



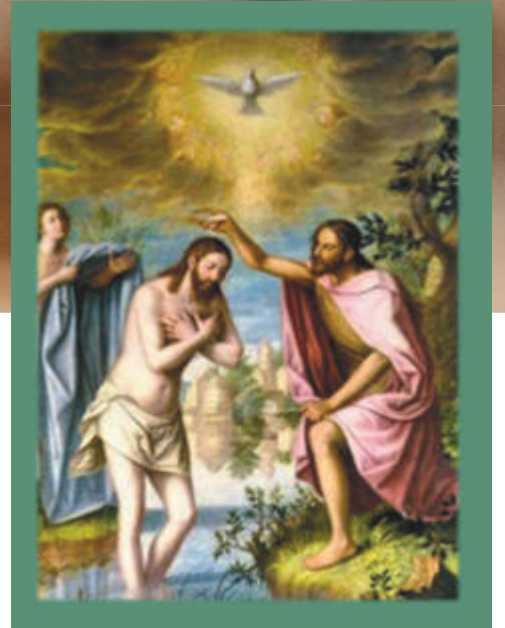
Saint Francis of Assisi Parish

LORD, MAKE ME AN INSTRUMENT OF YOUR PEACE.

JANUARY 9, 2022 | THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



"I am baptizing you with water, but one mightier than I is coming. I am not worthy to loosen the thongs of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire." - Lk 3:16bc



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Today we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord. This beautiful feast marks the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. In the Gospel we hear of this amazing moment where each person of the Holy Trinity is recognized. As God the Son is Baptized, God the Holy Spirit descends upon Him in bodily form like a dove, and God the Father's voice is heard. It is a tremendous moment.

On this Feast day I usually like to ask why Jesus had to be baptized. It is a good question honestly. First of all, John's baptism was a baptism of repentance. Jesus did not sin. Why did he need this? Even if we think of this in terms of the baptism that each of us who have been baptized have experienced, where original sin is washed away and we are made members of the Body of Christ, again, why would Jesus need to do this? He has no sin and He is already the Body of Christ. Some would say that it was an appropriate thing to do as Jesus was beginning His ministry, something along the lines of a Mikveh in which some Jewish people, even today, bathe to achieve ritual purity. But Jesus was the purest already. So why?

The answer that I normally come up with is that Jesus didn't need to be baptized. He did it for us. Jesus did this to show us the way, to establish the ritual of the Sacrament. I believe that this is true.

However, I think the Lord put another thought in my head this year. Maybe, technically speaking, Jesus didn't need to be baptized. But maybe what happened here, even though He knew who He was, knew His mission, knew the Father and the Spirit were with Him, maybe being baptized was just what He needed as He started His ministry.

Think about it. Jesus has a ridiculously huge task ahead of Him. He was fully Divine yes, but also fully human. Maybe God the Father, Jesus' dad, just wanted to let Him know how proud He was. Maybe Jesus needed that affirmation. It is a very human thing to need and Jesus is very human.

You know that I love my mom and dad very much. They were great parents, awesome people. But I once learned a lesson from them when they were empty nesters and I came home from school. You've probably heard me tell this before. But anyway, we were eating dinner and I told my mom how delicious it was. She said, "Thank you Matt, I don't hear that too often these days." and glanced at my dad. My dad looked up and said, "I ate it!". See, to my dad, the fact that he ate the meal was enough to let my mom know it was good. But my mom, while she knew it was good, she was a good cook, really appreciated hearing the affirmation.

We need stuff like that. So this week I want to challenge you each day to affirm the people in your life. Don't just assume they know. Tell them. Tell them they did a good job. Keep your eyes open and see the good in the other people in your life. Tell them that they are beloved and that you are "well pleased." Tell your kids. Tell your parents or your husband or your wife. Tell me, I need it! We need it. Make an effort to do this each day this week. It is a very human thing to need and very holy thing to do.

Peace and Love,
Fr. Matt

PARISH INFORMATION



ST. JOHN

668 Clearfield Rd
Fenelton, Pa 16034

ST. JOSEPH

315 Stoney Hollow Rd
Cabot, Pa 16023

ST. MARY

121 Herman Rd
Butler, PA 16002

CONTACT US

ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER

315 Stoney Hollow Rd.,
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724-352-2149

www.saintfrancisparish.net

Bulletin & Website Information

Please submit bulletin information by 10am
on Wednesdays to Jenn at
jenn@saintfrancisparish.net

Sacrament & Mass Intention

Scheduling

Contact Linda

Facilities Scheduling

Contact Barb

Cemetery Inquiries

Contact North Regional Office,
2636 Ellwood Road, New Castle, PA 16101,

PARISH STAFF

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-St. Joseph

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-St. Mary

Carol Michel
michel317@zoominternet.net

St. Joseph Preschool

Amy Majersky Ext. 209

St. Mary Preschool

Amy Pettinato Ext. 221

Scan here to visit
our website



Scan here to visit our
Facebook Page

"The chief service I
owe you, O God, is that
every thought and
word of mine should
speak of you."

St. Hilary

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Date	Time	Location	Intention	Requested By
Saturday, January 8	4:00 PM Vigil	St. Mary	Dutch Bauer	The Girl Scouts
	5:30 PM Vigil	St. Joseph	Catherine Drescher	Tom & Margaret Kasunic
Sunday, January 9 The Baptism of the Lord	8:00 AM	St. Joseph	For the Parishioners of Saint Francis of Assisi	
	8:30 AM	St. John	Rodney Scott	Bernie & Joan Kriley
	10:00 AM	St. Mary	Violetta Collins	Tom & Carol Michel
	11:00 AM	St. Joseph	Jason Geary	Denny & Patti Geary
Monday, January 10	8:00 AM	St. Mary	Wess Dittmer	Don & Shirley
Tuesday, January 11	8:00 AM	St. John	Rodney Scott	Chuck Kriley
Wednesday, January 12	9:00 AM	St. Joseph	Ann Cranmer	Mark Smith
Thursday, January 13 St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor of the Church	8:00 AM	St. Mary	LeRoy Geibel Sr.	Agnes Tomsey
Friday, January 14	9:00 PM	St. Joseph	Priest's Intention	
Saturday, January 15	9:00 AM	St. Joseph	Priest's Intention	
	4:00 PM Vigil	St. Mary	Doris Crouch	Cathy Green
	5:30 PM Vigil	St. Joseph	Tom Osche	Barbara & Mary Kay
Sunday, January 9 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	8:00 AM	St. Joseph	Priest's Intention	
	8:30 AM	St. John	Rodney Scott	Don & Josi Nebel
	10:00 AM	St. Mary	Dutch Bauer	The Leroy Family
	11:00 AM	St. Joseph	Jason Geary	The Lawton Family



Maxine Yonosko
 James J. Edwards
 Ken Orloski
 Baby Willow Lydon
 Marta Riordan
 Gary McLafferty
 Tracey Bierhals
 Renee Verostek
 Dennis Geary
 Cookie & Tom Miller
 Bernadette Conerty
 Tom Angert Jr.
 Pat Jordan
 Marek Wabiszewski
 Robert Rakarich
 Rose Hinch
 Marge Karenbauer
 Mary Lou Beilstein
 Bernice Durand

Elaine Lydon
 Marge Steinhiser
 John Lorenz
 Kathy Miller
 Joe Krall
 Lois Davanzati
 Elizabeth Rakarich
 Agnes Widenhofer
 Carol Rowley
 Dan Jonczak Jr.
 Judy Convery
 Mary Carbin
 Jim Edwards
 C.J. Kriley
 Loretta Schnur
 Janet Biscetlia
 Fr. Victor Kriley, OFM, Cap.
 Fr. Gary Stakem, OFM, Cap

Please call the office or email Jenn to add/remove names from the prayer list.

This week's Sacred Heart candle at St. John is In Memory of *LeRoy Geibel Sr.*

O most holy Heart of Jesus, fountain of every blessing, I adore you, I love you and will a lively sorrow for my sins. I offer you this poor heart of mine. Make me humble, patient, pure, and wholly obedient to your will. Grant, good Jesus, that I may live in you and for you. Protect me in the midst of danger; comfort me in my afflictions; give me health of body, assistance in my temporal needs, your blessings on all that I do, and the grace of a holy death. Within your heart I place my every care. In every need let me come to you with humble trust saying, Heart of Jesus, help me.

Amen.



WEEKLY READINGS

*for the week of
 January 9, 2022*

Sunday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/Acts 10:34-38/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

or, Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30 [1]/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

Monday: 1 Sm 1:1-8/Ps 116:12-13, 14-17, 18-19/Mk 1:14-20

Tuesday: 1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Mk 1:21-28

Wednesday: 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Mk 1:29-39

Thursday: 1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25/Mk 1:40-45

Friday: 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19/Mk 2:1-12

Saturday: 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mk 2:13-17

Next Sunday: Is 62:1-5/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 7-8, 9-10

[3]/1 Cor 12:4-11/
 Jn 2:1-11



CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Saturday

11:00am-12:00 pm | St. Mary
 12:00pm-12:30pm | St. John
 12:00 pm-1:00 pm | St. Joseph



PARISH UPDATES AND EVENTS

PARISH GIVING

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

DECEMBER 26, 2021 & CHRISTMAS

Offertory - Mass	\$9,357.00
Offertory - Online	\$2,105.00
Total Offertory	\$11,462.00

PARISH SHARE COLLECTIONS

Parish Share (PSP)	\$5,313.00
Parish Share - Online	\$170.00
Total Parish Share	\$5,483.00
2021 Parish Share Goal	\$127,706.00
Received to Date	\$121,918.70

MINISTRY COLLECTIONS

Immaculate Conception	\$90.00
Retired Religious	\$10.00
Christmas Charities	\$4,574.01
Christmas Offertory.....	\$17,658.00
Christmas Flowers.....	\$140.23
Food Bank.....	\$20.00
St. Anthony/DePaul Schools	\$5.00
All Saints.....	\$5.00
Solemnity of Mary.....	\$137.00

WEEKLY COLLECTIONS

JANUARY 2, 2022

Offertory - Mass	\$7,843.55
Offertory - Online	\$2,899.40
Total Offertory	\$10,742.95

PARISH SHARE COLLECTIONS

Parish Share (PSP)	\$3,708.00
Parish Share - Online	\$330.00
Total Parish Share	\$4,038.00
2021 Parish Share Goal	\$127,706.00
Received to Date	\$125,956.70

MINISTRY COLLECTIONS

Immaculate Conception	\$30.00
Retired Religious	\$25.00
Christmas Charities	\$236.00
Christmas Offertory.....	\$1,136.00
Christmas Flowers.....	\$130.00
Utility/Energy Fund	\$20.00
St. Anthony/DePaul Schools	\$40.00
All Saints.....	\$30.00
Solemnity of Mary.....	\$1,059.00

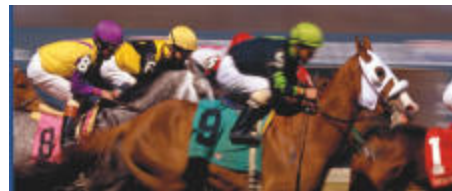
**Thank you for your continued support
of Saint Francis of Assisi Parish!**



The Marian Guild will be meeting the second Wednesday of each month at the St. John Hall at 6:30 pm. The next meeting is this Wednesday, January 12th. All ladies of the parish are invited to join.



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**ANNUAL NITE AT
THE RACES
Friday,
February 25, 2022**

Tickets are \$25 and include a buffet, beverages, beer and all the fun you could have in one nite!

There will also be Basket raffles, 50-50 raffle, Instant Bingo and surprises galore!

Horses are \$10 and Jockeys are \$5.

There are 100 horses for sale. You can name your horse. If your horse wins any one of the 10 races, you will win \$40. There are 100 jockeys for sale. You can name your jockey. If your jockey wins any one of the 10 races, you will win \$20.

All tickets will be available next weekend after Masses at all three locations.. After next weekend, tickets will be available by calling 724-355-5403, please have the number of tickets, your name, phone, and which Mass you want to pick them up at, when you call. Tickets must be paid upfront. Seating is limited to 200. To avoid confusion we ask that you write down the names and phone numbers for admission tickets and horse or jockey names so that the stubs can be filled out when you pick up your tickets.

We are always looking to add to our race team. If you would like to help with any of the preparations: selling tickets, food prep, decorating, taking bets, etc., call Karyn at 724-355-5403 to volunteer or if you have any questions.

GIDDY UP RACE FANS!

St. Francis of Assisi Prayer Blanket Ministry has moved the location of the blankets from the Office at St. Joseph's church to the hall. Blankets can be picked up between 10:00 AM and 11:30 AM on Tuesday mornings when we have our meetings. We have a beautiful selection of blankets and crocheted shawls for women, men and children. In this new year, we are looking forward to providing support and comfort to even more people in need. The blankets are blessed, and a pair of rosaries from All Saints Parish, Butler, are included. Feel free to stop in to get a blanket, have a cup of coffee with us, and spend a few minutes with your church family. If you have any questions, contact Suzanne Ekas at 724.360.0027.

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St. Francis Parish

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and You're All Set!

Thanks to those who participated in the live Nativity on Sunday, December 19, at our St. Joseph location.

Joseph: Doug Jackman Mary: Patti Jackman

Angel: Joann

Lindstrom

Shepherds:

Michael Lawton,

David Lawton,

Richard Pavlik,

Bud Roenigk



Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast Buffet next Sunday, January 16th from 8 am – 1 pm at St. Joseph Hall.

Includes a wide variety of pancakes, sliced ham, sausage, scrambled eggs, juice, tea, and coffee!



Best breakfast around - anywhere!!!!
Give us a try, you'll be glad you did!

The St. Francis of Assisi Substance Abuse Ministry (SAM) will gather to recite the rosary at St Joseph church on Tuesday, January 25th at 7:00pm. The SAM will continue to gather the fourth Tuesday of every month to pray the rosary. Join us to pray for those affected by substance abuse and their families.



A safe and simple way to get updates from the parish via email or text message.

You can select which groups or ministries within Saint Francis Parish that you want to receive messages from.

To get started, TEXT JJM to **84576**

Or Go online to:
saintfrancisparish.flocknote.com

Important numbers for Reporting Child Abuse below:


Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator Office:

412-456-3093

Hot Line: 1-888-808-1235

PA Childline: 1-800- 932-0313

PARISH UPDATES AND EVENTS



*****NEW LOCATION*****

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seek.
knock.

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together present,
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Sessions begin Monday, Jan. 10th and will be held every Monday for seven weeks, from 6:30 - 8:30 pm at **St. John Hall** in Fenelton. The program includes dinner and seating is limited. Registration is required by **noon on Monday, January 10th**. Registration forms are available in the vestibule of each church. If you have any questions, contact Sue Fraley (724.445.3713 Ext. 3, sue@saintclareparish.com) or Angie Robb (724.352.2149 Ext. 208, ange-la@saintfrancisparish.net).



MARCH FOR LIFE

January 21st, 2022

Washington, D.C.

MARCH FOR LIFE

MARCH FOR LIFE
#WhyWalkMarch | MarchForLife.org

**Sign up ASAP to ensure your spot. Space is limited.
If you have never experienced the March For Life,
make it this year. Words cannot describe ...**

Sign up online at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E084BA9AC29A4F85-bussignup>

Or Contact Sue Fraley (St. Clare office) or Cil Love (St. Francis office) with any questions.

Remember to dress for the weather!

St. Clare & St. Francis parishes are sponsoring a bus trip to the March for Life on January 21st

The bus will depart from St. Mary in Herman at 6am. Fr. Jim will celebrate Mass at 5:15 am, prior to departure.

Approximate arrival at noon at the National Mall in DC for the rally and march.

The bus will depart DC at 5pm and arrive back to St. Mary at approximately 11:30pm.

Cost is \$30/adults, \$20/children under 18 (\$70 max per immediate family)

All donations accepted, pay what you can. Don't let cost keep you from going.

Please submit payment when possible to reserve your spot.

Make checks payable to St. Francis Parish. Children under 18 (not accompanied by a parent) will need a signed permission slip.

Religious Instruction Excusal forms are available for school absence. Both forms can be found at each church.

Breakfast snacks and water will be supplied on the bus. Please pack lunch and snacks.

There will be a stop for dinner.

Children's Faith Formation Corner



2022



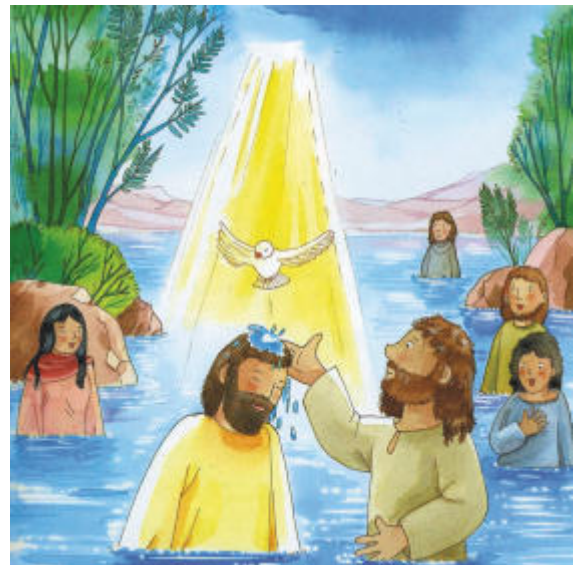
- January 9- CFF **St. Joseph**- 9:15-10:45 AM
CFF **St. John**- 9:45-11 AM
CGS II & III **St Joseph** 6-8PM
Edge- **St. Joseph** 6-8PM
- January 11- *Rooted in Faith* **St. Joseph** 7PM
- January 13- *Rooted in Faith* **St John** 7PM (if needed)
- January 16- CFF **St. Joseph**- 9:15-10:45 AM
CFF **St. John**- 9:45-11 AM
Youth Mass- 11 AM **St. Joseph**
- January 20- **First Communion Parent Meeting**
7PM **St. Joseph Hall**
- January 23- CFF **St. Joseph**- 9:15-10:45 AM
CFF **St. John**- 9:45-11 AM
Confirmation Class- 9:15 AM **St. Joseph Hall**
CGS II & III **St Joseph** 6-8PM
Edge- **St. Joseph** 6-8PM
- January 30- CFF **St. Joseph**- 9:15-10:45 AM
CFF **St. John**- 9:45-11 AM

FUNDRAISER CARD

2022 Reusable Discount Card

Reusable & continuous savings Jan 1 - Dec 31, 2022.

Fundraiser Cards are still available! Support St. Mary's Preschool, pick up a reusable discount card and save money at local businesses. Cards are available at the office in Herman through the end of January, cost is \$10.



Jesus, Mary and Joseph pray for our families.

This week we lift up in prayer the following families:



The Lavorini Family: Mark, Ronata, Giona and Adrian

The Rodgers Family: Christopher, Stefanie, Sydney and Connor



Through the grace of our Lord, may they enjoy prosperity, possess the priceless gift of peace, and as the Church alive in the home, bear witness in this world to the Lord's glory.

IN THE COMMUNITY

HOPE AND HEALING ARE POSSIBLE!!!

For those struggling with addiction or substance abuse, for their families and for those who have lost loved ones to the disease of addiction and overdose.

We come together in prayer!

PLEASE JOIN US FOR ROSARY AND SPECIAL INTERCESSIONS

TUESDAYS: Jan. 11th and 18th - 2:30 to 3:30pm

at ABBA'S HOUSE, 320 W. MAIN ST., SAXONBURG, 16056

information: patomaszewski@zoominternet.net

Oh Emmanuel, God-with-us! -John Paul II

Widowed, Divorced, Separated?

The loss of a spouse through death, divorce, or separation is a traumatic experience. The Beginning Experience© Pittsburgh Lay Apostolate will host a 1-day Saturday seminar, Coping with Life Alone-In the Beginning Program, intended to help widowed, divorced, or separated men and women work through their grief and begin to move forward with hope on their life journey.

Please plan to join us Saturday, 29 January 2022 from 8:45am – 4:00pm. Fee is \$25.00 (lunch included). Location: Our Lady of Mount Carmel Community Center (St. Athanasius) located at 7 Chalfonte Ave., West View, PA 15229. Register by January 25th at www.BeginningExperiencePittsburgh.com or make a confidential call to Rob at 412-584-5575 or Kim at 412-352-2653 to learn more about this healing ministry.

Scholarships, aid and grants are available up to \$10,000 at Saint Joseph High School! SJHS will host the High School Placement Test for 8th grade students on Saturday, January 15, 2022. Register online at SaintJosephHS.com. Submit an admissions application and a scholarship application online by 1/15 and fees associated with the applications will be waived. Questions? Contact Admissions Director Mrs. Shane Palumbo '92 at admissions@SaintJosephHS.com or 724-226-4932.

Saint Joseph High School is hiring a short-term substitute. A secondary certification in English is preferred. The start date is January 6, 2022. Interested applicants should forward a cover letter, resume, all PA required clearances (Child Abuse, Criminal, FBI Fingerprinting) to: Kimberly Minick, Assistant Principal. Email: kminick@saintjosephhs.com. Please include Substitute on the subject line. To learn more about Saint Joseph High School please visit SaintJosephHS.com.

The Knights of Columbus at St. Clare Parish are sponsoring a pancake breakfast today, January 9th, from 8 am - 12:30 pm at **St. Joseph's Hall in North Oakland**. Cost: Adults \$5.00 and Children \$3.00. Join us for a delicious breakfast!



The online version of the *Pittsburgh Catholic* can be found at www.diopitt.org

LIFE Butler County Serves Low Income Elders in Their Homes
Are you struggling or overwhelmed, trying to work and take care of a parent, spouse or other family member in addition to everything else you have to do? Do you sometimes have to call off for a day or even longer in order to provide the support needed to help that person remain safe in their home? Do you know someone who is and wish you could help? If so, LIFE Butler County may be able to help you! The LIFE Butler County program, a partnership of Lutheran SeniorLife and the Butler Health System, is a comprehensive health care and supportive services program designed to enhance the ability of frail, low income, older adults to live safely in their homes and communities with dignity, respect, and independence. LIFE can provide the following services: An interdisciplinary team including physicians, nurses, social workers, dietitians, recreational coordinators, and rehabilitation therapists, An on-call nurse and physician available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, Adult day health care services, including recreational programs, Personal care, Housekeeping and laundry, Physical, Occupational and Speech Therapies, Transportation to the LIFE center and to medical appointments, Medication management, Assistance with meal preparation, Medical equipment, Dentistry, Optometry, and Audiology.

The LIFE program is available to all eligible residents of Butler County. To be eligible to enroll in LIFE, a person must meet the following requirements: Be 55 years of age or older Reside in Butler County Have difficulty managing his or her own health-related needs independently at home and meet a level of care determined by the Butler County Area Agency on Aging Be eligible for Medicaid or able to pay privately Be able to remain safely in their home environment with the addition of LIFE services There are no co-pays or deductibles for care and services provided to individuals who qualify. The LIFE program is a part of the national PACE program (Program of All Inclusive Care for the Elderly), which has been successful across the nation. Lutheran SeniorLife operates LIFE programs in Armstrong, Beaver, Butler and Lawrence counties. For information on LIFE Programs, call Janice Rodgers at 724-431-3903, send an email to janice.rodgers@lutheranseniorlife.org, or visit www.lutheranseniorlife.org/LIFE.

Pope Francis has invited every Catholic to advise him on how to discern the Church's path forward. This process, called a "synod", means "journeying together."

From now until spring 2022, Catholics from across this diocese – and across the world – can share what the Holy Spirit has laid on their hearts. This journey of listening will conclude in October 2023 in Rome. There, Pope Francis will listen to bishops who have been listening to their people worldwide about the best ways for the People of God to help him discern the Church's path forward. **Text "Synod2021" to 84576 to receive regular updates on the Synod.**

Planning on getting married? Register for the Spring 2022 Marriage Preparation class. The spring registration forms are available on our parish website. For more information or to register, contact Cheryl Weiland at 724-991-2639 or email cweiland@zoominternet.net.

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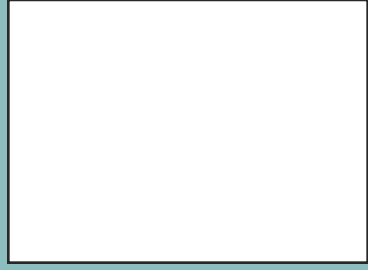
**Associates Benefit
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CAROLINE KYNE**
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