giving the most precious gifts of life and time! Happy New Year!



Dear Parishioners,

Our Eastern Side

Growing up in the then thriving industrialized New Kensington, **by walking the streets**, I learned a great deal about the diversity of belief in God and various ethnic expressions of faith. Within the radius of a few city blocks I



would pass the English Lutheran Church, St. Mary's (Polish), Beth Jacob Synagogue, Mt. St. Peter (Italian), First Methodist Congregation, the Antiochian/Syrian Orthodox Church, the Greek Orthodox Church, the First Baptist Church, St. Joseph (Irish/English), St. Vladmir Ukrainian Catholic, the John Huss Congregation, All Saints' (Slovak), Parnassus Presbyterian, the SS. Peter and Paul Polish Nationalist Church. My great aunt Mary lived next door to a small Russian Orthodox Church just a few blocks from the Afro-American Baptist Congregation, and a visit to the Krupa Funeral Home favored by Polish speaking Catholics always took us right by the little stone Christ Episcopal Church. When visiting my grandparents across the Allegheny River in Tarentum, from their front porch, I could see three steeples, one "onion dome," and one large stone Presbyterian church.

So, it didn't surprise me to learn that one of my first-grade classmates at St. Mary School attended the Syrian church, nor did it surprise me to learn at St. Fidelis in Herman that the children of Byzantine priests had attended high school and college there. The first Byzantine "Divine Liturgy" I ever attended was one celebrated in the chapel there. Nor was I startled to learn that Capuchin brothers and priests regularly assisted the priests and the congregations of these Eastern Rite parishes. Later I would learn that the Byzantine priests frequented St. Augustine Monastery to find confessors and spiritual directors.

In the coal fields and industry towns of Pennsylvania, in those little "company towns," men who labored there and provided for their families, often built places to worship reflective of their ethnic roots.

In the coming week we have a unique opportunity to visit St. Mary Byzantine Church right here in Homer City, not just to take a quick look inside the doors, but to receive a guided introduction to the church and to learn some aspects of Divine Worship that will lead us understand our own "Roman Rite" the better.

The Eastern Rites of our Christian faith are ancient and apostolic (associated with the apostles who evangelized first); evangelization later brought additional peoples to faith through the work of Saints Cyril and Methodius.

So many of our people in Assumption Parish trace our roots to eastern Europe; many identify ethnically as Slovak, not a huge area in land mass, but one in which the eastern portions in the Carpathian Mountains knew the wondrously crafted Ruthenian Byzantine wooden domed churches. In some areas of Slovakia, Roman Catholics and Byzantine Catholics are next door neighbors. By being in unity with us at the same time

as they have preserved the same ancient liturgies as the Orthodox have, we have window opening to a universality of faith in its diversity of practices. Our common heritage expressed in some culturally diverging ways ought to assist each of us to understand how faith in Jesus grows.

Even if you attended a funeral or a wedding at St. Mary, please come to enjoy this learning time and fellowship time. I know you won't regret spending an event in a beautiful sanctuary.

Father John

### Mass Intentions for January 6—January 14, 2024

#### SATURDAY, JANUIARY 6

Lucernemines4:00 pm .....+Teresa & Vincent Flocco (Daughter, Teresa Buggey)Coral6:00 pm ......ProPopulo

#### SUNDAY, JANUARY 7

Coral 9:00 am ...... +Leonard Evansic (Wife, Cecile) Lucernemines 11:00 am..... +Stephen, Carolyn & Monica Bondra (Bondra Family)

#### MONDAY, JANUARY 8 No Mass

#### TUESDAY, JANUARY 9

Coral 8:00 am ...... +Katherine & Also Tedeschi (Tom & Terri)

#### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10

Coral 8:00 am .....+Stanley Lucas (The Milners)

#### THURSDAY, JANUARY 11

Coral 8:00 am ...... †Mike McHenry (Evanick Family)

#### FRIDAY, JANUARY 12

Coral 8 am ......tBeverly Zoldak (John Zoldak)

#### FIRST SATURDAY, JANUARY 13

Lucernemines	3-3:30pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation
Lucernemines	4 pm	+Mary Ann Barletta (Sam & Betsy Arone)
Coral		d Members of the Kuroishi Familiy (Mike &
	Kathleen DeSantis	

#### SUNDAY, JANUARY 14

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

#### The Sanctuary Candle burns in memory of:

Coral Aldo & Katherine Tedeschi by Terri Tedeschi Lucernemines Mary Popp by Zicha Family

#### The Host is in memory of:

Coral Leonard Evansic by Mike & Irene Grimes

**EPIPHANY HOUSE BLESSING** It has been a tradition in the Catholic Church to bless chalk at the Masses for Epiphany, and then use the blessed chalk as part of blessing one's home in the New Year. The home blessing can be done as follows: Using the blessed chalk, mark the current year and the initials of the Maji above the outside doorways of your home. Place a cross between each of the letters. It should look something like this: 20+C+M+B+XX (XX =last two digits of current year) After completing the above markings, pray the following prayer: May all who come to our home this year rejoice to find Christ living among us; and may we seek and serve, in everyone we meet, that same Jesus who is Lord of all people, forever and ever. Amen. The legendary names of the three Maji are: Casper, Melchior, and Balthasar. The initials C+M+B also stand for the Latin words, "Christus Mansionem Benedicat" which means: "May Christ bless this dwelling." The markings over the doors should be left all year round as a sign that yours is a Christian home.

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Dec 23,24, 25, 2023	Offertory
Adult, Loose, Children & Online Giving	\$7561.00
Votive Candle	\$208.00
Maintenance	\$245.00
Flowers	\$100.00
Catholic Accent	\$9.00
Special Collections	\$6870.50
Diocesan Collections	\$967.00
Cemetery	\$50.00
Families receiving envelopes—462	
Envelopes used this week-388	
Online giving this week—33	

#### Mass Attendance Dec 23 & 24

Lucerne	4:00 pm—120
	11:00 am—48
Coral	6:00 pm—60
	9:00 am—138

#### Mass Attendance Dec 24 & 25

Lucerne	4:00 pm—265
	7:00pm—48
Coral	10:00pm—237
	9:00 am—15

If you have a loved one who is in residence in a personal care home or homebound and would like them to receive our bulletin, please contact the parish office or drop the information in the offertory basket.

The March for Life in Washington DC is taking place on Friday, January 19. I am aware of two parish-based groups who are sending buses this year. If you would like to attend, please reach out to them to reserve a seat. A bus is going from St. Bernard, Indiana with departure at 6:30 AM from Indiana Alliance Church. Please contact Bill Ager at 724-465-4522 for details.

A bus is going from Mother of Sorrows, Murrysville with departure at 5:30 AM. Please contact Barb Koury at <u>barbkoury@gmail.com</u> or 412-480-6490 for details.

If anyone is going to the March on their own, you are welcome to attend Mass that morning with Bishop Kulick at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapel in the National Basilica at 10:30 AM and to march with Bishop beginning at the corner of Constitution and 12<sup>th</sup> Street around 1:00 PM

### FAITH FORMATION NEWS

#### FAITH FORMATION FOR JANUARY 2024

All sessions will take place in Podowski Hall. Sunday, January 7<sup>th</sup> 9:30am-10:45am Grades K-5 5:30pm-7:30pm Grades 6-12

Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup> 9:30am-10:45am Grades K-5 Day of Service in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr.

Sunday, January 21st 9:30am-10:45am Grades K-5 5:30pm-7:30pm Grades 6-12

Sunday, January 28<sup>th</sup> 9:30am-10:45am Grades K-5

**BYZANTINE CHURCH TOUR WITH REV. MASH** Explore the common ancient expression of our Faith! Everyone is welcome to attend a church tour of Saint Mary's Holy Protection Byzantine Catholic Church with Rev. Mash on Tuesday, January 9<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. The church is located at 279 Yellowcreek Street, Homer City. Members of Saint Mary's will host a reception following the tour. We will follow up with an evening of reflection on Thursday, January 11<sup>th</sup> at Podowski Hall at 6pm.

#### ASSUMPTION CINEMA- 6pm at Podowski Hall

<u>Wednesday, January 10th</u> <u>The Miracle Club</u> (PG-13, 91 mins., 2023 release) A group of women from Dublin embark on a pilgrimage to Lourdes in France. Starring Laura Linney, Kathy Bates, and Maggie Smith

<u>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.</u>

#### 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: Explaining the Eucharist (January 25<sup>th</sup>)

Answering Atheism (February 8<sup>th</sup>) Trusting the Gospels (February 15<sup>th</sup>)

Trusting the Gospels (February 15

Evil and Suffering (February 22<sup>nd</sup>)

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 .

#### Students in the News

Congratulations to <u>Jaxson Arone</u>, a senior at Homer Center, who was recently named to the 2023 All-Gazette Football Team!

#### **Blessed Baptisms**

<u>Cooper Scott Plowcha</u>, son of Brian Plowcha and Madison Smith, was Baptized in Lucernemines on Friday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Twin brothers, <u>Ari and Finn Zoldak Mitrov</u>, sons of Jessica Zoldak and Marko Mitrov, were Baptized in Coral on Tuesday, December 26<sup>th</sup>.

A joyful welcome to all three boys into our community of Faith. May their lives be blessed by God's abundant grace, now and always.



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## Parishes planning Jan. 9 Rivers Casino bus trip

Our Lady, Queen of Peace Parish, East Vandergrift, and St. James Parish, Apollo, are planning a Rivers Casino bus trip (21 and older) Tuesday, Jan. 9. The motor coach will leave St. James Parish at 9 a.m. Participants will be at the casino for five hours. Cost is \$35, which includes gratuity for the bus driver and \$10 in free play (stateissued photo ID required). To sign up, call 724-478-4958.

#### 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.

#### Magnificat Breakfast Jan. 27 at Rizzo's Malabar Inn, Crabtree

The Greensburg chapter of Magnificat – A Ministry to Catholic Women will hold a breakfast Saturday, Jan. 27, at 9 a.m. at Rizzo's Malabar Inn Banquet Hall, Crabtree. Guest speaker will be Jennifer Wilson, who will relate how she found her way through college hookup culture, infertility, a complicated delivery and postpartum depression with the help of the Holy Spirit. Cost is \$25 (\$20 for students). To register, visit <u>magnificatgreensburg.com</u> or call Brenda Concannon at 724-836-2094. Registration deadline is Jan. 22.

#### 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.