

Saints Joachim and Anne Parish

Elizabeth, Glassport, South Allegheny Roman Catholic Community

Established January 4, 2021

A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust

One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic

Website: joachimandannediopitt.org



2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; from the cloud came a voice, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him." Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone but Jesus alone with them.

- Mk 9:7-8

Excerpt from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCC.

GLFN

Administration Center

101 McLay Drive
Elizabeth, PA 15037
Phone 412-751-0663
Fax 412-751-0663
Email: TBA

Church Buildings

+
Saint Eugene (StE)
3210 Liberty Way
McKeesport, PA 15133

+
Saint Michael (StM)
101 McLay Drive
Elizabeth, PA 15037

+
Queen of the Rosary (QoR)
530 Michigan Avenue
Glassport, PA 15045

February 28, 2021

Faith Formation

Adult - Children - Youth

101 McLay Drive

Elizabeth, PA 15037

Phone 412-754-0886

Email: 213FaithForm@gmail.com



Mary of Nazareth Catholic School
1640 Fawcett Ave. White Oak, PA 15131
Pre-3, Pre-4, Kindergarten, First-Eighth Grade
School Office 412-672-2360
Webpage: www.maryofnazarethschool.org

The Pittsburgh Catholic is now Online.
thepittsburghcatholic.wpccomstating.com

Looking For A Faith Community?

Wherever you are on your faith journey, we welcome you to join our community.
You may register by calling the Administration Center.

Sacraments

Baptism of Infants & Children

Baptism is a joyous event in the life of the church. Baptism is celebrated any Sunday after Mass. **Parents are required to attend a Pre-Baptism Class.**

Previous arrangements are necessary.

Instruction in the Faith - R.C.I.A.

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults Program is offered for those interested in the Catholic Faith. For more information, please contact Fr. Wagner.

Reconciliation

St. Eugene Church, Liberty
Tuesday, 7 - 7:30 pm

St. Michael Church, Elizabeth
Saturday, 11-11:30 am

Queen of the Rosary Church, Glassport
Saturday, 1-1:30 pm

St. Michael Church, Elizabeth
Saturday, 3:15-3:45 pm

St. Eugene Church, Liberty
Saturday, 5:15-5:45 pm

Marriage

The prospective bride and groom are to make arrangements with the priest or deacon at least 6 months prior to the proposed date of the wedding. Diocesan regulations require all couples to attend an approved pre-marriage preparation program.

Anointing of the Sick

the Anointing of the Sick is celebrated communally on the Second Sunday of the Month.

Ministry to the Sick and Shut In

Homebound members of the Parish should call the Parish Office to make arrangements to receive Holy Communion at home.

Sponsorship Forms

Only registered, practicing, fully-initiated Catholics are eligible for sponsor certificates. Please call the Parish Office.

Bulletin Information Deadline

2 weeks in advance of publish date.
elizabethsalleghenybulletin@gmail.com

Moving

Please call or email your new address to the Parish Office.

Child Abuse Hotline 1-888-808-1235

Mass Intentions For The Week

StE St. Eugene Church, Liberty StM St. Michael Church, Elizabeth

QoR Queen of the Rosary Church, Glassport

February 28 - March 7, 2021

Saturday, 27, Vigil, Second Sunday of Lent

StM 4:00 pm T Health of Edgar George - Son, Jim & brothers

StE 6:00 pm M Jean Capozzoli - Louise & Family

Sunday, 28, Second Sunday of Lent

StE 8:00 am M Kenny Kaczka - Family & Friends

StM 9:00 am T Shirley Gates Noll - Steve Gates

QoR 10:30 am M Elizabeth Grossi - DiFelice & Grossi

StM 12 Noon T Linda Booth - Curt & Dew Briggs

Living & Deceased of the Parish Family

Monday, March 1, Lenten Weekday

QoR 8:30 am Frances Osada - Family & Friends

Novena - Infant of Prague

StM 9:00 am Ryan Malady - Frank & Sandie McLaughlin

Tuesday, 2, Lenten Weekday

StM 9:00 am Charles Yaksick - Nada & Natalie Yaksick

StE 6:30 pm Carmella Picone - Family & Friends

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions - 7:00 - 7:30 pm

Wednesday, 3, Lenten Weekday - Katharine Drexel, virgin

QoR 8:30 am Theresa Gribschaw - Daughter, Rate Traud

StM 9:00 am Christophe Rawlings - Father, Robert Rawlings

Thursday, 4, Lenten Weekday - Casimir

StE 8:30 am Louise Venturini - Family

StM 9:00 am Ann & Mike Popko & Family - Daughter, Patty Waronsky

Friday, 5, Lenten Weekday

QoR 8:30 am Violet Kovtun - Chuck & Jackie Galley

StM 9:00 am Nancy Hood - Maria & Hugh Geyer

QoR 6:30 pm Stations of the Cross

StM 7:00 pm Stations of the Cross

Saturday, 6, Vigil, Third Sunday of Lent

StM 4:00 pm T Helen Shalako - Carol Davidovich

StE 6:00 pm M Rita Cook - Sister, Betty & Dan Mains

Sunday, 7, Third Sunday of Lent

StE 8:00 am T George Vanscoy - Family & Friends

StM 9:00 am M Janet Formica - Jan & Ryan

QoR 10:30 am T Living & Deceased of the Parish Family

StM 12 Noon M Albert Ragan, Sr. - Michelle Bavin

Low Gluten Hosts available - please see Priest before Mass.

**Your ways, O LORD, make known to me;
teach me your paths. — Psalm 25:4**

Pastoral Staff

Clergy Team

Reverend Thomas A. Wagner, Pastor
 Reverend Miroslaus A. Wojcicki, Senior Parochial Vicar
 Deacon Dale J. DiSanto, Permanent Deacon
 Deacon Jeffrey P. Formica, Permanent Deacon
 Deacon Stephen C. Pikula, Permanent Deacon
 Deacon John E. Ragan, Permanent Deacon

Mary of Nazareth Catholic School

Lynda McFarland, Principal, 412-672-2360

Faith Formation - Religious Education

Adult - Children - Youth

Julie Fleckenstein, Facilitator
 Amanda Wilt, Co-Children, K-6 Grade
 Susan Formica, Youth, Junior & Senior High

Music Ministry

Celeste Cafasso
 Carol Gioia
 Pamela Whitney

Pastoral Secretary

Jan Kunkel
 Amy Megahan

Facilities

Tony Hutskow
 Kevin Hopkins
 Darla Losteter
 Patricia Muic

Business Manager & Safe Environment

Jeannie Premozic

Advisory Councils

Pastoral Council

Jack Ferko, Facilitator Patty Smith, Co-Facilitator
 Zac Allan, Scribe

Glenn Bonczek	Vickie Budd	Elaine David
Eric Davis	Denise DeCapria	Anne Laychak
Michael Ksiazek	Leah Meek	Brian Phillips

Finance Council

Judy Zajicek, Facilitator	Patricia Palmer, Co-Facilitator	
Barry Bisogni, Scribe		
Kay Callear	Loretta Dabruzzo	Val McCarthy
Sandy Palmer	Judy Shriane	Donald Similo



Second Sunday of Lent

February 28, 2021

A pregnant woman was walking in the store and met an old friend. Her friend exclaimed, **You are absolutely beaming!** The new life God placed in her womb radiated throughout her body. It was brightly visible on her face and in her eyes. Transformation and change usually happen from the inside out. It is very rare that simply imposing structure from the outside does any good. Yes, it is true that routines and habits can change when things are done differently. But, for this change to last there has to be an interior renewal and metamorphosis as well. Simply regulating behavior and bringing someone into conformity with accepted protocols doesn't mean their heart and soul come with them.

Peter was a homeless man who lived in a very remote and rudimentary tent community. He was happy to make his daily trip to McDonald's and always welcomed a gift card or two so that he could buy some coffee and something to eat. A generous advocate worked to secure him an apartment in hopes of moving Peter out of his makeshift housing and into something safer. Peter finally got the grand tour of his new **digs**, received his own key, remarked how wonderful the place was, closed the door behind him when they left and never returned. He preferred his tent. No matter how much things changed on the outside, Peter was happy where he was. A poignant lesson was learned that day.

How is your Lent going? By now you ought to have a sense of whether you're really **into it** this year and something transformational is happening. For many, it's only the stuff on the outside that changes for a few weeks and then they return to business as usual. For others, there are some real inner changes happening that are deepening their relationships with God, others, self, and creation. If we are serious about moving to a new place and radiating with the presence of new life and joy, then we have to clear the way to listen for God's call. Then, there is God's request to change things up a bit and order our lives differently. After realizing we have been called and given a mission, we have to trust that this is where we need to be. And then, after all of this hard work we are asked to act. The fruit that is revealed will indicate whether our journey is authentic. The brilliance of conversion will begin to shine on our faces as we contemplate the One to whom we are asked to listen.

We remember . . . In your charity,
 please remember all those who have died,
 especially: **Edward Beddard,**
Joseph Carter, father of Jeff Carter,
all who will die today,
and those who have no one to pray for them.
Resting in Paradise.
Eternal Rest grant unto them O Lord.
May Perpetual Light Shine Upon Them.

March Rosary Intention

That we may experience the sacrament of reconciliation with renewed depth, to taste the infinite mercy of God.

Finding Joy in Giving

Please spend some time this week looking at the Parish Share materials you should have received by now. Parish Share is much different than a one-time special collection: **It is a pledged commitment to make a gift over the coming year, payable in installments.**

Each pledge makes a difference because all parishes participate, and the gifts of many enable the diocese to provide needed ministries and services that parishes alone could not offer. These include promoting vocations to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life, Catholic education and parish services.

Please return your Parish Share pledge card as soon as possible.

May God bless you for your generosity.

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Everyday Stewardship -

Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments

When Sacrifice Becomes Mundane

It seems to happen every year, like clockwork: we drag a bit, as we enter into the second week of Lent. On Ash Wednesday, we feel a bit like soldiers banging our shields, rushing into battle. **We're ready, God!** our hearts cry out.

Transform us through sacrifice! Your will be done!

But by now, these Lenten resolutions are no longer novelties — they've joined the ranks of everyday inconveniences, which somehow are the hardest to bear. Because transformation, in real life, happens in inches, just as a battle is won slowly in the crash of one sword against another. It's not always a dramatic thing, to the naked eye. It's the perseverance in prayer despite weariness, or the continual denial of some pleasure even though there's that nagging voice in our minds saying: go ahead, God doesn't really mind.

It's a week when we all need a shock to the system — and wouldn't you know it, this Sunday God gives us a double-whammy of dramatic sacrificial scenes. We picture Abraham, who also cried **Ready!** when God called, never imagining what He would ask: the surrender of his long-awaited son. We see Christ himself transfigured, as God shows us what He is ready to give up for love of us.

We must remain committed, persevering daily in acknowledging that everything belongs to God. What we sacrifice, we simply give back to Him.

If God is for us, who can be against us? Can we still reply, **Ready!** when we hear the call of God?

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPI

If God is for us, who can be against us?

—Romans 8:31b-34

Saints Joachim and Anne Parish Lenten Opportunities



Daily Mass

Reconciliation

Reconciliation - The Light Is On For You.

Wednesday, March 10, 2021

Queen of the Rosary Church 6:00 - 7:00 pm

Saint Michael Church 6:00 - 9:00 pm

Mass & Adoration of the Eucharist

St. Eugene Church, Liberty

Tuesday Evening - Mass - 6:30 pm

Adoration & Confession - 7:00-7:30 pm

Stations of the Cross, Fridays of Lent

Queen of the Rosary Church 6:30 pm

Saint Michael Church 7:00 pm

Faith, Fellowship, & Food

Adult Education Series for Lent 2021

The Lamb's Supper with Scott Hahn

Lent Series - Tuesday Evenings

thru - March 23, 2021



How could God ask Abraham to do that?

Through the centuries, Christians and Jews alike have found the **Binding of Isaac** one of the most difficult passages in the Bible. Even though God intervenes to save Isaac, the whole episode strikes some readers as cruel. However, Abraham, the ultimate man of faith, raises no objection, offers no resistance as he simply goes about preparing for the trip and the sacrifice.

Today's other readings might help us see that text differently. In Mark's description of the Transfiguration, Jesus' clothes become white and shining, and Moses and Elijah appear with him. Moses was the great liberator and lawgiver who led the Jews out of bondage in Egypt and into the wilderness, forming them into the people of Israel by giving them the Law he received from God. Elijah was among Israel's greatest prophets, so close to God that, at the end of his life, he was taken up into heaven by a fiery chariot. Together, Moses and Elijah represent the Law and the Prophets, the ultimate authority for the Jews in the conduct of their daily lives.

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The sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith.

—Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18

Rite of Election

On the First Sunday of Lent, the Rite of Election was celebrated at Saint Paul Cathedral by Bishop David A. Zubik, Bishop of Pittsburgh.

The Rite of Election welcomed all the Catechumens from the local church of Pittsburgh. From Saints Joachim and Anne Parish, Daniel Tyner was presented to Bishop Zubik. During the ritual, Daniel was called forward to place his name in the Book of the Elect, a turning point in seeking full communion in the Catholic Faith.

Dan has been meeting with the R.C.I.A. Team since September for instruction and faith formation. Please continue to pray for Dan and his family in this period of Enlightenment and Purification on his journey to the Easter Sacraments (Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Eucharist).

May our loving and merciful God watch over Dan and all those preparing for Easter Sacraments.

Second Sunday of Lent

Today's first reading, known as **the Binding of Isaac**, refers to the way Isaac is bound and laid upon the wood of the altar of sacrifice. God directs Abraham to offer his son in sacrifice, killing the beloved son that had been a special gift to him and Sarah in their old age. How could God ask Abraham to do such a thing? Abraham offers no resistance, but in preparing for the sacrifice, Abraham may have agreed with the psalmist that he was **greatly afflicted**. Saint Paul's letter to the Romans refers to Jesus as God's beloved Son, which is also how God identifies Jesus to Peter, James, and John at the Transfiguration. Afterward, Jesus tells those disciples not to mention the event to anyone until after his resurrection from the dead. The event, together with Jesus' comments, leaves the disciples thoroughly confused.

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Forming a Marriage Prep Team

Faith Formation is looking for couples and widows/widowers (young & young at heart) who would like to share the joys and challenges of a Catholic marriage with engaged couples preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage.

There would be a commitment of 2 Saturdays plus 2 planning meetings a year. If you are interested or have questions, please call Julie, 412-754-0886 or email her, 213FaithForm@gmail.com.

There will be an informational meeting for anyone interested in joining the team in early March, with the hope of having a Saturday Marriage Prep sometime in May.

History of Salvation

The first reading today continues the **history of salvation** narrative that we hear throughout Lent this year. Today's story was among the best-loved in the Jewish tradition (surely Joseph told the story to young Jesus as he formed him in the ways of their faith); the early fathers of the Church were very fond of it as a means of explaining the sacrifice of Christ on the cross. The overall tone of the first reading, psalm, and second reading seems a little incongruous with the dazzling Gospel, until we remember that the Transfiguration was placed as the Gospel for this Sunday precisely to remind us of the glory that awaits those who live faithfully and obediently to the will of God. In the life of Jesus, it is a preview of the glory of his resurrection; for us it is a glimpse of the destiny of those who continue, as we heard in last week's Gospel, to repent and believe in the Good News.

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Feast of Faith: The Opening Prayer

At the conclusion of the **Introductory Rites of the Mass**, the presider says or chants the words **Let us pray**, followed by the Opening Prayer. This prayer is also called a **collect** because it gathers or **collects** the prayers of the entire assembly into one. The Roman collects that we pray in our liturgy—noted for the brevity, clarity, and conciseness of the Latin originals—date from a variety of periods. Some are quite new; others reach back more than a thousand years. They are truly treasures of our tradition.

The **Opening Prayer** can be divided into four main parts:

- 1) the invitation, or **Let us pray**;
- 2) the silence that follows, during which each member of the assembly lifts up before God his or her own prayers;
- 3) the collect itself, spoken or sung by the priest;
- 4) and finally the Amen, by which the assembly says, **yes, may it be so**, making the prayer their own.

The collect itself almost always follows the same pattern. It begins with an invocation to God. A petition follows, usually very general. We ask for health, strength, wisdom, grace, forgiveness, faith, awareness. Every collect concludes by offering the prayer to God through Jesus Christ. With the Amen of the assembly, the Introductory Rites of the Mass come to an end.

—Corinna Laughlin, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

If God is for us, who can be against us?

—Romans 8:31b

Mary Garden Beautification Project



The **Mary Garden Beautification Project** is being inspired by our parish Youth Group. The **Mary Garden Project** is being planned for the right side of Saint Michael Church (Bell Tower Side).

Currently there are a few different options, (a new Virgin Mary statue, stone & concrete work, water feature, various plants & flowers) and your thoughts and ideas about what should be done within that space are valuable and important.

Also anyone with landscape design experience and is willing to assist with the planning and preparation of the layout of the garden would be greatly appreciated. This will be an extensive facelift to the church grounds.

All support, time, talent, and treasure, for the **Mary Garden Project** will be greatly appreciated.

If you have any ideas or suggestions or would like to volunteer your time, talent, and treasure to this **Mary Garden Project**,

please email the Faith Formation office at 213FaithForm@gmail.com or call 412-754-0886.

Please keep the Mary Garden Project in your prayers.

Thank you for your support and prayers.

Marriage Moments by Susan Vogt

At the transfiguration, God describes Jesus thus, **This is my beloved Son. Listen to him** (MK 9:7). As a historical figure, Jesus is no longer with us. But, as Christians we believe that the spirit of Jesus abides within each of us. Look at your beloved today and see Jesus. Listen to each other.

Parenting Pointers by Susan Vogt

God put Abraham to the test (Gen 22:1). Although some may interpret this scripture as Abraham being willing to kill his beloved son for God, probably the better lesson is that we all must at some point let go of our expectations for our children and trust God to lead them in ways we might not have chosen.

A Family Perspective by Bud Ozar

The apostles thought they knew Jesus, but when he changed in front of them at the Transfiguration, they were **afraid**. In families we cannot freeze relationships because change and growth are inevitable. Children grow up, parents grow old and spouses change. Transfigurations are all around us and within us. Relationships can only grow when we embrace the new and let go of the old.

MARY OF NAZARETH CATHOLIC SCHOOL
1640 FAWCETT AVE. WHITE OAK, PA 15131

Open Enrollment

2021-2022

One-to-One Technology
Students attend classes brick and mortar
Real time teaching when virtual

Call the school office at 412-672-2360
to schedule a tour
Visit us at maryofnazarethschool.org

Mary of Nazareth Catholic School

Virtual Bingo

PURSE BINGO

March 14TH

Zoom goes live at 12:30 PM
Early bird basket raffle 12:50 PM
1 PM Bingo Starts

\$30 per person (Includes 2 Bingo cards, 2 raffle tickets, 12 games)
Additional cards are available for purchase

Raffle tickets:
3 for \$1
10 for \$5
25 for \$10

To purchase tickets please contact
Liz @ lizgraham32@aol.com
or (412) 601-0741



Faith Formation
 Adult - Children - Youth
 Religious Education

101 McLay Drive Elizabeth, PA 15037
 412-754-0886 Email: 213faithform@gmail.com
 Facebook: FaithFormation-EGSA

Enlisting Witnesses For Jesus Christ

First Holy Communion
Sunday, April 11, 2021

Confirmation
Monday, April 12, 2021

Show the Love

Jesus commanded us to love our neighbor as we love ourselves, and that can be difficult especially amid this Covid-19 pandemic. Now through Palm Sunday, we are asking for different items for different charity groups so that we can continue to help our neighbors near and far. Please place your gifts in the Bins at the altar.

Diaper Drive

All sizes of diapers, but especially
Sizes 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6,
Baby Wipes as well.

Thank you for your kindness and support!

Candy for Easter Egg Hunt
on Holy Saturday

Donations of wrapped Easter candy that can fit into a plastic easter eggs would be greatly appreciated. Donations can be left in the Gathering Space or brought to the Office. Thank you for your generosity!

Pre-Baptism Class

Are you expecting? Is this your first child?

Pre-Baptism Class is for expectant parents and Godparents or anyone who is seeking a Catholic Baptism for their child.

Pre-Baptism Class - Deacon Dale DiSanto
Thursday, March 11, 2021 at 7:00 pm
St. Michael Meeting Room

Grandparents are also welcome at these classes.

Please register by calling the **Faith Formation - Religious Education** office, 412-754-0886 or emailing 213FaithForm@gmail.com.

Prior to scheduling a Baptism, parents need to attend the Pre-Baptismal Seminar.



For more information or to register, please email 213Youth@gmail.com or call Mrs. Formica, 412-754-0886

Save the Date

Family Fun Night & Car Cruise
Friday, June 18, 2021
 Sponsored by Youth Ministry

Faith, Fellowship, & Food
Adult Education Series for Lent 2021

The Lamb's Supper with Scott Hahn
Lent Series - February 16 - March 23, 2021

For this Lent we will be journeying with Scott Hahn's book **The Lamb's Supper**. We will begin on the **Tuesday, February 16,** and will run for **6 weeks** and conclude on **Tuesday, March 23.**

Our Tuesday evenings begin at 6:45 pm in Saint Michael - Archangel Hall with prayer, a video presentation, and a small group discussion.

Donation for materials is \$10 per person.

Due to Covid-19 guidelines there will be no meal.

Please contact Sue at sformicaym@comcast.net or 412-926-8412 to register, and joins us as we learn more about our Catholic Faith.

Bereavement Ministry

This group, led by Deacon Dale DiSanto, is for people who have lost a loved one and are experiencing grief.

This is a Support Group, not counseling.

Thursday Afternoon

Saint Michael, Meeting Room
Beginning April 8, 2021 - 1:00-2:30 pm

This is a six (6) week program.
Please RSVP to Jan, 412-751-0663
so that we may prepare materials.

If you need assistance in moving through your grief, this is an ongoing way to be supported during this difficult time. The weekly session begins with suggested topics, open discussion and ends with prayer.

**Sunday, Feb 28; Second Sunday of Lent**

Gen 22:1-18; Rom 8:31-34; Mk 9:2-10

Go all in—Erin became a Roman Catholic in midlife. When asked why, she says she tried fiercely to make life work according to her plan. Erin told God many times how it should go, attempting to persuade the powers that be to see it her way. Then one day God replied: My plan for you is so beautiful, wonderful, elegant. Why not try it instead? When Erin celebrated the **Rites for Candidates for Full Communion** on a Lenten Sunday just like this one, she found the joy she was missing. Pray for this year's candidates—and for candidates for years to come. **If God is for us, who can be against us?**

Monday, Mar 01; Lenten Weekday

Daniel 9:4b-10; Luke 6:36-38

Mercy me!—Pope Francis called mercy the **beating heart of the gospel**. Mercy is forbearance, divine favor, compassionate treatment of the distressed and undeserving. It's another word for God's love. Consider showing devotion to it by reciting the **Chaplet of Divine Mercy**, a rosary-based prayer that was received by Saint Faustina, a Polish nun in the 1930s, through visions of Jesus. **Divine Mercy Sunday** is celebrated the week after Easter, but many make the Chaplet part of their regular Lenten practice by reciting it every day at 3 p.m. (the traditional hour of Christ's death). You can find the Chaplet on the USCCB website. **Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.**

Tuesday, Mar 02; Lenten Weekday

Isaiah 1:10, 16-20; Matthew 23:1-12

Celebrate humble history—Women's History Month celebrates well-known women but also unsung heroines. How appropriate, then, that today is the feast of Agnes of Bohemia, a lesser known saint. First cousin of Elizabeth of Hungary—and descendent of Good King Wenceslaus—Agnes came upon her vocation naturally. She built a hospital for the poor, a Franciscan friary, and a monastery for Poor Clare nuns. When she also became a nun and was urged to become abbess, she referred to herself only as **senior sister**. She continued to cook for her sisters and mend the clothing of lepers rather than live a royal life. Celebrate the unsung heroines in your life. **Whoever exalts himself will be humbled; but whoever humbles himself will be exalted.**

Wednesday, Mar 03; Lenten Weekday - Katharine Drexel

Jeremiah 18:18-20; Matthew 20:17-28

We have work to do—Katharine Drexel (1858-1955) is a saint for our time. Born into a successful Philadelphia banking family, she used her wealth to improve the lives of others. Her **Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament** devoted their lives to education of Native and African Americans, building more than 100 schools in cities, rural areas, and on reservations. Though Katharine and her sisters at times faced criticism, endured racist taunts, and were threatened by the Ku Klux Klan, they remained steadfast in their mission. Patron saint of racial justice and philanthropy, Saint Katharine epitomizes the sacrifice of the Blessed

Sacrament. How will you commit your own life to making the world more just? **Can you drink the chalice that I am going to drink?**

Thursday, Mar 04; Lenten Weekday - Casimir

Jeremiah 17:5-10; Luke 16:19-31

Grace under pressure—Saint Casimir seemed destined for riches and power, but this patron saint of Poland, called the Peacemaker, took a different path. Born in 1458 to the king and queen of Poland, he was a devout, ascetic child. At age 14 his father had him lead an army to install himself as king of Hungary, but with an overpowering enemy and troops beginning to desert, Casimir instead returned home. His furious father exiled him, but Casimir would never again take up arms. Rejecting violence when those around you embrace it can take great inner strength. Cultivate an inner compass that can pursue peace despite pressure. **Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, whose hope is the LORD.**

Friday, Mar 05; Lenten Weekday - Day of Abstinence

Genesis 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Matthew 21:33-43, 45-46

Pray for besieged people everywhere—Prayer is our life with God. Sometimes we carve out a particular time during the day, and sometimes there are specific words, images, or experiences that help us be more aware of or express our relationship with God. And so of course during Lent prayer is one of the pillars, along with fasting and almsgiving, that help us turn to God. On today's **2021 World Day of Prayer**, an ecumenical observance, we are invited to **Build on a strong foundation**. This theme comes from the women of Vanuatu, an island hit by Cyclone Harold in 2020. Despite the perils they faced—and we've all faced in a year of pandemic—the message of today's prayer is one of confidence in God's steadfastness and the rock of faith. Unite in prayer for healing and recovery. **The kingdom of God will be . . . given to a people that will produce its fruit.**

Saturday, Mar 06; Lenten Weekday

Micah 7:14-15, 18-20; Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

Sibling rivalry of biblical proportions—The Parable of the Prodigal Son could as easily be called the Parable of the Bitter Brother. The story might have ended with the celebration at the return of the repentant prodigal. But instead we are left to ponder the feelings of the **good son**, the obedient one who followed all the rules but never got a party thrown in his honor. It's a very human story, reenacted in nearly every family in one form or another. **Mother always liked you best. You were Dad's favorite.** Will the bitter brother in the gospel story reconcile? Has bitterness or division in your own family be reconciled? Consider being the reconciler who brings it about. **Look, all these years I served you and not once did I disobey your orders; yet you never gave me even a young goat to feast on with my friends.**

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Saints Joachim and Anne Parish



**Take-Out Only
with Curbside Pick-up**

**For: Saint Michael, Elizabeth
Fridays of Lent - 4:00-7:00 pm
call 412-751-0663, Extension 7 or 5**

**For: Queen of the Rosary, Glassport
Fridays of Lent - 11:00 am - 6:30 pm
call 412-872-5136 or 412-672-7209**

Menu

Baked or Fried Fish or Shrimp Dinner \$10.00
Includes: Baked or Fried Fish Sandwich or Shrimp;
choice of Haluski, Mac & Cheese or Pierogies;
& Cole Slaw

Ala Carte Items

Fried Fish Sandwich	\$8.00
Fried Shrimp	\$8.00
Haluski	\$2.00
Mac & Cheese	\$2.00
Pierogies (3)	\$2.00
Dozen Pierogies	\$7.00
Cole Slaw	\$2.00

Thank you for supporting our Fish Frys!

Fish Fry Volunteers

For the annual Parish Fish Fry to be a success, a great number of hands are needed to carry the load. If we all work together as a family, the Fish Fry will continue to be such a great success.

Thank You for making our Fish Fry Special!

Time, Talent, and Treasure

February 14, 2021

Weekly Offering	\$11,930.50
First Offering	\$ 30
Ash Wednesday	\$ 1,438.50
Monthly Offering	\$ 749
Religious Education	\$ 123
Children's Offering	\$ 8
2021 Parish Share	\$ 638
2021 Parish Share to Date	\$13,114
2021 Parish Share Goal	\$137,788

Thank You For Your Sacrificial Giving!

Please make all checks payable to

Saints Joachim and Anne Parish

Love and Generosity

The Law, the Prophets—and Jesus. For Paul, Jesus is someone quite different from the other two. The reading from his letter to the Romans is short, but rich in meaning. When Paul declares that God **did not spare his own Son**, and when God praises Abraham **who did not withhold from me your own beloved son**, it is the same Greek word for **spare** and **withhold**. God's voice at the Transfiguration identifies Jesus as his **beloved Son**—the same way God refers to Isaac as Abraham's beloved son. Ultimately, God spares Isaac but not his own Son, whom he **handed over for us**. Even if we are disturbed that God tested Abraham like this, Paul says we should be overwhelmingly grateful that God did for us what, in the end, he did not require of Abraham. Jesus, God's Son **handed over to us** in love and generosity, is already a sacrificial gift, signifying that God wants to give us **everything else along with him**.

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Serra Catholic 8th Grade Discovery Day

Don't miss this opportunity on

Saturday, March 6, 2021 from 9:30 - 11:30 am to investigate why Serra Catholic students excel in the classroom, on the field and in life!

Current 8th grade students will explore our campus and meet Serra students and faculty.

Students will be placed in small groups, follow an abbreviated schedule, and get answers to all their questions.

Please Pre-Register at serrahs.org

Pre-Cana - Marriage Preparation Class

Saturday, April 24, 2021 from 9 am — 4 pm

Saint Joseph the Worker Parish

St. Maurice Church, Forest Hills, PA

Talks on having a Sacramental Marriage, Communication, Finances, and Parenting

This interactive day is run by clergy and couples. If you are planning a 2021 or early 2022 Wedding and have not completed the marriage preparation program you are invited to attend.

Reservations are required and the cost is \$60 per couple.

For more information or to register, please call the St. Joseph the Worker Parish Office, 412-271-0809.

We will be making sure that all precautions for your health and safety are followed for this session. Masks must be worn at all times, social distancing will be in effect and we are limiting the number of registrations.



Patriotic Rosary
Monday Evening
March 8, 2021 - 7:00 pm
Saint Michael Church
Elizabeth, PA

**Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Rosary, Patriotic Hymns and Benediction**

There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with Benediction to conclude the recitation of the Rosary.

The Patriotic Rosary will be prayed on the Second Monday of the Month.

All are invited and most assuredly welcome!

Mary, Queen of the Rosary, pray for us.

May God Bless Our Service Personnel



We pray for and remember our Service Men and Women who are serving on active duty in the Armed Services, especially: Cpl. Peter A. Barrante, USMC; Maj. Damian Baskerville, USAF; Col. Richard Collage, PA NG; Staff Sgt. Nicholas DeLuca, Army; Ens. David DeMaio, USCG; Capt. Craig Dolhi, Army; Capt. Anthony Formica, Army; Jacob Formica, E-

4, Army; 2nd Lt. John Formica, Army; SPC Samuel Formica, Army National Guard; Capt. Markus Gibson, USMC; 2ndLt. Miles Gibson, USMC; PO2. Mason Gibson, USN; T/Sgt. Michael Goodman, USAF; Lt. Col. James Hock, Army; E5 Sgt. Brian Imundo, Army; Sgt. Russ Langley, Marines; Staff Sgt. Raymond Massung, Jr., USAF; Sgt. First Class William Nellis, Army; Staff Sgt. Timothy Oeler, USAF; LTJG. Timothy Ragan, USN; Amn. Stephanie A. Reichenbach, USAF; PFC David R. Saunders, Army National Guard; Sgt. Brandon R. Smith, USAF Pararescueman; Amn. Adam Stitt, USAF; Capt. Andrew Tkac, Army.

Thank you for your service!

May We Never Forget . . . Freedom is Never Free!

*May God Bless Our Health Care Workers
and All First Responders.*

Spring Fling TICKET

Benefits Saints Joachim and Anne Parish

Try a chance at winning a total of

\$4000.00 in the month of April.

Minimum payout is \$100.00.

\$10.00 per ticket with 30 chances to win!

Pays out on the 7pm PA Daily Pick 3. No bonus numbers.

Thank You for your support!

**Saints Joachim and Anne Parish
Community Festival 2021
is scheduled for
August 5, 6, 7, 2021**

Festival Specialty Baskets

Thank you so much for your generosity!

We continue to receive items in our labeled specialty baskets. All these donations will start us on our way to designing the beautiful baskets that are an important part of our Saints Joachim & Anne Community Parish Festival. P.S. Look in the clearance aisle. Save money while you donate!

BASKET THEMES:

- ◆ **Holiday Themes:** New Year's Day, Valentines Day, St. Patrick Day, July 4th, Thanksgiving, Christmas, etc
- ◆ **Cleaning:** cleaner, sponges, soaps, dusting items, etc
- ◆ **Going Green:** environmentally friendly products
- ◆ **Puzzle Basket:** crossword, word search, sudoku, etc
- ◆ **Toys:** Hot Wheels Basket, etc
- ◆ **Gardening:** hose, shovels, watering can, hoe, etc
- ◆ **Car Spa:** car shine, sponge & chamois, wax, wheel & window cleaner, wiper fluid, etc

If you are interested in being involved with the festival please contact Cathy, 412-980-2918 or 412-672-8666.

Thank you for your generosity!

We couldn't do it without your help.

CALLING ALL CRAFTERS!!!!

Our craft basket area needs your talent!

What better way to spend a cold, snowy winter day than by creating your special crafts for our **Saints Joachim and Anne Community Parish Festival**. Floral arrangements, wreaths, wood working, afghans, baby items, etc.

Donations can be dropped off at each church in the gather space. If you have any questions, please call Cathy, 412-980-2918.

**Thank you for you time, talents and support
of our parish festival!!!**

Upcoming Events

Knights of Columbus will meet on **Monday, March 1, 2021 at 7:30 pm** in the St. Michael - Archangel Hall.

Glassport Sons of Italy Spaghetti Dinner
Sunday, February 28, 2021 - 12 Noon to 6:00 pm
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