

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)

OFFICE HOURS

Mon thru Thurs 8am-1pm, 2pm-4pm

Friday 9am-12pm

Stay Connected



Watch Mass

youtube.com/ourladyoftheassumption

Facebook

facebook.com/OLAParishPA



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Father John Pavlik

Cemetery Committee

Alex Uher

Anne Marie Dechman

Jerry Bertig

Monica Rura

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Father John Pavlik

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 8, 2024

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OUR LADY of the ASSUMPTION

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Hospital Chaplain - Fr. Paul Dressler, OFM, Cap.....582-400-5924



If you don't use online giving for your offertory, please scan the QR code to the left or on one of our Pew Cards, and click Create a New Account to get started.



If your looking for a special Christmas gift, Christian Mothers have extra Koeze Nut and Candy items available for sale. If interested in purchasing any for the holiday's, contact Jackie at 724-549-8119.

A great stocking stuffer! Christian Mothers are also selling microfiber cleaning (streak-free) cloths for \$5.00 each. Give Jackie at call at 724-549-8119

Save your cancelled postage stamps and drop them off in the collection boxes at each church location for the Felician Nuns.

Two sales this week: All Christmas clothing and merchandise are BOGO as well as ladies' pants (excluding white tags). The St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store is located in the BiLo Plaza on N. 4th Street with store hours Monday thru Saturday from 10am to 2pm. Donations are accepted at the back door from 10am to 1pm (as space permits).

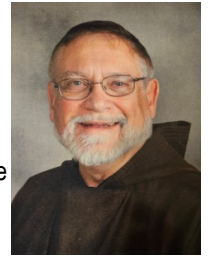
The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, December 9th.

What are you thankful for?

"I am thankful for my family, friends, cousin, Mom and Dad, and Grandma and Grandpa!"
Sophia, Kindergarten



Dear Parishioners,
Our Nation's Patroness



Every nation or country with a sizeable Roman Catholic population acclaim a national patron or patroness. We Catholics often take a ribbing about patron saints. Is there a patron of fire-fighters? Yes, St. Florian. Or a patron of sailors (St. Brendan) and of soldiers (St. Ignatius)? Everyone knows that St. Jude the Apostle is the patron of lost causes. Some know that Canada claims St. Joseph as their patron. And surely everyone hears that prayer invoking St. Anthony of Padua for things that are lost. That our country should point to a patron seems right and good.

The USA has a patroness. So, **who is the patroness of the United States of America?** Since May 13, 1846, our official patroness has been **Mary, the Mother of God, under the title of the Immaculate Conception.** Pope Pius XI affirmed the request of the bishops of the United States on July 2, 1847. To be sure, Catholics had long believed that as a chosen instrument of God, the virgin Mary, had been reprepared for her singular role in the Incarnation, by God's choice to keep her free of all sin so that her body, her womb, might serve the world as the most appropriate "tabernacle," or resting place for the coming of the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity into our world.

Officially, the entire church through the teaching authority of our chief pastor, **then Pope Pius XI, declared the Immaculate Conception not only worthy of our belief, but an essential part of our belief** about how God accomplished his Plan to restore all things in Christ.

So important do we still hold this commemoration to be that, as Dr. John Grondeleski of Seton Hall University in New Jersey writes, "it's the only holy day besides Christmas not subject to the U.S. bishops' 'Saturday-or-Monday-holy-days-don't-count-unless-we-transfer-them-to-Sunday' rule." That's why here we will celebrate a Vigil Mass for this Solemn Feast on Sunday Evening along with two Masses to commemorate the event on Monday morning at 8 and in the evening at 7.

As Doctor Grondeleski's article in the *National Catholic Register* correctly points out: "On the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, we celebrate that the Blessed Virgin Mary was conceived free of sin. Mary, by virtue of the prevenient grace of her Son's Redemption, was free of original sin from the first moment of her conception. She was without sin throughout her life." *Prevenient grace* precedes or enables another graced or God-centered event, in Mary's case, God's work enabled her to receive the Sinless One who would Redeem and Save us. "It is telling that we mark Dec. 8 — the day Mary was *conceived* — as the holy day on which Mass attendance is obliged, not Sept. 8, the day the Church celebrates the Nativity (i.e., Birth) of the Blessed Virgin Mary."

Nor does Dec. 8 celebrate Jesus's conception. We celebrate that "on March 25, the Solemnity of the Annunciation (although we use the Gospel of the Annunciation in the liturgy on Dec. 8) because, first, the whole reason for the Immaculate Conception was to prepare a worthy Mother for the Son of God who comes into the world at his Annunciation; and second, there is no canonical Gospel of Mary's conception, birth and childhood."

So, **why did America's frontier bishops choose this solemnity of Mary?** Three reasons seem at play here, as John Grondeleski sees it and as I spin it here: [Pardon my contemporary language and reasoning] **first**, because the contemporary world was **awakening to the significance of conception** as the beginning of human life. **Secondly**, because the **personhood so necessary for people in a free society**, Mary affirmed strongly in accepting a role in the Incarnation. And, **thirdly**, because Mary understood **her greater identity as coming from the hand of God** in great respect and love for her as a Woman made infinitely more beautiful by God. Throughout her life as Mother to her Son, she would play an essential role in the unfolding of the divine Plan.

Celebrate this Solemnity with pride that God has continued to be with and in his church. Bless our country, Lord.

Father John

Mass Intentions for December 7-December 15

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7

Lucernemines 4:00 pm †Dick Farabaugh (Jenny & family)
 Coral 6:00 pm †Donna Kurcsics (Rick Kurcsics)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8-Second Sunday of Advent

Coral 9:00 am ProPopulo
 Lucernemines 11:00 am..... †Ernest Pesci (Rose & John Keselica)
 Lucernemines 7:00 pm-**Vigil Mass**..... †Colman Studery, OFM Cap.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 9 —Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Holy Day of Obligation)

Coral 8:00 am Living & Deceased members of the Hierko families
 (Mike & Kathleen DeSantis)
 Lucernemines 7:00 pm †Mary Popp (Brandi Rankin)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10

Coral 8:00 am †Gertrude Mlinarch (Mary Kay Yarchak)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11

Coral 8:00 am †Andrew & Helen Danko (Rick & Katherine Danko)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12

Coral 8:00 am †Leonard Evansic (Darrick Bertig)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13

Coral 8 am †Mandy Thomas (Daughter, Peggy)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14

Lucernemines 3-3:30pm..... Sacrament of Reconciliation
 Lucernemines 4 pm †Thomas F Boske (The Boske family)
 Coral 6 pm †Marge Radakovich (Stephanie Radakovich)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15-Third Sunday of Advent

Coral 8:30 am Sacrament of Reconciliation
 Coral 9 :00 am ProPopulo
 Lucernemines 11:00 am..... †Jerry Razayeski (Paula Martini & Joe Krejocic)

The Sanctuary Candle burns in memory of:

Coral Rick Adamson by Mother, Rosalie, brother & sisters
 Lucernemines Dick Farabaugh by Wife, Jenny

The Host is in memory of:

Coral Phillip, Eva & Yvonne Cravotta by Daughter Denise & family
 Edward & Mary Minum by Nicole Clark
 Lucernemines Paul Sutton by Kathy Checlosky

The Wine is in memory of:

Coral Edward & Mary Minum by Nicole Clark
 Lucernemines James Yanoscik by Mimi & family

Nov 30-Dec 1	Offertory
Adult, Loose, Children & Online Giving	\$5241.00
Votive Candle	207.00
Maintenance	\$40.00
Christmas Flowers	\$228.00
Diocesan Collections	10.00
Accent	\$138.00
Special Collections	815.00
Cemetery	\$152.00
Families receiving envelopes—465	
Envelopes used this week—217	
Online giving this week—23	

Mass Attendance

Lucerne 4:00 pm—104
 11:00 am—79
 Coral 6:00 pm—61
 9:00 am—119

HAPPENINGS AROUND THE DIOCESE

Youth Group Fundraiser Pancake Breakfast
Sunday, December 8th, 2024
Immediately following the 9am Mass in the Coral Social Hall
ONLY \$7...pancakes, sausage, fruit, coffee cake, and drinks!!!

GIVE THE GIFT OF LIFE THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!!!

Youth Group members will be hosting our annual Blood Drive through the American Red Cross on Friday, December 27th from 11am-5pm in Podowski Hall. Online appointments available: www.redcross.org. Our zip code is 15754. Hope to see you there!!!

Live Nativity Dec. 13-14 at Church of the Good Shepherd, Kent

Church of the Good Shepherd, Kent, will hold a live Nativity Friday, Dec. 13, from 6-8 p.m. and Saturday, Dec. 14, from 7-9 p.m. Guests can drive or walk through. Caroling, a bonfire and refreshments are planned. A free-will offering will be collected for Catholic Charities' Children & Family Services Fund.

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Our Lady of Fatima's Peace Plan:

- 1) Penance and Reparation
- 2) Consecration to Mary
- 3) First Saturday Devotions
- 4) Praying the Rosary Daily

This is our greatest hope!

Learn more!: <https://tinyurl.com/FatimaPlan>



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Faith Formation Schedule for December

All sessions are held in Podowski Hall at Lucernemines.

Sunday December 8th

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

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

Sunday, December 15th

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

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

December 22nd and 29th

NO SESSIONS...Christmas Break

Students in the News

Congratulations to all of our student scholars from Indiana, Homer Center, and River Valley who have been named to their first quarter honor rolls! Keep up the great work!

On Veteran's Day, **Christian, Jackson, Nicholas, and Ben Strawcutter**, as members of local scouting troupes, helped to lead the Pledge of Allegiance at the Homer City Legion. Thanks for your service to our community and honoring our local veterans!

ASSUMPTION CINEMA PRESENTS...

*****Beginning at 6pm in Podowski Hall*****

Wednesday, December 11th

THE FORGE (PG, 2024, Family Drama, 2h4m) A powerful tale about a young man's transformation as he finds his purpose through prayer, faith, and mentorship.

Friday, December 13th: Holiday Potluck!!!

CHRISTMAS WITH THE CHOSEN; HOLY NIGHT (2023, Drama, 1h36m) A blending of The Messengers and The Shepherd as we experience the Birth of Jesus through their eyes. Includes musical performances plus two new monologues. Join us for a potluck as we gather to celebrate the holiday season!!!

Wednesday, January 8th, 2025

AVERAGE JOE (PG-13, 2024, Drama, 1h40m) Based on the true story of Joe Kennedy, an ex-Marine who becomes a high school coach, who takes a legal stand to defend freedom and religious liberty for everyone.

Wednesday, January 15th, 2025

FINDING FAITH (2024, Drama, 1h39m) A Christian advice columnist begins to lose her faith after a series of life events

SAVE THE DATES

CHRISTMAS CAROLING

CORAL SOCIAL HALL, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19TH FROM 6-8PM...SNOW OR SHINE CAROLING, CHRISTMAS CAROL BINGO, KARAOKE, HOT CHOCOLATE, GAMES ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US!!! Bring a flashlight!

CHRISTMAS EVE MASS AT 4PM IN LUCERNEMINES-CHILDREN'S CHOIR (Grades K-5) under the direction of Mr. Joe Petruna

A Double Welcome into our Community of Faith

Congratulations to Tim and Emily Schmidt Alcon on the Baptism of their daughter, Hadleigh Mae, on Tuesday, November 26th.



Congratulations to Justin and Ashley Schmidt Fess on the Baptism of their son, Austin James, on Tuesday, November 26th. Austin's older sisters, Charlie and Adelynn, were on hand to help celebrate this very special occasion! May God bless your families with an abundance of faith, love, and joy!



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Diocesan Christmas Night Market Dec. 14 at Christ Our Shepherd Center, Greensburg

The Diocesan Christmas Night Market is planned Saturday, Dec. 14, from 1-8 p.m. at Christ Our Shepherd Center, Greensburg. The Christmas Night market is a festive, fun and faith-filled event! Stroll the outdoor attractions under the twinkle of Christmas lights and warm yourself with hot chocolate by the fire, or head inside to enjoy dozens of food and craft vendors. Join Bishop Larry J. Kulick for Mass at 4 p.m. Explore collectibles created by St. Nicholas-inspired artist Pipka Ulvilden, who will present a free lecture on "The Madonna in Christian Art." Children can learn about the traditions surrounding Christmas cookies, and why we leave a treat for Santa each Christmas Eve as a sign of our thankfulness for God's many blessings, as well as create their own edible Christmas scene and enjoy a visit with St. Nicholas. Register for the Christmas beer and wine tastings showcasing the cultural nuances of St. Nicks from many countries (must be 21). For details or to register, visit Christmas-NightMarket.org. Admission and parking are free!

Regional Advent Penance Services, 7pm

- Dec. 10 Church of the Good Shepherd
- Dec. 11 St. Thomas More University
- Dec. 12 Holy Family
- Dec. 16 Ss. Simon & Jude
- Dec. 17 Church of the Resurrection, Clymer
- Dec. 18 St. Bernard of Clairvaux
- Dec. 19 Our Lady of the Assumption, Lucernemines

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