

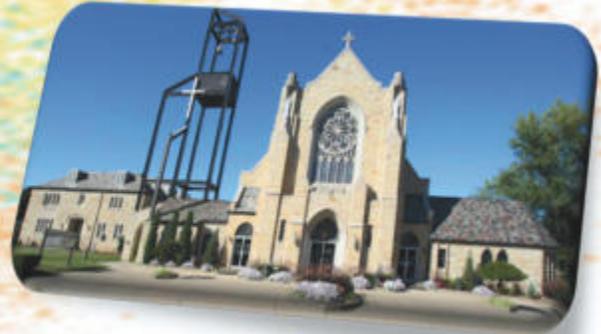
# *SS. Cosmas and Damian Church*

*616 W. Mahoning Street, Punxsutawney, PA 15767*

*814-938-6540 - [sscdofc@comcast.net](mailto:sscdofc@comcast.net)*

*Website - [sscdchurch.com](http://sscdchurch.com)*

*School - 814-938-4224 - [sscdschool.com](http://sscdschool.com)*



**Pastor – Msgr. Joseph J. Riccardo**

**School Principal –  
Heather Kunselman, ex. 224**

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

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

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

## **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.

## **Twenty-seventh Sunday In Ordinary Time**

**October 3, 2021**

**Blessed are they  
who fear the Lord!**

Mass Intentions for This Week

Saturday, October 2

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

Monday, October 4

8:00 a.m. Parishioners

Tuesday, October 5

8:00 a.m. Frank & Barbara Cackowski -- Aggie Onusko

Wednesday, October 6

8:00 a.m. Vincent & Anna Miller --

Deshonna, Joey, Julia & Abby McAdoo

Thursday, October 7

8:00 a.m. Elsie Gigliotti -- St. Clare Fraternity

Friday, October 8

9:00 a.m. Al & Phyllis Gretz --

George & Mary Ann Kutskel

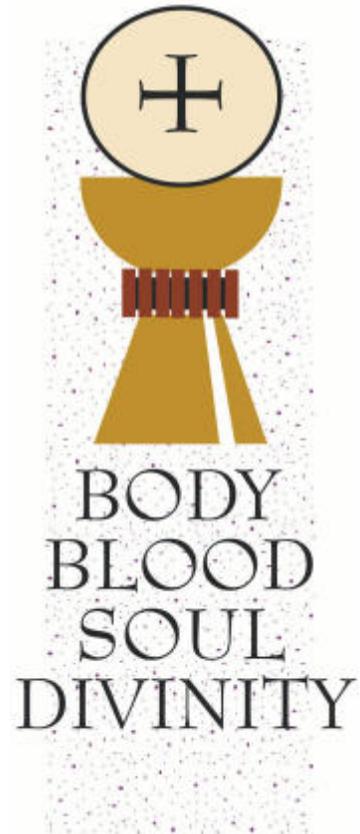
Saturday, October 9

4:30 p.m. James S. Lesnick -- Larry Chenoga

Sunday, October 10

8:00 a.m. Deceased Members of  
Knights of Columbus, Council #452 --  
K. of C.

11:00 a.m. James & Marge McIntyre --  
Dorothy Vilkinofsky



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Today, Sunday, October 3

9:15am -- Religious Ed K-10

9:15am -- Confirmation Class

Monday, October 4

6:00pm -- Bible Study -  
Meeting Room

7:00pm -- K of C Council - Reschini

7:45pm -- K of C Assembly - Reschini

Tuesday, October 5

6:00pm -- Recitation of the Rosary - Church

6:00pm -- Men's Basketball - Gym

Wednesday, October 6

10:00am -- Bible Study - Meeting Room

6:30pm -- RCIA - Meeting Room



One Faith, One Baptism, One LORD

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Dear Parishioners:

*Some Pharisees came, and to test him they asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" He answered them, "What did Moses command you?" They said, "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her." But Jesus said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' 'For this reason, a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.' So, they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore, what*



*God has joined together, let no one separate." Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. He said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery." People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.*

On the very first page of the Bible, in the Book of Genesis (1:27) there is a beautiful lyrical description of the creation of man and woman: "God made human beings in his own image, in his own image he created them; male and female he created them." (see also 5:2) 'Adam' is not a name like James or John; it means 'the creature made of dust (the word for which is 'adamah' in Hebrew). In the first three chapters of Genesis, 'Adam' means man and woman equally. Obviously, then, man and woman are on an equal footing and both are equally images of God.

All this, of course, is before the Fall! After the Fall, all is changed. Humans are seen as being under a curse, and they suffer differently for it. To the man, God said, "'Cursed is the ground because of you; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life; thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; you are dust, and to dust you shall return'" (Genesis 3:17-19). To the woman he said, 'I will greatly increase your pangs in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children, yet your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you'" (Genesis 3:16).

Not great wedding presents! Nothing like "unconditional positive regard" (someone's definition of love, if you have to have a definition) as they go out into the world to make a living. Scholars regard this Genesis story as a reflection of actual conditions in the ancient Near East at the time that Genesis was written. In particular, it reflects the position of women in society at that time. A woman was subject first to her father, and then on her marriage she became subject to her husband. She was subject to them because she was their property. We used to be told that the Ninth Commandment was against entertaining sexual thoughts, and it was quoted only in part: "Thou shalt not cover thy neighbor's wife." But it was actually about property, as is clear when you read the full verse: "You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, you shall not set your heart on his house, his field, his servant - man or woman - his ox, his donkey or anything that is his" (Deuteronomy 5:21).

Divorce was very easily obtained in the time of Jesus. Some Rabbis taught that if a woman ruined a meal or spoke badly about her in-laws her husband could divorce her; some even said that if a man spotted a woman who was more beautiful than his wife he could divorce his wife.

All this was the background to the Pharisees' question to Jesus, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" Instead of going into a legal haggles with them about the law of Moses, Jesus harked back to the original state of innocence (before the Genesis story of the expulsion from Eden). He affirmed the original state over the corrupted one; he stated God's idea of man, woman, and marriage. The original state was the companionship of equals, not ownership by the man; it was love, not domination and subjection.

Today, wherever husbands and wives respect and love each other, refusing to regard each other as property – disposable or otherwise – the mind of Christ is made visible and human beings are living in a state of original innocence instead of original sin.

God Bless!

Msgr. J. Riccardo

## “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 on **October 6th at 6:30pm in the Meeting Room** 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 on October 6th.

## 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.

## Liturgical Ministers 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.

## FORTY DAYS FOR LIFE

We are observing the Fall **40 Days for Life Campaign** through October 31st by 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.

## CONFIRMATION PRAYER PARTNERS

We are seeking prayer partners for our Confirmation students. Being a prayer partner involves praying for a selected candidate over the



course of the year and occasionally sending a note or card to your student to let him or her know you are supporting them in their preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

To be a prayer partner to one of our students, please fill out the form, which can be found on the tables in church, and send it to the office by October 17th. You can also call the office to let us know your willingness to be a prayer partner. Thank you.



## K OF C SUNDAY

Next 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.

## 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!



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.



### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

William Chester Pyles, brother of Betty Gigliotti of our parish, who died this past week.

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

### 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.



### 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.

### 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.



### OCTOBER IS RESPECT LIFE MONTH

Each year the Church in the United States celebrates October as Respect Life Month, and today, October 3, we celebrate Respect Life Sunday. This is a time we can use to deepen our understanding of why, as Catholics, we "Respect Life" and what that looks like day-to-day.

The focus this year is on Saint Joseph, defender of life. He didn't hesitate to follow God's will of faithfully caring for and protecting Jesus and the Blessed Mother. St. Joseph's example reminds us that we are also to care for, protect, and defend the lives of our brothers and sisters.

May we, too, be miracles in the lives of those who are most in need, especially at the beginning and end of life.



## FORMED

PICK OF THE WEEK

Oct 3, 2021

### CLARE AND FRANCIS

This outstanding movie is unique among films about St. Francis because of the historical accuracy of the story and its authentic spirit of joy and piety so characteristic of Francis, as well as the major role played by Clare, who is given equal stature with him. Both found major religious orders, and together they inspire many to follow their radical call to live the Gospel. Their impact has reached across the centuries to change the world.



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

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- Select our parish
- Register with your name and email address
- Check that email account for a link to begin using FORMED

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

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.

SANCTUARY CLEANERS THIS WEEK

Debbie Rougeux, Pat Rougeux, Karen Burkett.

CHILD PROTECTION AND CREATING SAFE ENVIRONMENTS

**Diocesan Code of Conduct:** The Diocese of Erie is committed to protecting the children and youth who are entrusted to its care and to ensuring that those in ministry with our young people are in right relationship with the children/youth receiving services. To share in the ministry of Christ is a great privilege as well as a tremendous responsibility. The *privilege* is the joy of sharing in the mission of Jesus Himself. The *responsibility* is acting in a way that conforms to the attitude and actions of Christ.

In this spirit, the diocese has issued a ministerial Code of Conduct. The code is included in the diocesan *Policy for the Protection of Children*. To read the Code of Conduct, go to: <https://www.eriercd.org/images/sections/childprotection/pdf/CURRENTPolicy.pdf>

For more information, contact Mrs. Cindy Zemcik, in the diocesan Office for the Protection of Children at 814-824-1195.

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, October 3rd.

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

Perhaps Jesus' two-fold message in today's gospel is a reminder to married couples to return to the innocence of the early years of their love—like children, loving each other with abandon. Do you know any couple who have recently married? Their love is contagious, and glowing, right? Married couples are called to be a sacramental reflection of God's faithful and selfless love ... a place where people live and love beyond rules and formulas.

SAINT VINCENT DePAUL WEEKLY FOOD DONATION

Food donation next Sunday, **October 10 - Vegetable Soup**. Thank you for your support!

SAINT VINCENT DePAUL VOLUNTEERS

Saturday, October 9 -

Margie Meenan, Cathy Smith, Sandy Kotula

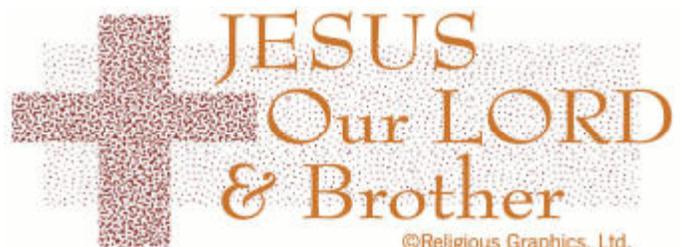
Christmas Cash  
**GIVEAWAY!**

Our School is sponsoring a **Christmas Cash Raffle!**

Tickets cost just \$5.00 each and the prize will be 1/2 of all ticket sales. There is a potential payout of \$16,500 to the lucky winner if all tickets are sold! The more we sell, the greater the prize! **The drawing will be held on Monday December 20th at the school.**

Tickets will be in the mail soon and will also be available at the church and school offices.

Thank you for your support! All proceeds benefit SSCD School.



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**OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 3, 2021**

- Sunday:** 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Respect Life Sunday
- Monday:** St. Francis of Assisi
- Tuesday:** Bl. Francis Xavier Seelos, Priest
- Wednesday:** St. Bruno, Priest; Blessed Marie Rose Durocher, Virgin
- Thursday:** Our Lady of the Rosary
- Saturday:** St. Denis, Bishop, and Companions, Martyrs; St. John Leonardi, Priest
- Next Sunday:** 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time



**RE-MEMBERING OUR  
SUNDAY STORY**

Our faith in Christ teaches us that we encountered the presence of God with us during these days of pandemic in the courage of doctors, nurses, emergency medical personnel, essential workers, teachers, food pantry volunteers and so many others. Their service and bravery in the face of this virus have helped us to see the presence of Christ in them and to hold on to hope.

These thoughts and more can be found in Re-remembering Our Sunday Story: A pastoral letter in pandemic, offered by Bishop Lawrence Persico. Accompanying the letter are thought-provoking questions such as: What acts of service did you witness during this pandemic? In your parish? In the world? How can we better connect our celebrations of Eucharist to our parish life, our personal life, and our home life? The letter and questions, designed for both individuals and small groups, can be found at [www.Eriercd.orgSundayStoryPastoralLetter.html](http://www.Eriercd.orgSundayStoryPastoralLetter.html).



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WEEKLY OFFERTORY ANALYSIS September 26, 2021 SACRIFICIAL GIVING MEANS 10%		Catholic Services Appeal 2021	
<b>Church Offertory</b>		2021 Diocesan Assessment \$76,000.00	
<i>Livestock sent</i>	711	Total Parish Goal \$126,000.00	
<i>Livestock Returned</i>	214		
<b>Ad.L.</b>	\$6,380.05	<b>Plledged Amt:</b>	\$91,255.00
<b>Holy Day</b>	\$0.00	<b>Paid on Pledge:</b>	\$86,234.05
<b>Children:</b>	\$6.00	<b>Unpaid Pledges:</b>	\$5,020.95
<b>Taxes:</b>	\$218.00	<b>Unpledged Donations:</b>	\$14,247.97
<b>Monthly:</b>	\$245.00	<b>Collected to Date:</b>	\$100,482.02
<b>Total:</b>	\$6,849.05		
<b>Weekly Cost</b>	\$8,000.00		
<b>Surplus (Total):</b>	(\$1,150.95)		
<b>Accumulated(+/-)</b>	\$7,710.21		

**Readings for the Week of October 3, 2021**

- Sunday:** Gn 2:18-24/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6 [cf. 5]/  
Heb 2:9-11/Mk 10:2-16 or 10:2-12
- Monday:** Jon 1:1—2:2, 11/Jon 2:3, 4, 5, 8/Lk 10:25-37
- Tuesday:** Jon 3:1-10/Ps 130:1b-2, 3-4ab, 7-8 [3]/  
Lk 10:38-42
- Wednesday:** Jon 4:1-11/Ps 86:3-4, 5-6, 9-10 [15]/Lk 11:1-4
- Thursday:** Mal 3:13-20b/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [Ps 40:5a]/  
Lk 11:5-13
- Friday:** Jl 1:13-15; 2:1-2/Ps 9:2-3, 6 and 16, 8-9 [9]/  
Lk 11:15-26
- Saturday:** Jl 4:12-21/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12a]/  
Lk 11:27-28
- Next Sunday:** Wis 7:7-11/Ps 90:12-13, 14-15, 16-17 [14]/  
Heb 4:12-13/Mk 10:17-30 or 10:17-2

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