

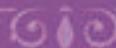


## SS. COSMAS & DAMIAN CHURCH

616 W MAHONING ST, PUNXSUTAWNEY, PA 15767 814-938-6540 SSCDCURCH.COM

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2021

## 2<sup>ND</sup> 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

## Mass Intentions for This Week

### Saturday, February 27

4:30 p.m. Angeline Gigliotti --  
Ed Skarbek Family

### Sunday, February 28

8:00 a.m. Victor Belin -- Ken & Toie Neal  
11:00 a.m. John Richard Phillips --  
Mike & Lisa Switlick

### Monday, March 1

8:00 a.m. William Paul Wehrle -- Suddes Family

### Tuesday, March 2

8:00 a.m. Michael Lorenzo -- Nick & Annette Lorenzo

### Wednesday, March 3

8:00 a.m. Parishioners

### Thursday, March 4

8:00 a.m. John & Margaret Filitske -- Jean & Bill Farcus

### Friday, March 5

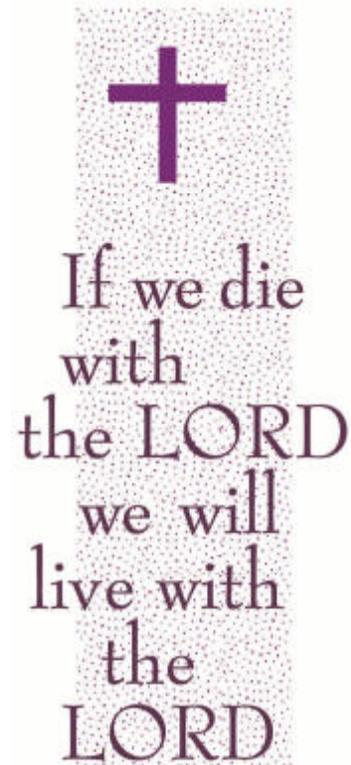
9:00 a.m. Jack Troutman -- Kosic Family

### Saturday, March 6

8:00 a.m. Collie Couser --  
Dave & Mary Lou McConnaughey  
4:30 p.m. Mike & Mary Catanzarito --  
Bob & Connie Stewart

### Sunday, March 7

8:00 a.m. Fran Dickey -- Mickey & Mary Lou Barilar  
11:00 a.m. Lorraine Kaczynski --  
Jason & Holly Grusky & Family



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**T**he 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.

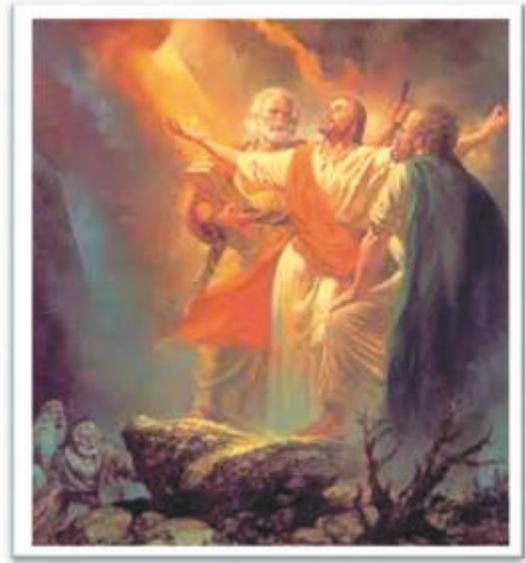
Jesus is Lord!

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Dear Parishioners,

*Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!"*

*Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them anymore, but only Jesus. As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. So, they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what this rising from the dead could mean.*



In all three liturgical cycles we have the strange story of the Transfiguration on the second Sunday of Lent. What does it mean? In the second reading (Romans 8:31-34) Saint Paul writes that the Lord "will transfigure these wretched bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body." The Transfiguration, then—whatever we discover it to mean—is not only about Jesus but also about us. It needs to make some discernible difference to us today.

There was the everyday Jesus who was well known to his friends; and then there was the moment when they scarcely recognized him, so transformed—transfigured—was he. Divinity shone through him, revealing depths that they had never imagined. Can this happen only to Jesus? When the little girl was asked what a saint was, she replied (thinking of the stained-glass windows in the church), "A person that the light shines through." Can this be more than an image? Can it also be a reality? Could you and I let the light through? We may be too aware of our wretchedness to feel at ease with thoughts like that. But it is just these "wretched bodies of ours" that are the material of transfiguration, according to St Paul.

In a poem called *The sunrise ruby*, a mystic, imagines a girl speaking with her beloved.

*'Do you love me or yourself more?  
Really, tell the absolute truth.'  
He says, 'There's nothing left of me.  
I'm like a ruby held up to the sunrise.  
Is it still a stone, or a world?  
made of redness?  
It has no resistance to sunlight. '*

There it is: in one way it is a stone, but in another it is a world of redness. This gives some impression of what transfiguration might mean. When you are completely absorbed and self-forgetful as you look at the sea, or the night sky, or a friend, you are still yourself, of course; but you are also more than yourself. At any rate you are a kind of larger self, and not the small self that thinks before he speaks, and counts money, and always looks after his own interests.

Sadly, this aspect of the Christian faith is not as familiar to most of us as it should be. We have learned to settle for less. Most people believe that the best things are not for them. But we are all called to deep enlightenment and union with God.

God Bless!  
Msgr. J. Riccardo



Friday of this week, March 5 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 this month is that we will be renewed during this Lenten season and come to Easter strengthened in our resolve to be faithful disciples of Christ.

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.



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Doris Gagliardi of our parish who died this past week.

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

LENTEN REGULATIONS

Ash Wednesday, all the Fridays of Lent, and Good Friday are days of **abstinence** from meat for those 14 years of age and older. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are also days of **fasting** for those ages 18 to 58 inclusive. On those days, those bound by the law of fasting may take one full meal and two smaller meals. Eating between meals is not permitted, but liquids including milk and fruit juices are allowed. When health or work is seriously affected, the law does not oblige.



PRE-CANA

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>

SOUP SALE

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

Weekly Menu:

- March 5 - Potato Soup
- March 12 - Vegetable Soup



*Pick-up for the above 2 soups will be Fridays outside of the school office - 7:30am - 10am.*

- March 18 - Italian Wedding Soup \*
- March 25 - Stuffed Pepper Soup \*

*\* Since we are in the season of Lent, pick up for the two soups listed above will be on **Thursdays** as they contain meat.*

\$5 per quart \*\* Pre-ordering recommended.

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

*Thank you for your support of this school fundraiser!*

**LEAD US TO THAT EASTER JOY**



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PRAYER CHAIN

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

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



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](http://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.



**K**indergarten registration will be held at SSCD School on Wednesday, March 3rd. A child must be five years of age by June 1, 2021 in order to be eligible to attend Kindergarten this Fall.

Please call the school office, 814-938-4224, as soon as possible for an appointment and to make arrangements to pick up your registration materials.

Appointments will be made in 15 minute increments between the hours of 8:30am - 2:30pm on March 3rd.

### CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL



A sincere thank you to all who have made a pledge or gift to the 2021 Catholic Services Appeal. If you have not yet made a commitment, it is not too late. Just drop your pledge card in the collection basket or send it to the office. Please remember that all gifts, regardless of the size, are important, needed, and appreciated.

Please do what you can. I am grateful for your prayers and support - especially in these extraordinary times. You can check the last page of the bulletin for pledges to date.

### A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

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.



### RELIGIOUS BOOK REFERENCE LIBRARY

Our parish library, located in the Meeting Room, has a wealth of resources to help us deepen our understanding of our Catholic Faith. These include bible studies, books by modern theologians such as Scott Hahn and Edward Sri, biographies of saints, and other inspirational readings.

To take advantage of these many resources, call Mary Lou McConnaughey - 938-9858, Arlene Stewart - 938-7257, or Carol Stonbraker - 952-8422 to make an appointment.

### SCRIP PROGRAM

Scrip Cash and Carry is available in the School Office.

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.



### FORTY DAYS FOR LIFE



Forty Days for Life, an internationally coordinated campaign that aims to stop abortion and support life through prayer, fasting, and community outreach, is being observed through March 28th. At SSCD we are praying a Pro-Life Rosary every morning before the 8am Mass. Please support with your prayers and fasting those who stand for us in defense of all life.



Feeling Lucky?  
Girls Night In!

**\$25** SSCD's  
**2ND ANNUAL  
DESIGNER BAG  
EVENT**

Saturday, March 13, 2021  
Facebook Live Drawing at 7:00pm

TICKET PURCHASE INCLUDES A CHANCE  
AT WINNING 15 BAGS AND PRIZES!

\*18 years and older \* Need not be present to win\*  
\*Ticket sales are final and non-refundable\*  
\*Winners will be notified during & after the FB Live event\*  
\*By purchasing a ticket, each winner  
consents to the use of his/her name.\*

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& PAYMENT CAN BE  
PURCHASED HERE.  
(LEAVE YOUR NAME &  
NUMBER IN THE COMMENT)

venmo

SANCTUARY CLEANERS THIS WEEK

SSCD - Bob Henretta, Katie Roberts,  
and Rita Yenzi

St. Anthony - Annette Cochran, Grace Martino,  
and Joy Juliette

SAINT VINCENT DePAUL VOLUNTEERS

Saturday, March 6 -

Rod and Jessica Perry, Sharon Murray,  
Pete & Jennifer Renne

SAINT VINCENT DePAUL WEEKLY FOOD  
DONATION

Food Donation next Sunday, **March 7** -  
**Spaghetti**. Thank you for your support!

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](http://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!

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 your use at Mass

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.

6<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CATHOLIC WOMEN'S  
CONFERENCE

The Conference will be held on Saturday,  
March 20<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am -  
12:00 Noon. In our area, St.  
Mary's Church in  
Reynoldsville will host this  
event virtually via Zoom.

Father Bill Barron will  
begin with Mass at 8:00am at St. Mary's followed  
by light breakfast in the Social Hall. The  
conference will begin at 9am via Zoom with Father  
Larry Richards as Master of Ceremonies. There  
will be 2 amazing speakers, Caralyn Collar, writer  
and speaker and Alyssa Bormes, Catholic educator,  
author, speaker, and radio host. The morning will  
conclude with a light lunch and opportunity for  
confession.

If you are interested in joining in, you can  
go to [www.138women.com](http://www.138women.com) to download a  
registration form. Please complete the form and  
mail it to St. Mary's Church, 607 East Main St.  
Reynoldsville, PA 15851. The cost: donation only.  
For more information, please call Betsy Stover at  
541-4910 or Jill Bowley at 590-1177.



**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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 Android Users Text:  
*Parish.App2* to 800-950-9952



**FORMED** PICK OF THE WEEK February 28, 2021

**WATCH** **FATHER MICHAEL MCGIVNEY: AN AMERICAN BLESSED**  
 In May 2020, Pope Francis approved a miracle attributed to the intercession of Fr. Michael McGivney, paving the way for his beatification. This new documentary highlights Fr. McGivney's fraternal charity, evangelization, and empowerment of the laity.

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WEEKLY OFFERTORY ANALYSIS February 21, 2021		Catholic Services Appeal 2021	
<b>Combined Church Offertory</b>		2021 Diocesan Assessment \$76,000.00	
<i>Envelopes sent</i>	715	<b>Total Parish Goal \$126,000.00</b>	
<i>Adult Envelopes Returned</i>	150		
Adult	\$7,735.00	Pledged Amt:	\$64,430.00
Holy Day	\$40.00	Paid on Pledge:	\$52,985.00
Children	\$4.00	Unpaid Pledges:	\$11,445.00
Loose	\$105.00	Unpledged Donations:	\$1,487.00
Monthly	\$366.00	Collected to Date:	\$54,272.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$8,250.00</b>		
<i>Weekly Goal</i>	<b>\$8,000.00</b>		
Surplus (Deficit)	\$250.00		
Accumulated(+/-) Goal	<b>\$9,267.69</b> <i>Under goal</i>		

**Readings for the Week of February 28, 2021**

- Sunday: Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19 [9]/Rom 8:31b-34/Mk 9:2-10
- Monday: Dn 9:4b-10/Ps 79:8, 9 11 and 13 [cf. 103:10a]/Lk 6:36-38
- Tuesday: Is 1:10, 16-20/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23 [23b]/Mt 23:1-12
- Wednesday: Jer 18:18-20/Ps 31:5-6, 14, 15-16 [17b]/Mt 20:17-28
- Thursday: Jer 17:5-10/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [40:5a]/Lk 16:19-31
- Friday: Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21 [5a]/Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
- Saturday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12 8a]/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
- Next Sunday: Ex 20:1-17 or 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [Jn 6:68c]/1 Cor 1:22-25/Jn 2:13-25

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