

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)

Stay Connected



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[facebook.com/OLAParishPA](https://www.facebook.com/OLAParishPA)



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COLLECT PRAYER

Third Sunday of Lent: O God, author of every mercy and of all goodness, who in fasting, prayer and almsgiving have shown us a remedy for sin, look graciously on this confession of our lowliness, that we, who are bowed down by our conscience, may always be lifted up by your mercy. 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.

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT MARCH 3, 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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P.O. Box G
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Hospital Chaplain Fr. Keon Tu, OFM, Cap.....582-400-5924

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.



The first Regional Lenten Penance Service will be held at St Thomas More on **March 5th at 7:30pm.**

Our second **Meager Meal** will take place on Monday, March 4th in Coral beginning at 11:30am to 1:00pm. Enjoy a bowl of delicious homemade soup, bread, a beverage and best of all, fellowship. Free-will donations will be accepted and given to charity.

2024 Lenten Luncheon Series

The third in the series will take place at Homer City Church of the Nazarene, 3513 US 119 Hwy S, Homer City on March 6th beginning at 12:00pm. Pastor Dawn Krishart will be speaking.



Coffee and donuts following the 9am mass on March 3rd in Coral .



Kent: Church of the Good Shepherd Parish (parish hall), Fridays, 4-7 p.m., dine in or drive-thru. Frozen pierogis

also for sale. Information: 724-479-3881.

Indiana: St. Bernard Regional Catholic School (St. Bernard of Clairvaux Parish hall), Fridays, 4-6:30 p.m., dine in or takeout.

Church of the Resurrection: March 8th - Heilwood - at the Clymer Social Hall, 349 Morris Street. 4pm - 7pm March 8th - Rossiter - at the Rossiter Fire Hall, 517 Central Street. 4pm - 7pm (Dinners \$15.00/ \$7.50) March 22nd - Glen Campbell - at the Glen Campbell Church Hall, 155 First Ave. 4pm - 6:30pm

The Knights of Columbus, Council 10960 presents 'A Knight at the Races' April 6th at the Graceton-Coral Sportsman Club. Doors open at 4 pm. \$25 per ticket includes buffet meal and refreshments. Sponsor a horse for \$10 and if your horse wins its race, you win \$50. Fun, food, fellowship!! All monies are used for the charitable works of the Knights of Columbus. Contact any Knight for tickets. For info, contact Norb Rayko at 724.422.1533 or nmrayk@hotmail.com. Tickets are also available at OLOTA parish office.

**Ferguson Funeral Home
& Monument Company**
Blairsville, PA
724-459-7611

Dear Parishioners,

How should we pray?

Coming into the third week of Lent, do you recall the Ash Wednesday admonition to keep to the trinity of spiritual practices: fasting; almsgiving; and prayer? St. Matthew instructed us [6:1-6 & 16-18] about these Lenten disciplines. Here at Assumption Parish, I quoted a contemporary Catholic named Kurt Rainer who described keeping Lent as a matter of six verbs (actions) that show a real commitment to Christ Jesus. Kurt says, "I fast; I pray; I give; I thank; I serve; I reflect." He believes that we can choose to focus on one action each week of Lent.

All three of the activities listed by Matthew were presented as important actions revealing a **loving relationship** with God, and as such, the **actions require us to respect the Person of God, as a real Person rather than a concept or an idea or even as an ideal.** This real Person is **the True God to whom we "speak in private, behind a closed door, with words spoken in secret,"** as Jesus advised us and as Matthew recorded. Prayer describes speaking to God, without fanfare and in quiet.

In our Catholic spirituality, prayer may be described as "how we ask God for proper gifts, or when we ask God to bend down to us (grace)." Although we often ask for specific gifts, for example, for the health or recovery of someone, or for a settling down of some anxiety or agitation, or even for a direct answer to a question about what God wants of us, we also know that the post-Apostolic (that is, those following the Apostles) great leaders described prayer to the Trinity in these ways: "**elevate your mind to God** with a view to asking proper things," as St. John Damascene write. If distractions take over too easily, ask if you elevated your mind or just let it drift. "**Commune and converse with God,**" St. Gregory of Nyssa said, meaning all that "commune" means in **requiring a depth of mutual visitation.** To commune is not to wave hello and converse means taking time to speak honestly, without gloss, respectfully, attentively. Have you ever conversed with someone and lost your train of thought? Turn around and see or imagine the One to whom you speak. St. John Chrysostom taught that we need to **refine our speech so that we talk with God, not at God, nor just about God.**

If that expectation seems to be correct, then **prayer therefore expresses our desires to God, whether for ourselves or others.** Remember that Jesus also instructed the disciples who asked **to know how to pray,** in the words of our signature prayer, *Pater Noster*, wherein we say, "**Your will be done on earth as in heaven.**" Expressing our desires does not intend to instruct or direct **God** what to do, but **appeals to God's goodness** for the things we believe that we need; and the **appeal is necessary, not because He is ignorant of our needs or sentiments, but to give definite form to our desires, to concentrate our whole attention on what we have to recommend to Him, to help us appreciate our close personal relation with Him.** The expression need not be external or vocal; internal or mental is sufficient.

Succinctly put, one writer says, **answer** to our expressed desires come in **three simple ways:** "Yes," "no," "maybe." Presume that God speaks to us and to you personally. Shirley Alarie writes that a very good way to begin praying is to introduce yourself to God. "God, it's me. What's on my soul today is..." Where can you expect to find responses to your expressed desires? Quiet yourself. Try reading a Psalm or a Proverb in the Bible. Did any one phrase speak to you? I like to read the brief scripture lines known as Post-Communion Antiphons for every day. They pack a punch often.

Father John



Mass Intentions for March 2-March March 10, 2024

SATURDAY, MARCH 2

Lucernemines 4:00 pm †Mike Marusa (Wife, Sara)
 Coral 6:00 pm ProPopulo

SUNDAY, MARCH 3

Coral 9:00 am †Katherine & Aldo Tedeschi (Tom & Terri)
 Lucernemines 11:00 am..... †Ron Jones (Donna Zometsky)

MONDAY, MARCH 4—NO MASS

TUESDAY, MARCH 5

Coral 8:00 am †Eleanor Borzcik (Ann Marie Dechman)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6

Coral 8:00 am †Rona Evanick (Evanick Family)

THURSDAY, MARCH 7

Coral 8:00 am †Living & Deceased members of the DeSantis Family
 (Mike & Kathleen DeSantis)

FRIDAY, MARCH 8

Coral 8:00 am †Elaine Bertig (Jerry & Cindy Bertig)
 Coral 12:00pm Stations of the Cross
 Lucernemines 6:00 pm Adoration
 6:30 pm Confession
 7:30 pm Stations of the Cross

SATURDAY, MARCH 9

Lucernemines 3-3:30pm..... Sacrament of Reconciliation
 Lucernemines 4 pm †Mike Marusa (Mike & Irene Grimes)
 Coral 6 pm ProPopulo

SUNDAY, MARCH 10

Coral 8:30 am Sacrament of Reconciliation
 Coral 9 :00 am †John Bencic Jr (Pat Andrascik)
 Lucernemines 11:00 am..... †Barbara McMasters)

The Sanctuary Candle burns in memory of:

Lucernemines Mike Marusa by Mike & Irene Grimes
 Coral Frank & Mary Gatskie by The Gatskie Family

The Host is in memory of:

Coral JR Reed by Daughters

Regional Lenten Penance Services

March 5 –St Thomas More University Parish-Indiana, 7:30pm

March 11- S.S. Simon & Jude, Blairsville 7pm
 March 12-Holy Family, Seward & St Sylvester, Slickville, 7pm
 March 16-Church of the Good Shepherd, Kent, 10am
 March 19-Church of the Resurrection, Clymer, 7pm
 March 20-Our Lady of the Assumption Parish, Lucerne, 7pm
 March 21- St Bernard's-Indiana, 7pm

2024 Diocesan Lenten Appeal as of 2/17/24

Total Pledged: \$1960.00

Diocesan Goal: \$51,231.00

Number of Gifts: 4 .38% of Diocesan Goal

.31% toward Parish Goal of an additional \$11,500.00

All money donated in excess of the Diocesan Goal are returned 100% to the Parish

Parish Goal: \$62,731.00

Feb 24-25, 2024 Offertory

Adult, Loose, Children & Online Giving	\$7,069.00
Votive Candle	\$167.00
Maintenance	\$47.00
St Vincent de Paul	\$10.00
Flowers	\$80.00
Accent	\$26.00
Diocesan Collections	\$271.00
Special Collections	\$71.00
Cemetery	\$157.00
Families receiving envelopes—462	
Envelopes used this week—197	
Online giving this week—29	

Mass Attendance Feb 24-25

Lucerne 4:00 pm—130
 11:00 am—88
 Coral 6:00 pm—68
 9:00 am—86

HAPPENINGS AROUND THE DIOCESE

The **Saint Vincent College Concert Series** presents *Melodies of the Sheng and Guanzi*: a concert of music from China featuring Jianbing Hu and Jian Bao in an evening of classical, folk, and original music from China played on the *sheng* and *guanzi*. The concert is on **Friday, March 15th at 7:00p** in the Saint Vincent College Performing Arts Center (located in the Robert S. Carey Student Center). Admission is free.

Reserve your seat to join Bishop Kulick for the Diocese of Greensburg St. Joseph Pilgrimage March 19 Bishop Larry J. Kulick will lead a pilgrimage to the four St. Joseph parishes and Blessed Sacrament Cathedral to dedicate the Diocese of Greensburg to the guardianship and protection of St. Joseph on Tuesday, March 19.

....Continued on page 4



FAITH FORMATION NEWS

FAITH FORMATION FOR MARCH 2024 ***All sessions will take place in Podowski Hall.***

Sunday, March 3rd

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

Sunday, March 10th

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

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

Sunday, March 17th

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

5:30pm-7:30pm Dress Rehearsal for Living Stations (Grades 6-12)

Sunday, March 24th

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

7:00pm Performance of Living Stations at Lucernemines

Sunday, March 31st

No Sessions: Have a very blessed Easter!

ADULT ENRICHMENT SERIES

Mark your calendars for our next study on The Jewish Roots of Holy Week: The 7 Last Days of Jesus by Brant Pitre (video presentation/discussion) Two sessions will be held on each of the following dates: 3/14 (Part 1) and 3/21 (Part 2) Both sessions will take place in the Coral Social Hall: immediately following the 8am Mass, and beginning at 6pm. No charge. Light refreshments will be provided.

Join us for Season 3 of The Chosen

Wednesday evenings at 6pm in Podowski Hall

No charge; light refreshments provided.

3/6, 3/13, 3/20, and 4/3

ASSUMPTION CINEMA presents...

After Death (PG-13, Documentary, 1h50m, 2023)

The afterlife is explored based on real near-death experiences conveyed by scientists, authors, and survivors. **March 7th in the Coral Social Hall beginning at 6pm.** No charge; light refreshments will be served.

Sacramental Prep Workshop Reminders

Second grade students are to be accompanied by one parent/caregiver to "The Table of the Lord" workshop being conducted on Monday, March 4th beginning at 6pm in Podowski Hall.

Eighth grade students are to be accompanied by one parent/caregiver to a Confirmation Workshop on Monday, March 11th beginning at 6pm in Podowski Hall.

Discovering the Wonder of God's Forgiveness

Congratulations to Parker Costello, Amelia Farabaugh, and Jonah Todd on receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time on Monday, February 26th. May our Lord bless you, and may His love be upon you and always guide you!



St. Joseph Pilgrimage Continued from page 3

Each site along the pilgrimage will focus on a different aspect of Joseph as a faithful disciple, helping us to strengthen and rededicate our relationship with Jesus Christ. A \$25 ticket reserves you a seat on the St. Joseph Pilgrimage Bus. Bus pick-up is 8 a.m. at Christ Our Shepherd Center, Greensburg. Continental breakfast will be served at St. Joseph Parish, Derry. Lunch will be served after Mass at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Greensburg. Refreshments will be served at St. Joseph Parish, Everson. Return time to Christ Our Shepherd Center is 9:30 p.m. For more details or to reserve your seat, visit DioceseofGreensburg.org/StJoseph.

CRS Spotlight

As people of faith, we have a moral obligation to uphold human dignity and support our sisters and brothers in need around the world. Humanitarian assistance can provide stability for people in times of conflict and economic stress. Please visit www.crs.org to send a message to your representative asking them to support a supplemental package that includes \$9.2 billion for vital humanitarian assistance. Thanks for your support!

"Marriage Q&A" March 12 at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Greensburg

Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Greensburg, is sponsoring "Marriage Q&A – Convalidations and Annulments" Tuesday, March 12, at 6:30 p.m. Representatives from the Diocesan Tribunal Office, pastoral ministers and clergy members will be on hand to discuss marriage blessings and annulments.

The Knights of Columbus, Council 10960 presents 'A Knight at the Races' April 6th at the Graceton-Coral Sportsman Club. Doors open at 4 pm. \$25 per ticket includes buffet meal and refreshments. Sponsor a horse for \$10 and if your horse wins its race, you win \$50. Fun, food, fellowship!! All monies are used for the charitable works of the Knights of Columbus. Contact any Knight for tickets. For info, contact Norb Rayko at 724.422.1533 or nmrayk@hotmail.com.

