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Jean Gigliotti, ex. 210
Jude Griffith, ex. 213**

**Business Manager –
Tony Bofinger, ex. 214**

**Religious Ed Coordinator –
Sue Dahrouge, ex. 226**

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

January 31, 2021

**We are the flock,
the Lord guides.**

Sunday Masses:

Vigil on Saturday evening at 4:30pm

Sunday Morning :

Summer Schedule - (May 1 – Aug. 31)

8:00 and 10:00am

Winter Schedule - (Sept 1 – April 30)

8:00 and 11:00am

Weekday Masses: Monday – Friday 8:00am
(Fri. during School – 9:00am)

Baptism:

By appointment only. Please contact the parish office.

Celebration of Penance:

3:45pm- Saturday afternoon

5:30pm – after the Saturday evening Mass

8:30am – after Mass on the Thursday

before the first Friday of the month.

Marriage:

Please contact the parish office at least six months beforehand.

Anointing of the Sick:

Please call the office if anyone in your family is hospitalized or in need of a priest.

616 W. Mahoning St. Punxsutawney, PA 15767

Church - 814-938-6540 Fax – 814-938-7439 * School – 814-938-4224 Fax – 814-939-3759

Website – www.sscdchurch.com E-mail – sscdofc@comcast.net

Rectory Office Hours: Mon. – Fri. 8:30am - 4:30pm

Mass Intentions for This Week

Saturday, January 30

4:30 p.m. Aggie I. Ott -- John & Pat Farcus

Sunday, January 31

8:00 a.m. Mildred & Jess Ananea --
Frank & Mary Verba

11:00 a.m. Elizabeth Uzzo -- Family

Monday, February 1

8:00 a.m. Albert & Rachel Rotolo --
LuAnn Rotolo

Tuesday, February 2

8:00 a.m. James E. Kaza -- Dorothy Mottern

Wednesday, February 3

8:00 a.m. Parishioners

Thursday, February 4

8:00 a.m. Michael & Cecelia Liscinsky
Paul & Bertha Koza

Friday, February 5

9:00 a.m. Laura Baranoski -- LuAnn Rotolo

Saturday, February 6

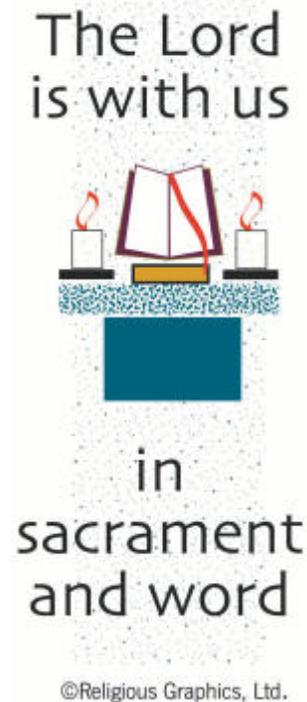
8:00 a.m. Sharon Boozer -- Charlene Skarbek

4:30 p.m. Don Ross -- Pete & Elaine Pape

Sunday, February 7

8:00 a.m. Paul Shaffer -- St. Clare Fraternity

11:00 a.m. Leocadia Kengersky --
Leo & Mary Claire Johnston



The Church encourages frequent, even daily, Holy Communion, but if at any time we cannot go to Mass, in or out of this season of the coronavirus, we can still unite ourselves to the Eucharist by making a spiritual Communion. When we make an Act of Spiritual Communion, we express our faith in Christ's Real Presence in the Eucharist and ask him to unite himself with us.



My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.



Dear Parishioners,

They went to Capernaum; and when the Sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching – with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.



Jesus taught "with authority," that is, he was the author of what he said; it never became his habit to quote rabbis and other authors, as the scribes used to do. His message itself, too, must have had its own inherent authority (though Mark does not tell us anything here about its content). What he said, if we are to guess from all the gospels, went straight to the hearts of his listeners. The only rhetorical device we know he used was the parable. A parable is not an interpretation of some text, it is a fresh way of looking at ordinary experience. His parables were drawn from the world of farming, fishing, viticulture...their world. It is inherently subversive to show people that their ordinary experience can be an open path to God; the scribes of every age would prefer that only their sacred text should do this. People realized that here was a teacher who understood and respected them, and not a scribe discharging his erudition over them. They were "astonished," because this was so unusual.

His teaching had authority in a further sense: it made things happen. He cast out demons. In other words, he liberated people who were tormented and demented in every way. "Poetry makes nothing happen," wrote W.H. Auden, in a poem about Yeats. But it does, as Yeats himself knew when he wrote, "Did that play of mine send out certain men the English shot?" When preaching is only commentary it seldom makes anything happen. But when Jesus preaches "the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, the poor have good news brought to them" (Luke 7:22). In Matthew 11:5 the description is identical, word for word. These were of the Messianic age: in other words, they were indications that Jesus was indeed the long-awaited one, the Messiah.

In today's reading, the demon which is being cast out shouts, "I know who you are, the Holy One of God." This may sound like a profession of faith, but how could it be? Instead it was a reflection of the belief that if you could name someone you had power over them. This was the significance of Jesus' asking a particularly intractable demon, later on in Mark's gospel, "What is your name?" (5:9).

Jesus did not disrespect the Scriptures; he used them for their intended purpose, to set people free, not to tie them up. "To be ignorant of the Scriptures is to be ignorant of Christ," wrote St Jerome (c. 347 - 419 AD). We could add that the converse is equally true: to be ignorant of Christ is to be ignorant of the Scriptures. If we did not read them in the spirit of Christ, we would be certain to misuse them. "If the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed" (John 8:36).

God Bless!

Msgr. J. Riccardo

PRE-CANA

In-person Pre-Cana will not be offered this year at SSCD.

For information on how to complete Pre-Cana on-line, in the **new Mentor-Cohort program**, visit <https://www.eriecd.org/familylifeoffice/mentor-cohort.html>.

Cohorts will run the weeks of:
- April 25 - May 17, 2021
- October 25- November 15, 2021



Built on the belief that "a wedding is one day...marriage is for a lifetime," the Engagement Encounter program helps couples build and refine their thoughts and prepare for married life.

Spend a weekend away from the stress of planning for the wedding, and enjoy the special moments of creating your future marriage together.

The next EE weekend will be March 19th - 21st at St. Mark Center in Erie.

Information and a registration form can be found at <https://www.eriecd.org/familylifeoffice/ee.html>

Weekend begins Friday at 7pm and concludes Sunday at 1pm. Space is limited; please register early.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS



Rest In Peace

Steven W. "Bill" Bosak, Jr, brother of Larry and Robert Bosak, both of our parish, who died this past week.

Please keep him and his family in your prayers. May his soul rest in peace.

SOUP SALE

To help get us through these cold winter days, SSCD school is having a weekly homemade soup sale!

Weekly Menu:

- February 5 - Zuppa Tuscano
- February 12 - Chili
- February 19 - Cheddar Broccoli
- February 26 - Minestrone



Cost is \$5 per quart. Pick-up will be Fridays outside of the school office - 7:30am – 9am.

Pre-ordering is recommended.

** Call to Pre-order 814-938-4224 **

Thank you for your support of this school fundraiser!

MUSIC AND PRAYERS AT MASS

Since we are not currently able to have our books in the pews, we are providing sheets with the hymns and prayers for Mass for your use.

Please pick one up from the table when you come in and then either take it home with you or throw it away after Mass. Please do not return it to the table. They cannot be reused. Each person will then have access to an unused hymn sheet when they come in to church.



SAINT VINCENT DePAUL VOLUNTEERS

Saturday, February 6 -

Mike Hudock, Stan Smoczek, Greg Aikens

OFFERTORY STATEMENTS

End-of-year statements will be sent upon request. You can call or e-mail the office, or place the following slip in the collection basket or in the mail slot in the breezeway and your statement will be sent to you.

2020 Offertory Statement Request

Name _____

Address _____

Envelope Number _____



For the benefit of those who are unable to, or who are concerned about returning to Mass at this time, SSCD is live streaming Mass twice a week. Look for this graphic on our parish website, sscdchurch.com, and click the link on Fridays at 9am and Sundays at 11am to join.

If you have any questions, just call the office.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK



Today begins the celebration of Catholic Schools Week, January 31st-February 6th. This year's theme is **"Faith, Excellence and Service."**

Below are just a few of the highlights planned for the week:

Wednesday, February 3: Our nation is the focus of the day! You are invited to join us in the school courtyard at 8am, socially distanced and wearing masks, to honor our nation by together praying the Our Father and saying the Pledge of Allegiance (weather permitting).

Thursday, February 4: Students will gather in school to celebrate teachers, staff and vocations in faith.

Friday, February 5: A special thank-you to our donors, volunteers, and sponsors. Please join us for our Children's Mass at 9am in-person or live-streamed via Twitch.

Visit our school Facebook page any time to stay up-to-date on all the wonderful things happening at our school. This week the focus will be on our Alumni. Take a look - you may see some familiar faces!

In addition to outstanding academics, our school provides students with daily religious instruction and guidance to help them live their best lives as children of God.

SSCD school welcomes inquiries from prospective students throughout the year. Call 814-938-4224 to schedule a virtual open house and learn how your child can continue to grow in **Faith, Excellence and Service!**



SANCTUARY CLEANERS THIS WEEK

SSCD - Bob Henretta, Katie Roberts,

Mary Wiesinger, Rita Yenzi

St. Anthony - Mary Ann Redding

SAINT VINCENT DePAUL WEEKLY FOOD DONATION

Food Donation next Sunday, **February 7 - Canned Potatoes**. Thank you for your support!

SCRIP PROGRAM

Scrip Cash and Carry is available in the School Office.

For your safety, please use the walk up window next to the principal's office to purchase your Scrip, Monday - Friday, 8:00am - 2:20pm

You can also use the Scrip "PrestoPay" feature that provides electronic delivery options (i.e. electronic credit to spend online or refill a merchant's card that you already have in your possession). Questions about PrestoPay can be directed to the Scrip program coordinator.

Thank you for supporting SSCD School through your participation in the Scrip Program.



PRAYER CHAIN

To add a name to the Prayer Chain, call Pat Rougeux, 938-4464 or Anna Smochek, 427-2456.

If you are unable to reach either of them, you may call the office weekdays 9am - 4pm.



Friday of this week, February 5th is the first Friday of the month.

Confessions for the First Friday will be on Thursday following the 8am Mass.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be held on Friday, beginning after the 9am Mass until 4pm. Our special intention for February is that we may take good care of creation – a gift freely given – cultivating and protecting it for future generations.

Please plan to come and spend some time in adoration of our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament on First Friday. Sign-up sheets are posted in church.



PRAY FOR PRIESTS IN DIOCESE OF ERIE

A monthly calendar is published, listing a priest of the Erie Diocese on each day. We are asked to remember that priest in our prayers for that particular day.

The calendar for February can be found on the Diocesan Website at www.eriercd.org and can also be found on the tables at the entrances of the church.

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

Today's gospel reminds us "unclean spirits" still haunt our families. These "spirits" thrive inside our grudges, punishing silence, impatience and abruptness. Today Jesus offers you the "authority" to cast out these spirits from your life and your family. Be forgiving. Be reconciling. Be the light you wish to see in the darkness.

OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTIONS

Thank you for your continued support throughout this most unusual time.

One way for you to easily support our parish is through on-line giving. There is a link for you to access this on our parish website, sscdchurch.com.

If you prefer to mail your offertory envelopes to the office, drop them in the mail slot in the breezeway, or put in the collection basket at church, please continue to do so. Thank you!

E-MAIL ADDRESSES

If we don't have your email address, or if your address has recently changed, please contact us at sscdofc@comcast.net so we can add you to our address book.

We will never share your e-mail address. Help us to stay in touch with you!



The 8th Annual 22:32 Men's Conference will be "Live Streamed" from the host site in Erie to the **St. Mary's Social Hall, Reynoldsville, Saturday, February 27th, from 8am - Noon.** This half-day event will feature two nationally acclaimed Catholic speakers.

The morning begins with Mass at St. Mary's Church at 8am followed by a light breakfast.

The program then begins at 9am and runs until Noon, with a light lunch to follow. Confessions will be made available during the lunch time.

For more information on cost and how to register, please visit the Men's Conference website, www.2232men.com.



ATTENTION SSCD SCHOOL ALUMNI!

As part of our Catholic Schools Week observance this year, we hope to share pictures, stories, and/or videos of our 126 years of Alumni on our school Facebook page!

Please share your memories with us via the Facebook Messenger app or email to sscdpcl@comcast.net.

Thank you! We look forward to hearing from you!

Prayer in Time of Pandemic

Lord Jesus,
 You came to bring salvation to our world. You humbled yourself to accept death on a cross. Be with us as we confront the spread of the coronavirus with courage and hope. Be present to the sick and to those who accompany them in their suffering. Strengthen our medical professionals and caregivers; comfort families who are separated from one another. Protect those who are at risk of the virus in their work.

Grant wisdom to our civic officials and perseverance to scientists. Spare us from the ravages of this illness and console us in our uncertainty and fear. Unite us in hope, enlighten us in faith, and give us the grace as a Church to love one another as You have loved us. Through the intercession of our Heavenly Mother, we make this prayer as we place our trust in You. Amen.

Imprimatur, April 8, 2020
 The Most Reverend Lawrence T. Persico, J.C.L., Bishop of Erie

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FORMED

PICK OF THE WEEK

January 31, 2021

WATCH

AN ORDINARY MARTYR: THE LIFE & DEATH OF BLESSED STANLEY ROTHER

As we celebrate the martyrdom of Paul Miki and his companions this week, we invite you to learn more about a modern martyr from the United States: Blessed Stanley Rother. Join us as we consider this ordinary man who loved extraordinarily.



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WEEKLY OFFERTORY ANALYSIS
 January 24, 2021

Combined Church Offertory	
Envelopes sent	715
Adult Envelopes Returned	142
Adult	\$4,583.05
Holy Day	\$55.00
Children	\$4.00
Loose	\$88.00
Monthly	\$1,170.00
Total	\$5,900.05
Weekly Goal	\$8,000.00
Surplus (Deficit)	(\$2,099.95)
Accumulated(+/-) Goal	\$6,142.01 <i>Under goal</i>

Catholic Services Appeal 2020 Combined Report

2020 Diocesan Assessment \$74,662.00	
Total Parish Goal - \$121,662.00	
Pledged Amt:	\$85,970.00
Paid on Pledge:	\$82,465.55
Unpaid Pledges:	\$3,454.45
Unpledged Donations:	\$19,443.06
Collected to Date:	\$101,908.61

Readings for the Week of January 31, 2021

- Sunday: Dt 18:15-20/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 7-9 [8]/ 1 Cor 7:32-35/Mk 1:21-28
- Monday: Heb 11:32-40/Ps 31:20, 21, 22, 23, 24 [25]/ Mk 5:1-20
- Tuesday: Mal 3:1-4/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10 [8]/Heb 2:14-18/ Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32
- Wednesday: Heb 12:4-7, 11-15/Ps 103:1-2, 13-14, 17-18a [cf. 17]/Mk 6:1-6
- Thursday: Heb 12:18-19, 21-24/Ps 48:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 9, 10-11 [cf. 10]/Mk 6:7-13
- Friday: Heb 13:1-8/Ps 27:1, 3, 5, 8b-9abc [1a]/ Mk 6:14-29
- Saturday: Heb 13:15-17, 20-21/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [1]/ Mk 6:30-34
- Next Sunday: Jb 7:1-4, 6-7/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [cf. 3a]/ 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-23/Mk 1:29-39

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