



Saint Francis of Assisi

ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

101 West Church Avenue
Masontown, Pennsylvania 15461
Phone: 724-583-7866 • Fax: 724-583-0373
Website: www.sfoafayette.org
email: sfoafayette@dioceseofgreensburg.org



*A Parish of the Diocese of Greensburg
A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust*

August 15, 2021

Rev. Marlon Pates, Pastor
mpates@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Masses in Masontown

Monday, Wednesday, Friday ..8:00 am
Saturday4:00 pm
Sunday.....8:00 am & 11:30 am

Confessions: Saturday 3:00-3:30 pm

Masses in Footedale

Tuesday & Thursday8:00 am
Saturday:4:00 pm
Sunday.....9:30 am

Confessions: Saturday 3:00-3:30 pm

Office Hours: Monday through
Friday 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Bulletin Articles: The deadline
for placing articles in the bulletin
is Monday at Noon.

New Parishioners, Welcome!
Please register as soon as possible.

Communion to the Homebound is
provided on a regular basis. Call the
Parish Office to be added to our list.

Sacrament of Baptism: By
appointment. Prior to your baby's
Baptism, you must be a registered,
practicing member of this parish.

Sacrament of Marriage: Requires
parish membership by at least one of
the parties for six months prior to
making arrangements for marriage.
Weddings should be scheduled
one year in advance.

Prayer Chain: To request prayer,
please call Patty 724-245-9746
or Valeria 724-583-9460



THE ASSUMPTION OF THE
Blessed Virgin Mary



Fr. Marlon's Reflections
Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Luke 1:39-56)

My friend, who is also a priest, said that if he had gotten married, he would have chosen one who is **BBC** or Beauty, Brain and Character. And I think the woman that could meet these criteria is no other than the Blessed Virgin Mary whose Feast of her Assumption we are celebrating today. The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary is a dogma or the essential teaching of the church. This belief is at the core of our Catholic faith. It is a truth we must believe in, even though we cannot understand it.

Lumen Gentium no. 59, one of the documents of the Second Vatican Council or the Constitution on the Church states that: *“Finally, the Immaculate Virgin preserved free from all guilt of original sin, on the completion of her earthly sojourn, was taken up body and soul into heavenly glory and exalted by the Lord.”* We have to take note that the words used were, *‘was taken up into heaven.’* The Blessed Virgin Mary did not go to heaven all by herself or alone. She was taken up into heaven by God. She is valuable in relation to Him and to the Church.

Assumption means, “To be taken up” body and soul to heaven. It is not Ascension, like Jesus, done by His own power, but Assumption done by the power of God. It is something God did for her, not something she did for herself. It is a gift of God as a result of Christ’s redemptive power applied to the Blessed Virgin Mary. The dogma says, “The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin is a singular participation in her Son’s Resurrection.” The Assumption was God’s way of finishing the job he started at Mary’s Immaculate Conception, redeeming her body from the effects of sin as well.

But why is Mary? It is because she was the Mother of Jesus and Jesus did what you and I would have done with our mothers if we would have the power: Jesus did not allow the hands that cared for His to be corrupted and the heart that loved Him so much.... If He did it to Enoch and Elijah, in the Old Testament, why is not to His Mother?

Reflecting on the gospel today, I asked myself why the gospel did not contain anything about the Virgin Mary’s heavenly entrance. There is nothing heavenly about the gospel we just read. Rather, it is about the Visitation of Mary to her cousin Elizabeth. One priest said that there is nothing heavenly in the gospel but only heaviness, both women were pregnant and they certainly were a few pounds heavier.

But I believed there is something heavenly in the meeting between Mary and Elizabeth. When Mary and Elizabeth met each other, there was pure admiration. There was admiration without jealousy and admiration without envy; a meeting without string attached; a meeting without any expectation of recognition by the one being visited; a meeting without ulterior motives; a meeting that was not asking for any payment; a meeting that was done with a sincere heart with love; and a meeting that was done with all honesty and purity of heart.

When Mary was assumed into heaven, it was similar to the meeting between Elizabeth and Mary. God welcomed Mary into heaven without any ulterior motives. She was welcomed into heaven not because she was God’s instrument but because She was Mary. She was the daughter of God. She was welcomed into heaven in total purity of heart; in total joy; and in total happiness. She entered into heaven without any element of pride, without thinking that *‘I am getting what I deserve because I am the Mother of God’* and in total love of God who love her in return. That is heavenly.

A good question for us to reflect upon is: *Have we ever been in loved like this?* Without any ulterior motives; without any rebuke; without abusing your loved one; without suspecting your loved one; without lying; without untruthfulness; without jealousy; without asking to be repaid; and without expecting that everything we do be returned to us by our loved one.

If we have loved like these and somebody loved like this too, this is a prelude to heaven.

OUR PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

Saint Francis of Assisi Parish is a Eucharistically-centered faith community whose life is formed by our baptismal commitment to Christ; is nourished by Scripture, Church teachings and the Sacraments; and is supported by membership in the worldwide church around us. It is a community made up of the former faith communities of All Saints, Holy Rosary, Madonna, Saint Mary, Saint Procopius and Saint Thomas. There is a long and rich history here where all are welcome, trust is present, risks for the kingdom of God are taken and the gifts of everyone are called forth. Under the patronage of Saint Francis of Assisi, we strive to be an instrument of peace and all that God calls us to be.

Saint Maximilian Mary Kolbe (1894-1941) was a Polish Franciscan who volunteered to die in place of a stranger in Auschwitz. From an early age, he had a strong devotion to the Virgin Mary and in 1907 he entered the Conventual Franciscans. He was sent to study at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome and seeing anti-Catholic demonstrations, he decided to



form the Militia Immaculata. He was innovative in his use of modern media, especially printing technology and radio, for catechesis, publishing first a monthly magazine and then a daily newspaper that soon had the widest circulation in Poland. During the 1930s, he started a mission in Japan and built a monastery in Nagasaki that was one of the few buildings left undamaged by the atomic bomb dropped at the end of World War II.

Because he hid Jews from the Nazis in his monastery in Poland, the Gestapo arrested him and eventually he was transferred to Auschwitz. When three prisoners escaped, the camp commandant selected ten men to die by starvation. One of the men cried out, "My wife! My children!" and Maximilian volunteered to take his place in the bunker. He survived for two weeks dying only when the guards injected him with carbolic acid. Saint Maximilian Kolbe was canonized by Saint Pope John Paul II in 1982.

He is a patron saint of journalists, amateur radio operators and of prisoners. He is often depicted wearing the striped uniform of a death-camp inmate.

We must love them both - those whose opinion we share and those whose opinions we reject; for both have labored in the search for truth and both have helped us in the finding of it. - Saint Thomas Aquinas

PRACTICE OF FAITH

Grace is a word that many find difficult to define. We sense grace personified in the Blessed Virgin Mary. This extraordinary woman agreed to the angel's divine request even though she was barely a teenager. Today's Gospel from Luke tells of Mary's travels to her cousin Elizabeth where she will find comfort and support. Upon seeing Mary, Elizabeth declares that Mary and the baby in her womb are "blessed." In your prayer time, recall moments when you have felt especially blessed. Think about the circumstances surrounding these times and how these might have included unexpected challenges. Try to make the Magnificat part of your daily prayer. Meditate on Mary's words of faith in the Magnificat.

INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

Good mothers have a way of bringing their children hope. When we fall and hurt ourselves, our mothers can help us walk the path of healing. There is hope that we will get better and the trust that we have in mom's comforting assurance allows us to move forward. Mothers know instinctively what we need and what we are capable of doing. They can be one of our biggest cheerleaders in life and, even when facing despair, can point the way to a brighter tomorrow. Our Blessed Mother does precisely that for us today. As one closest to our Lord, she cheers us on with the hope of what life will be for all of us. Although given the unique distinction of being raised in both body and soul, she nonetheless points to our true eternal destiny. Achieving this inheritance overrides any disappointment and her intercession and example inspires us to pick ourselves up when we fall. Always a mother filled with grace and hope, she calls us to reaffirm our faith in God and in the gifts we have each been given as we persevere even in the midst of life's challenges and failures.

Monday is the Feast of Saint Stephen of Hungary.

He was the first Christian king of Hungary and is renowned for his charity to beggars. He is known as the apostolic King and apostle of Hungary.

Thursday is the Feast of Saint John Eudes. He founded the Congregation of Jesus & Mary & the Sisters of the Good Shepherd who assist morally endangered women.

Friday is the Feast of Saint Bernard. He was a reformer and spiritual author who founded sixty-eight monasteries, denounced injustice and worked for peace.

Saturday is the Feast of Saint Pius X. He undertook liturgical and canonical reforms, especially communion for children and frequent communion for adults. He wished to renew all things in Christ.

The Practice of Stewardship

After Jesus, it is the Blessed Virgin Mary who by her example most perfectly teaches the meaning of discipleship and stewardship ... She was called and gifted by God; she responded generously, creatively and prudently; she understood her divinely assigned role as *handmaid* in terms of service and fidelity.

Stewardship of Treasure

August 8: \$5,163; loose \$200; monthly \$1,738; children \$10; online \$477 totaling 7,588
320 envelopes used of 816 issued

Our Parish is very grateful for your continued support - especially during this critical time!



Pasta Dinner and Basket Raffle - Sunday, August 8
Thank you to all who volunteered their time, talent and treasure in making last Sunday's Pasta Dinner and Basket Raffle a tremendous success!

From those who planned and prepared the meal, those who set up and cleaned up the social hall, those who served the meals and those who purchased the meals - thank you! We especially wish to acknowledge our Confirmation Class whose help was much appreciated.

Thank you to all who donated the beautiful baskets! There were fifty beautiful baskets to take a chance on. Thanks to all who supported us in any way, we realized a profit of \$7,239.50. **Thank you and God bless you!**



Sacred Steps
Sacramental Celebrations
at Saint Francis of Assisi Parish



Parish Sympathy is expressed to the family of
 † **Elizabeth J. (Connolly) Brooks**
 who was buried Saturday, August 7. May God grant her eternal life and comfort her family.

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Welcome back to in-person Faith Formation! Enrollment is currently available for the 2021-2022 Faith Formation Classes which begin Sunday, **September 12**, 10:30 to 11:45 am, in Footedale.

Classes begin with pre-school and go through 7th grade (Confirmation Preparation Class). By enrolling each one of your children early, we will have a better idea of how many textbooks and supplies will be needed.

Enrollment packets are available at the entrances of both sites. You can mail or drop off the enrollment forms at the Parish Office or place them in the collection basket in an envelope marked "Enrollment."

The more children pre-enrolled will save us time on the first day of class. Please contact Kim Stavish, Faith Formation Coordinator, with questions or concerns: kimm70ee@yahoo.com or 724-366-8901.

Students entering Seventh Grade in the Fall of 2021 will be **required** to attend the Confirmation Preparation Class prior to receiving Confirmation in the Fall of 2022. Please use the Faith Formation Enrollment Form to register. Contact Kim Stavish at 724-366-8901 or kimm70ee@yahoo.com with any questions.

Interested in Becoming Catholic?

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the process by which one becomes a member of our Catholic Faith. The process not only teaches the Doctrine of the Church, but also explores its practices. The first step is the Period of Inquiry which begins in September. We invite anyone who may be interested in seeking entrance into the Catholic Faith to "Come and See." Please call the Parish Office for further information.

The Saint Francis of Assisi Golden Group will meet at 11:30 am on Wednesday, **August 18**, at the social hall.

Cantor Training, scheduled for August 18, has been **cancelled** due to new COVID-19 restrictions.

Thank You for the following donations to Saint Francis of Assisi Parish given in memory of:
Dolores Puscian by Lu Ann & Mary Lou Drzazgowski
Mary Catherine (Malaspina) Matis &
Martha Sue Cassidy by Colette Freiberg

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday, August 14 -- Vigil: Assumption of Mary
 4:00 pm-M Shirley Beck (Diane & Lisa)
4pm-F outdoor Mehalek & Traversari Families (Family)

Sunday, August 15 -- Assumption of Mary
 8:00 am-M Velma Sefcik (Anita Nolle)
 9:30 am-F Bill, Vincent, David Kish (P Sandrosky)
 11:30 am-M Jack Andrews (Frank & Mary Maykuth)

Monday, August 16 -- Saint Stephen of Hungary
 8:00 am-M No Mass

Tuesday, August 17 -- Weekday
 8:00 am-F No Mass

Wednesday, August 18 -- Weekday
 8:00 am-M No Mass

Thursday, August 19 -- Saint John Eudes
 8:00 am-F No Mass

Friday, August 20 -- Saint Bernard
 8:00 am-M No Mass

Saturday, August 21 -- Vigil: 21st Ordinary Sunday
 3-3:30 pm-M Confessions
 4:00 pm-M Geno Coll (Wife & Family)
 3-3:30 pm-F Confessions
 4:00 pm-F Larry & Patty Stavish 52nd anniversary

Sunday, August 22 -- 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
 8:00 am-M Pro Populo Mass
 9:30 am-F Louise Drzazgowski (MaryLou & LuAnn)
 11:30 am-M Joseph G. Sabatelli (Wife, Rosalie)

Mass Readings for the Week Ahead

Monday:	Dt 10:12-22; Mt 17:22-27	
Tuesday:	2 Cor 9:6-10; Jn 12:24-26	
Wednesday:	Dt 34:1-12; Mt 18:15-20	
Thursday:	Jos 3:7-17; Mt 18:21-19:1	
Friday:	Jos 24:1-13; Mt 19:3-12	
Saturday:	Jos 24:14-29; Mt 19:13-15	
Next Sunday:	Rv 11:19, 12:1-10; 1 Cor 15:20-27; Lk 1:39-56	

Father Marlon will be away from the parish August 16-20 for Priests Spiritual Retreat.

As you know, the Canon Law is very clear in its requirement of a yearly retreat for priests. Canon 276 §2 states: "Priests are equally bound to make time for spiritual retreats according to the prescripts of particular law." Retreat is greatly needed by priests to make time for themselves to be recharged. Otherwise, priests risk becoming channels and burning out, with no water for themselves. In this connection, **there will be NO daily Mass on these days.** Please pray for Father Marlon's fruitful retreat with the Lord!

Bishop Larry J. Kulick is committed to caring for the health, safety and spiritual wellbeing of parishioners and their communities. On August 9, he met with members of his Recommencing In-Person Worship Advisory Board which is comprised of clergy, laity and healthcare experts. This group is charged with continuously re-evaluating coronavirus mitigation efforts. As cases of the Delta and other new variants are surging, Bishop Kulick is updating the following **mask protocols** effective Friday, August 13:

- * Anyone volunteering on behalf of a parish **must wear a face covering indoors**, regardless of their vaccination status.
- * This includes ministers of Holy Communion, ushers, greeters, servers, parish event volunteers who are working inside, faith formation leaders and catechists who are working indoors, those visiting the sick or homebound and any other indoor ministry. Lectors and cantors may remove their masks while reading/singing.
- * When working indoors, Parish and Diocesan staff are required to wear face coverings in common areas.
- * Clergy should wear masks for the distribution of Holy Communion and while interacting in close proximities to other persons. They should continue to follow hand sanitization directives.
- * Masks for those attending indoor worship services or indoor parish events are strongly recommended. Each parishioner is strongly encouraged to make a responsible decision about the use of masks and vaccinations.

As previously announced, **the bishops are reinstating the obligation to attend Mass in person on Sundays and holy days beginning Sunday, August 15**; however, by longstanding Church law, this obligation does not apply to those who are: sick; have a serious health risk; primary caregivers to those at risk; have serious anxiety or concerns about being in a large-group setting due to COVID-19; unable to attend Mass in person.

As an act of charity, anyone who believes they might have COVID-19 or one of its variants should stay home.

Memorial Candles burn this week in loving memory of or for the special intention of:

† **Blessed Mother** - Angela Pikulski
 requested by daughters

Lauren Madison requested by her family

† **Saint Joseph** - Martha Gadish
 requested by sister Dorothy
 & Sam Kirk & family

Rich Fabrycki Sr. requested by grandsons,
 Braden, Patten & Bruno

† **Sacred Heart** - Rose Fidek
 requested by godchild, Constance
 Joe Novotny requested by wife, Joan



"Your Family Owned Funeral Home"
JOHN S. MAYKUTH JR.
FUNERAL HOME
 LOCALLY OWNED & OPERATED
724-583-8811



John M. Fabry
 CFSP, CPC,
 Funeral Director



Kish-Fabry
 Funeral Home, Inc.
...the compassionate professionals.

Robert T. Kish - Supervisor **John P. Duke - Supervisor**
 1 Legion Street 20 N. Mill St.
 Republic, PA 15475 New Salem, PA 15468
 O: 724.246.9466 O: 724.245.9261
 F: 724.246.9467 F: 724.245.2909
 john.fabry@verizon.net

Custom Monuments & More



1878 McClellandtown Rd
 Masontown • 724-952-1040

FREE DELIVERY
 Store Hours:
 M-F 9-9 Sat-Sun 9-5

DEARTH FUNERAL HOME
 New Salem, PA
 Clark B. Dearth Since 1900



Call For An Appointment
724-320-4636
 31 N. MORGANTOWN ST.
 FAIRCHANCE, PA 15436
 WWW.FOREVERMONUMENTS.NET

Ralph's Garage Doors
 Sales • Service • Installation
 Doors & Parts • Electric Openers
 (724) 966-2879 **Carmichaels**



R&D WATERS
 SEPTIC SERVICE
724-966-2477

J & J MECHANICAL
 Residential Heating & Cooling
 Your Local, Authorized Lennox Dealer
 ~ 724-583-2687 ~
 201 North Main Mason Town

Compliments of
Kathleen Packroni
 TAX COLLECTOR
 407 N. Main St. • Masontown

compliments of

TYGART INDUSTRIES

PROTECTING SENIORS NATIONWIDE
 MEDICAL ALERT SYSTEM

\$29.95/MO
 BILLED QUARTERLY

PLUS SPECIAL OFFER

CALL NOW!
 1.877.801.7772
 WWW.24-7MEDALARM.COM

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!

Jerry's Catering Service
"Where Our Noodle is Always A'Dente"
 Kathleen Ward Hughes, Owner
 16 Legion Street, Republic, PA 15475
724-246-8889 or 724-785-3036
 Like us on Facebook

Ben's Auto Parts SINCE 1976
 For all your body shop supplies and mechanical needs!
 107 River Avenue • Masontown, PA 15461
 Phone: 724-583-8335 Fax: 724-583-9656 Email: bensautopa@gmail.com
 1-800-446-8335

Marshall's Monuments
 THE AREA'S OLDEST MONUMENT COMPANY
 50 E. FAYETTE ST., UNIONTOWN, PA 15401
438-5200, After 6:00 p.m. 439-1163

JONATHAN P. KRIZNER, D.D.S.
 600 CHERRY TREE LN.
 UNIONTOWN, PA 15401
 Telephone (724) 438-0241
 Office Hours By Appointment

Millers
Home Health Care
 214 S. Main St.
 Masontown
 724-208-2111

BERISH AGENCY, INC.
David A. Berish, CIC
Samuel T. Berish AAI
 Insurance - Real Estate
 12 S. Main St. • Masontown
724-583-7767
 Fax 724-583-7792
 berishagency@atlanticbb.net

Terravecchia-Haky
 HOME FOR FUNERALS, INC.
Family Owned & Operated

Michael K. Sauritch SUPERVISOR **John S. Terravecchia** OWNER/FUNERAL DIRECTOR
724-583-7777
 www.terravecchiahakyfh.com • 515 N. Main Street • Masontown, PA 15461

EQ MUFFLER & AUTO CENTER
 COMPLETE CARBURETOR & FUEL INJECTION SERVICE
 COMPLETE BRAKE, EXHAUST & SUSPENSION SERVICE
724-439-3669
 Route 40 East • Uniontown, PA 15401

ADT-Monitored Home Security
 Get 24-Hour Protection From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Fire Safety
- Flood Detection
- Carbon Monoxide

1-855-225-4251

AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME!
ADVERTISE HERE NOW!

Contact **Kelly O'Brien-Carnevale** to place an ad today!
 kcarnevale@4LPi.com or (800) 477-4574 x6333



LaFayette Manor, Inc.
 & Bechwood Courts
 147 LaFayette Manor Road
 Uniontown, PA 15401
 — 724.430.4848 —

Fayette Heating & Air Conditioning
 2100 University Dr. • Uniontown
 724-439-2323 • fayetteheatingac.com

Jefferson Florist
 We Deliver More!
 M-F 9 am-5 pm 724-852-1223
 Sat 9 am-2 pm jeffersonfloral.com
 810 E. High Street • Waynesburg, PA
 Appointments available for after hours consultations

Compliments Of
Dan Shimshock

Watters pools Quality Inground & Above Ground Pools
 1564 E. Roy Furman Hwy. • Carmichaels
724-966-2040

LAKESIDE VENUES
 Your Event Specialist

- Room for 600 guests allows for social distancing
- Situated on 60 picturesque acres
- Perfect for your event, big or small

400 Old Rt. 21 Rd • McClellandtown, PA 15458
 Call for updates. 724-439-3111 www.lakesidevenues.com

PATTERSON'S AUTOMOTIVE
 354 Ronco Rd. • Masontown
724-322-2403
 Complete automotive repair services.

KOPEC INSURANCE AGENCY
 Lud Kopec • Cristy Kopec-Frantz
 An Independent Agency Representing the Erie Insurance Group
 211 S. Main St. • Masontown • (724) 583-2634

TRI-COUNTY HVAC

TRANE Sales • Service Installations

-FREE ESTIMATES-

Call Terry or Tyler 724-785-7171

FULL SERVICE AUTO REPAIR & SALES
Rose Motors Celebrating 25 Years!
 42 RIVER AVE. • MASONTOWN • 724-583-1944