



*September 26, 2021*  
*The Feast of Saints Cosmas and Damian*

## **Ss. Cosmas & Damian Parish**

616 W. Mahoning St., Punxsutawney, PA 15767  
814-938-6540 [www.sscdchurch.com](http://www.sscdchurch.com)

## Mass Intentions for This Week

### Saturday, September 25

4:30 p.m. Joseph M. Gianvito -- Renee Cushing, Peggy Davis,  
Don Welker, Mike Spellman

### Sunday, September 26

8:00 a.m. Shane Lorelli Brudnck -- Gerrie Lorelli  
11:00 a.m. In Honor of Saints Cosmas & Damian --  
Rosary Altar Society

### Monday, September 27

8:00 a.m. Tony & Rose Lorelli -- Patty & Mark Gresock and  
Joan & Rudy Verbka

### Tuesday, September 28

8:00 a.m. Dominic & Anna Bianco -- Tim & Anna Hechler

### Wednesday, September 29

8:00 a.m. Parishioners

### Thursday, September 30

8:00 a.m. Deceased of the Roselli and McSteen Families --  
Family

### Friday, October 1

9:00 a.m. Anne & Joseph Przestrzelski -- Family

### Saturday, October 2

8:00 a.m. Leslie Osikowicz -- Patrick & Family  
4:30 p.m. Bill Pride -- Doyle Starry Family

### Sunday, October 3

8:00 a.m. Jane Milliron Baun --  
Tuesday Evening Catechism Class  
11:00 a.m. Peggy Parente -- Candy & Ernie Gigliotti



©Religious Graphics, Ltd.



### Today, Sunday, September 26

9:15am -- Religious Ed K-10  
9:15 am -- Confirmation Class

### Monday, September 27

6:00pm -- Bible Study -  
Meeting Room

### Tuesday, September 28

6:00pm -- Recitation of the Rosary - Church  
6:00pm -- Men's Basketball - Gym

### Wednesday, September 29

10:00am -- Bible Study - Meeting Room

### Friday, October 1

9:45 am - 8:00am Saturday -  
24 Hour Adoration of The  
Blessed Sacrament - Church



©Religious Graphics, Ltd.

Dear Parishioners:

*John said to Jesus, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward. "If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.*



"Our social fabric militates against relation," wrote G.W. Morgan in *Prophetic Voices*. "Competitiveness pervades everything we do and is taught from the time we are small children.... Our fundamental stance is not to respond to others, but to outdo them, vie with them, beat them."

This seems to be true of every business; and when we make a business of religion it is true in that field too. The scurrilous polemics between Christian Churches in the past seem scandalous now, but they probably seemed normal in their time.

In the first reading at today's Mass we see how Moses regarded the 'opposition', and in the gospel reading we see Jesus. A young man ran to delate some unofficial prophets. "The young man ran to tell Moses: 'Look,' he said, 'Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.'" Moses' response showed a wonderful generosity of spirit: "If only the whole people of the Lord were prophets, and the Lord gave his Spirit to them all!" The situation in the gospel reading is an exact parallel, and Jesus' response is just like that of Moses. "Anyone who is not against us is for us."

The lesson is that the Holy Spirit is nobody's property and blows wherever it wills (John 3:8). The Holy Spirit is God's gift to the Church, but the Holy Spirit is not restricted to acting in ways that we alone can recognize. No created reality can fully embody or express the freedom of God. The Church is always in danger of hardening into a sect, just as every believer is in danger of hardening into a self-righteous reactionary. But the very qualities that are considered vices in an individual can sometimes be made to appear virtues in an organization. Today's readings are like a road-sign that says No Entry on that road.

In the document *Nostra Aetate*, the Second Vatican Council stated: "The Catholic Church rejects nothing that is true and holy in these [non-Christian] religions. She regards with sincere reverence those ways of conduct and of life, those precepts and teachings which, though differing in many aspects from the ones she holds and sets forth, nonetheless often reflect a ray of that Truth which enlightens all people." This is not a sell-out, as some have claimed; it is in the spirit of Christ, who praised the "faith" even of a pagan Roman centurion (Matthew 8:10). Only a truth that is very unsure of itself feels always compelled to make an enemy of the other.

This has relevance for us at the individual level too. As Raniero Cantalamessa put it, "We are to watch with joy, not with jealousy, the many who prophesy and cast out demons, thus contributing to authentic human development." And C.S. Lewis remarked that it would be very surprising if the Light of the World, Christ, were not reflected in some way in every part of the world. When we see good being done by anyone, Christian or not, we see the grace of Christ's face, in full light or in shadow.

God Bless!

Msgr. J. Riccardo

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**



**Religious Education Classes for this year have begun.**

If you have not yet registered your child/children in our program, stop in the Religious Education office prior to class today.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

If you have a few hours a month to give and would like to become involved in our program in any capacity, you can contact the office. **You are needed!**



**Eucharistic**



**Adoration**

**24 HOUR ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**

There will be a special 24 Hour Eucharistic Adoration beginning on Friday, October 1st at 9:30am and closing on Saturday, October 2nd before the 8am Mass.

Please plan to come and spend some time in adoration of our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.

Sign up sheets are posted in church. You are encouraged to sign up ahead of time; however, if you are not able to commit to a specific time, please feel free to make a visit any time within the 24 hours.

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK**

Unfortunately, because of the ongoing concerns surrounding COVID-19 and its variants we will not have our annual Communal Anointing of the Sick Service this year.



However, if you feel you are in need of this Sacrament, if you are suffering from a serious or chronic illness, or anticipating surgery, please feel free to call the office to arrange a private appointment with Monsignor Riccardo to be anointed.

**MARIANNA'S HOAGIES AND PIZZA**



Our school is taking orders for their next Marianna's Hoagies and Pizza sale.

There are several varieties of 14" hoagies and 12" pizzas to choose from. Cost of each item is just \$8.50.

Orders must be in to the school office by October 3rd and pick-up will be on Thursday, October 7th.

Call or stop in the school office to place your order. All proceeds benefit our school. Thank you for your support!

**OBLIGATION TO ATTEND MASS**

The obligation to attend Mass on Sunday does not apply to those who are sick, have a serious health risk, live in a household with those at risk, are primary caregivers to those at risk, are unable to attend Mass in person, or have serious anxiety or concerns about being in a large-group setting due to COVID-19. Anyone who believes they might have COVID-19 or one of its variants should stay home "as an act of charity."

Please note that masks are not being required at this time. However, if you feel more comfortable wearing one, you are certainly encouraged to do so.

**JOIN THE CHOIR!**

We sing at Sunday Masses September through May and other special occasions throughout the year. Rehearsals are held most Thursdays from 6:00 - 7:30pm

We'd love for you to join us; just come to any practice.

Say AMEN to the WORD of the LORD



For the benefit of those who may be ill or unable to return to Mass at this time, we will continue to live stream the last Mass each Sunday. Look for the graphic on our parish website, [sscdchurch.com](http://sscdchurch.com), and click the link on Sundays at 11am to join.

If you have any questions, just call the office.

### FORTY DAYS FOR LIFE

The Fall 40 Days for Life campaign started on September 22 and will end on October 31.



In our parish we are praying a pro-life Rosary before all 8am Masses, both daily and on Sundays.

Please join us when you can in support of all life.

### SCRIP PROGRAM

Join the Scrip Program and earn rebates on all your regular purchases and gift giving!

**Please use the walk up window next to Lisa's office to purchase your Scrip, Monday - Friday, 7:30am - 2:30pm.**



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.

### *"How do I become a Catholic?"*

Has anyone ever asked you that question?

The RCIA (*Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults*) answers that question.



Classes this year will begin in October and will continue until Easter of next year. The classes will cover an overview of the Catholic faith and the doctrines which are the foundation upon which our church and faith are built.

Anyone who is interested is welcome to come to the first few classes before making a decision to commit to the following preparation classes for reception into the Catholic Church.

Call the office, 814-938-6540, to register or just come to the first class, date to be announced.

### A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

The words in today's gospel, "Whoever gives a cup of water in the name of Christ will not lose their reward" hits us at home. As parents, we gain our "reward" when we bring a bottle to a crying infant in the middle of the night, or juice boxes to parched five-year old's, or hold ice chips to the fevered lips of a spouse. It is that simple and that sacred. In our homes, we give until it hurts "in the name of Christ."



### RECITATION OF THE ROSARY

A Rosary in honor of our Lady of Fatima is prayed every Tuesday evening at 6pm in church. Everyone is welcome. Please join us.

**FORMED**

PICK OF THE WEEK

Sept 26, 2021

**ANGELS: BISHOP FULTON SHEEN**

In this compilation of three episodes from his classic television program, "Life is Worth Living," Bishop Fulton Sheen delivers his thoughts on various elements of the Catholic Faith with his ever-present humor, animated presentation, and captivating mode of speaking. In the first segment, "Angels," Bishop Sheen explicates the nature of angels and the meaningful role they play in our world.



To set up your free account visit [formed.org/signup](http://formed.org/signup) and select our parish.

Download **FORMED** at no cost to you:

- Go to [formed.org/signup](http://formed.org/signup)
- Select our parish
- Register with your name and email address
- Check that email account for a link to begin using FORMED

## Liturgical Ministers



### LECTORS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers wishing to be placed back on the schedule for weekend Masses are asked to call the office, 814-938-6540, x 210 or email [sscdofc@comcast.net](mailto:sscdofc@comcast.net)

We hope to add your name to the list of those currently active in these ministries. We look forward to your participation.

At this time, we are scheduling one Lector and two Eucharistic Ministers for each weekend Mass.

### SAINT VINCENT DePAUL VOLUNTEERS

Saturday, October 2 -

Monika & Frank Bizousky and  
Jerry & Pauline Hallman

### K OF C SUNDAY



Sunday, October 10th, is K. of C. Sunday. The members of our local Knights of Columbus, Council #452, will gather at the 8:00am Mass to celebrate their 122 years of service to our area. The intention for this Mass will be for all deceased Knights of Council #452.

All Knights are encouraged to attend this Mass in recognition of K. of C. Sunday.

### CATHOLIC EDUCATION COLLECTION

Last weekend our parish took up a second collection to help support the lifelong faith formation and educational needs of our parish and diocese. Your donations amounted to \$1,184. Thank you for your generosity!

If you missed last week's Catholic Education Collection, it's not too late. You can use the envelope in your packet or a plain envelope marked *Catholic Education Collection* and drop it the basket anytime in the next couple of weeks.

### *FEAST OF SAINTS COSMAS & DAMIAN*

*Holy twins honored for their healing, their poverty, and their deaths*

Cosmas and Damian were twins and natives of Saudi Arabia who studied medicine in Syria. They became known as the "moneyless ones" for refusing to accept payment for their healing services. They were likely martyred north of Antioch in the early fourth-century.



Most of the wealth of miracles that have long been attributed to Saints Cosmas and Damian involve healing, in keeping with their medical profession. The fame of these miracles, together with their martyrdom, was so widespread in the early Church that they joined that elite class of martyrs, saints, virgins, and popes whose names were inserted into the Roman Canon, or Eucharistic Prayer I, where they are still read at Mass today. Their names also ring out in ancient litanies still sung at solemn Masses.

*Saints Cosmas and Damian,  
through your heroic witness of martyrdom,  
we ask your intercession to embolden the weak,  
to strengthen the hesitant, to give words to the meek,  
and to unleash the hidden power of the Gospel in all those who could do more.*

### BEAR BREAKFAST

The Knights of Columbus are planning their annual "Bear Breakfast" for Sunday November 7th.

Mark your calendars and plan to join us for a great Sunday breakfast!



### PRAYER CHAIN

To add a name to the Prayer Chain, call Pat Rougeux, 814-938-4464 or Anna Smochek, 814-427-2456.

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

**SAINT VINCENT DePAUL WEEKLY FOOD DONATION**

Food donation next Sunday, **October 3 - Tomato Soup**. Thank you for your support!

**SAINT TOBIAS SPAGHETTI DINNER**

Sunday, October 10 from 11am – 1pm at Saint Tobias Church in Brockway. Dinners are Take-Out by Advance Order Only with Drive-Thru pick-up at the St. Tobias Center.

Adults: \$8 (includes salad, roll, spaghetti/2 meatballs), Children: \$5 (includes roll, spaghetti/1 meatball).



Proceeds benefit Confirmation Class' charity of choice and partial cost of trip for Students attending the National Catholic Youth Conference.

Orders may be called in to Tara Starr at 814 -591-1313 no later than Sunday, Oct 3rd.

**SANCTUARY CLEANERS THIS WEEK**

Jeanne Farcus, Barb Gresock, Bertha Koza, Sharon Murray.



**RE-MEMBERING OUR SUNDAY STORY**



All are invited to read and discuss Bishop Lawrence Persico's *Re-membering Our Sunday Story: a pastoral letter written in pandemic*. "I offer this reflection on our Sunday story in order to help our parish communities to make the celebration of the Eucharist more engaging, more vibrant, and more effective encounters with the presence of Christ, who is always our true Companion," he writes. "It is in these encounters that we discover how our parishes can become Eucharistic communities of love, service to others and communion with one another and with all of God's People."

Find the letter, as well as questions for reflection and discussion, at [www.Eriercd.org/SundayStoryPastoralLetter.html](http://www.Eriercd.org/SundayStoryPastoralLetter.html).

**OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 26, 2021**

- Sunday:** 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time
- Monday:** St. Vincent de Paul, Priest
- Tuesday:** St. Wenceslaus, Martyr; St. Lawrence Ruiz and Companions, Martyrs
- Wednesday:** Sts. Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels
- Thursday:** St. Jerome, Priest and Doctor of the Church
- Friday:** St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church
- Saturday:** The Holy Guardian Angels
- Next Sunday:** 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time: Respect Life Sunday

WEEKLY OFFERTORY ANALYSIS September 29, 2021 SACRIFICIAL GIVING MEANS 10%		Catholic Services Appeal 2021	
<b>Church Offertory</b>		2021 Diocesan Assessment \$76,000.00	
Times/for/amt	711	Total Parish Goal \$126,000.00	
/Add Times/for/amt	187		
<b>Adult</b>	\$4,968.60	Pledged Amnt	\$91,255.00
<b>Holy Day</b>	\$20.00	Paid on Pledge	\$86,219.05
<b>Candle</b>	\$2.00	Unpaid Pledges	\$5,035.95
<b>Unice</b>	\$372.00	Unpledged Donations	\$13,865.97
<b>Monthly</b>	\$684.00	Collected to Date	\$100,085.02
<b>Torii</b>	\$6,046.60		
<b>Weekly Cost</b>	\$8,000.00		
<b>Services (Use +/-)</b>	(\$1,953.40)		
<b>Accumulated(+/-)</b>	\$6,559.26		

**Readings for the Week of September 26, 2021**

- Sunday:** Nm 11:25-29/Ps 19:8, 10, 12-13, 14 [9a]/Jas :1-6/Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48
- Monday:** Zec 8:1-8/Ps 102:16-18, 19-21, 29 and 22-23 [17]/Lk 9:46-50
- Tuesday:** Zec 8:20-23/Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7 [Zec 8:23]/Lk 9:51-56
- Wednesday:** Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 4-5 [1]/Jn 1:47-51
- Thursday:** Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11[9ab]/Lk 10:1-12
- Friday:** Bar 1:15-22/Ps 79:1b-2, 3-5, 8, 9 [9]/Lk 10:13-16
- Saturday:** Bar 4:5-12, 27-29/Ps 69:33-35, 36-37 [34]/Mt 18:1-5, 10
- Next Sunday:** Gn 2:18-24/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6 [cf. 5]/Heb 2:9-11/Mk 10:2-16 or 10:2-1

# McCabe Funeral Home Inc

Andrew R. Philliber  
Supervisor/ F.D.

114 Maple Ave. • Punxsutawney, PA 15767

**814-938-0400**

Lisa J. Waldron  
Funeral Director

"Providing families the best care at their worst time."

**LOWMASTER & WARDEN**  
Appliance Sales, Service & Parts  
17944 Route 36, Punxsutawney, PA 15767  
814-938-7420  
Free Lifetime Service  
www.lowmasterandwardeninc.com

Electronics • Major • Whirlpool  
Amana • Speed Queen • Frigidaire

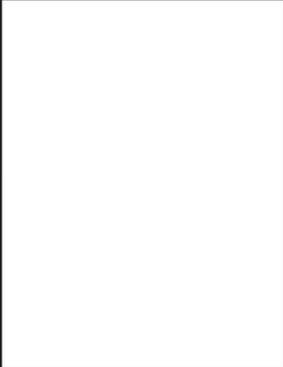
**NERO'S**  
Our Specialty is serving you!  
Take out available  
814-938-0338  
Hours: 11:00-9:00pm • Monday - Saturday  
206 Elk Run Ave • Punxsutawney  
Parishioner

PARISH Since 1926!  
**Burke Sons**  
"The Window Specialists"  
Quality Window & Door Products  
FREE ESTIMATES 938-7303 www.burke-sons.com  
110 GARDEN AVE. PUNXSUTAWNEY

**Howard Hanna**  
Allemand Realty  
938-9667  
www.allemandrealty.com

**FREE AD DESIGN**  
WITH PURCHASE OF THIS SPACE  
**CALL**  
800.477.4574

**NEVER MISS A BULLETIN !**  
Sign up to have our weekly parish bulletin emailed to you at [www.parishesonline.com](http://www.parishesonline.com)

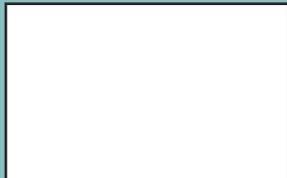
**RALPH A. CARDAMONE, M.D., F.A.C.C.**  
*Board Certified Cardiologist*  
(814) 765-7577 10 South Second St. • Clearfield, PA 16830

THIS SPACE IS **AVAILABLE**  
Call LPi at 1.800.477.4574 for more information.

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

- Burglary
- Fire Safety
- Flood Detection
- Carbon Monoxide

ADT Authorized Provider SafeStreets 1-855-225-4251

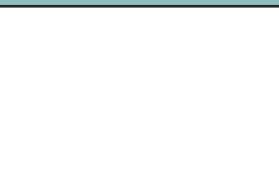



**AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME!**  
ADVERTISE HERE NOW!  
Contact **Tim Weir** to place an ad today!  
[tweir@4LPi.com](mailto:tweir@4LPi.com) or (800) 477-4574 x6568

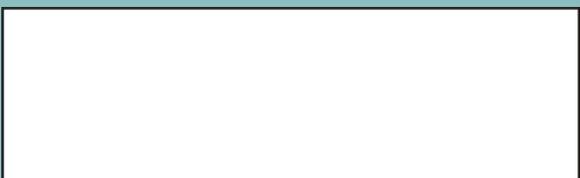
**Nosker Insurance**  
Coverage for your most important needs  
Karen S. Nosker  
Owner  
Phone: 814-328-2203  
Cell: 814-541-0221  
Fax: 814-328-2978  
Email: [karen\\_nosker@us.aflac.com](mailto:karen_nosker@us.aflac.com)

  
"Premium Buttermilk Crispy Chicken Deluxe Sandwich"  
(Buy one, get one **FREE**)  
Expires 03/31/21  
Good only McDonald's of Clarion, Brookville & Punxsutawney, PA

Over 118 Years Old  
  
**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COUNCIL #452**  
Punxsutawney



**Excellent Service**  
YESTERDAY, TODAY AND TOMORROW  
Celebrating life, one family at a time.  
115 E. Union St., Punxsutawney, PA  
(814) 938-5421  
ShumakerFH.com  
Brenda Shumaker, Supervisor  
*Shumaker*  
FUNERAL HOME INC.

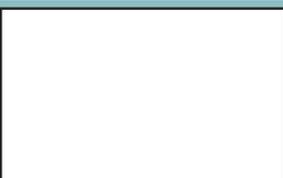
**Smith, Nale & Co., Inc.**  
Certified Public Accountants  
A Full Service Accounting Firm!  
We give the service and attention your Business deserves  
Competent • Confidential • Committed  
327 N. Main Street, Punxsutawney  
814-938-3555 | [www.smithnaleandco-cpas.com](http://www.smithnaleandco-cpas.com)



**GROW YOUR BUSINESS AND SUPPORT YOUR COMMUNITY**  
Advertise Here!  
CONTACT US AT 800.477.4574



**FOX'S PIZZA DEN**  
ALL YOU CAN EAT PIZZA, WINGS, STROMBOLI, SALAD, & DESSERT PIZZAS  
20 OZ. PEPSI PRODUCT INCLUDED  
SENIORS 55+ 20% DISCOUNT  
CHILDREN UNDER 12, 1/2 PRICE  
\$12.99 + TAX  
WEDNESDAY 11AM-2PM  
(Groundhog Plaza Next to Shop & Save)  
207 N. Hampton Ave., Punxsutawney, PA  
(814) 618-5653

**Mahoning Valley Milling Co., Inc.**  
Family Owned for Over 100 Years  
Feed Store - Lawn & Garden Supplies  
Hunting-Fishing-Camping Supplies  
814-938-8850  
Mon-Fri: 8-5 Sat: 8-3  
324 Indiana St. Ext. Punxsutawney, PA 15767  
[www.MahoningValleyMilling.com](http://www.MahoningValleyMilling.com)

