

“EVERYONE WHO BELONGS TO THE TRUTH
LISTENS TO MY VOICE.” - JN 18:37

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

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Ss. Cosmas & Damian Parish

616 W. Mahoning St., Punxsutawney, PA 15767
814-938-6540 www.sscdchurch.com

Mass Intentions for This Week

Saturday, November 20

4:30 p.m. Joseph & Gloria Nogacek -- Mark K. Nogacek

Sunday, November 21

8:00 a.m. Mario & Laura Ann Gigliotti -- Joann T. Johnson

11:00 a.m. Bob Hardt -- Dee Hardt

Monday, November 22

8:00 a.m. John J. Martino --

Mr. & Mrs. Brian Lingenfelter & Family

Tuesday, November 23

8:00 a.m. Deceased of the Tollini Family -- Family

Wednesday, November 24

8:00 a.m. Rachel Graffius -- Fatima Rosary Friends

Thursday, November 25

9:00 a.m. Joe & Katheryn Renne --

Doyle Starry Family

Friday, November 26

8:00 a.m. Anita Martino --

Mike & Mary Jean Johnston

Saturday, November 27

4:30 p.m. William C. Anderson --

Jessie, Billy, Corrie & Amy Anderson

Sunday, November 28

8:00 a.m. Shirley Bosak -- Rose Day

11:00 a.m. Mike Porada -- John & Barbara Mack



Today, Sunday, November 21

9:15am -- Religious Education,
Grades 4 - 10

9:15am -- Advent Family Activity,
Gr. K - 3 Wienker Hall

Monday, November 22

6:00pm -- Bible Study - Meeting Room

Tuesday, November 23

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

6:00pm -- Adult Basketball - Gym



CHRISTUS REX
Christ the King

Dear Parishioners,

Pilate summoned Jesus and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."



Do you know the word 'Maranatha'? Don't be too hard on yourself if you don't: it's an Aramaic word. Aramaic was the language that Jesus spoke. Depending on how you read it, the scholars tell us, it means "Come, Lord!" (*marana-tha*) or 'The Lord is come' (*maran-atha*).

'Maranatha' was an early Christian prayer for the return of Christ. St Paul used it in 1 Cor. 16:22. And it occurs in Rev. 22:20,21: "He who testifies to these things says, 'Surely I am coming soon.' Amen. *Maranatha!* The grace of the Lord Jesus be with you all. Amen." Those are the closing words of the Bible. In 1883 an early Christian book called the *Didachè* was discovered, which caused immense excitement; it was written in the first century and was an unexpected glimpse into the early days of the Christian faith. Among other things it contains an account of the Eucharist. I quote a small part. Look out for the word *maranatha*.

"Lord, remember your Church; deliver it from evil, perfect it in your love, sanctify it, and gather it from the four winds into the kingdom you have prepared for it.

Response: *Yours is the power and the glory for ever and ever!*

Let Grace [Jesus] come, and this present world pass away.

Response: *Hosanna to the God of David!*

Whoever is holy, let him approach. Whoever is not, let him repent.

Response: *Maranatha. Amen."*

Did they say *maran-atha*, or *marana-tha*? Either would make sense, and the Christian faith needs both senses. The kingdom of God is here and at the same time yet to come; it is present but not completed.

The gospels tell us that "the kingdom of God is among you" (Luke 17:21). They also say that it is still to come in the Our Father we say, "May your kingdom come!" (Matthew 6:10).

The kingdom of God is already here in the sense that Jesus lives within and among us now. But we know also that his presence is obscured by the continued presence of evil in the world. Individuals and institutions are very far from being aligned on the will of God, and so the kingdom is incomplete. St Paul imagines Christ eventually handing over a perfect kingdom to God his Father (1 Cor. 15:24), but since it is not yet perfect, his ultimate triumph is delayed. Origen (born in 185 A.D.) wrote the following: "Christ said, 'I will not drink wine until the day I drink the new wine with you in the kingdom of my Father' (Matthew 26:29). For as long as we fail to rise to his level he cannot drink this wine all alone.... We delay his joy. Until I hand over my life to the Father his life is not fully handed over. Without you he cannot receive his full glory. Without you: that is, without his people, who are his body and his limbs."

We are more inclined to think of the kingdom as still to come: a region beyond the grave. This is reinforced by the phrase 'kingdom of *heaven*.' The situation is even worse in some other languages, such as French and German, where the one word means 'sky' and 'heaven'. We are tempted to think of God's kingdom as up there somewhere. That phrase 'kingdom of heaven' comes from Matthew's gospel; the other gospels say, 'kingdom of God.' Matthew was writing specifically for Jews, and Jews did not like to use the name 'God', out of respect. Instead, Matthew wrote 'kingdom of heaven'. But this should not suggest to us that it is somewhere above the clouds. Christ wants to be king here, not king of the clouds.

God Bless,
Msgr. J. Riccardo

A THANKSGIVING PRAYER

Almighty God,
you bring forth bountiful food from the earth
that our loved ones may never grow hungry.

For this, we give thanks.

You have let us live in a land that has unbridled
opportunity and unparalleled freedoms.

For this, we give thanks.

For those who are hungry today,
we pray for their fulfillment.

For families that are separated,
we pray for their unity.

And for people who live in the
midst of persecution,

we pray for their deliverance.

We ask all these things through
Christ, our ever-risen Lord.

Amen.



“How do I become a Catholic?”

Has anyone ever asked
you that question? The
RCIA (*Rite of Christian
Initiation of Adults*)
answers that question.



RCIA classes 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 for additional information.

COLLECTION FOR SAINT VINCENT DEPAUL SOCIETY



As in the past, we will
have a Thanksgiving collection to
benefit the St. Vincent DePaul
Society.

Aid to the needy continues
to increase and it is your
generosity which allows the continuation of their
work. Contributions can be placed in the
collection on Thanksgiving day or any Sunday
throughout the year.

Just place your donation in the envelope
provided in a recent bulletin. You might also find
an envelope on the tables in church or just use a
plain envelope and indicate that it is for the St.
Vincent DePaul Society.

Thank you for your generosity to the Saint
Vincent DePaul Society, now and in the past.



We are again sponsoring an
Angel Tree Project at SSCD.

The Angel Tree will be in
church beginning the weekend of
November 27/28.

If you would like to take part
in our project, please select an angel
from the tree. Information about a particular
child will be printed on each angel. You will
then purchase a gift for that child, wrap your gift,
securely fasten the angel to the outside of the
package, and place the wrapped gift under the
tree.

Thank you for helping to make Christmas a
little brighter for a child!

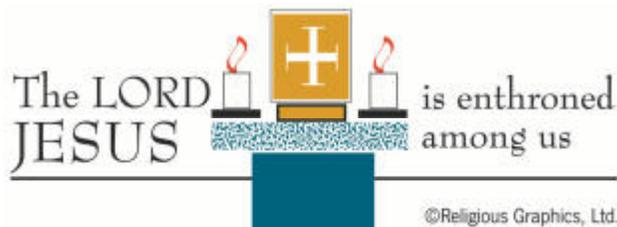
LECTORS AND EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS



If you are ready to be
placed back on the schedule for
weekend Masses please call the
office, 814-938-6540, x 210 or
email 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.

We are scheduling one Lector and two
Eucharistic Ministers for each weekend Mass.





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, and click the link on Sundays at 11am to join.

If you have any questions, just call the office.



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

John Janocha, father of Paul Janocha of our parish who died this past week, Please keep him and his family in your prayers.

May his soul rest in peace.



PILGRIM VIRGIN STATUE

The Erie Diocesan Pilgrim Virgin Statue of our Lady of Fatima will be in our area throughout the month of November. The statue contains first class relics of Saint

Francisco and St. Jacinta, two of the children who witnessed apparitions of the Blessed Mother in Fatima, Portugal, in 1917.

If you wish to host the statue in your home for a day or longer, please contact Bernie Roney at 938-8310 and she will make those arrangements for you. The only requirement is that you will pray the Rosary daily while the statue is in your home.

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 are available at the church and school offices.

As of November 10, the prize amounts to \$2,852.50! Watch it grow!

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

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.

Keep Scrip in mind when purchasing gift cards for Christmas gifts!

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



FORMED

PICK OF THE WEEK

November 21, 2021

LEARN

PRESENCE

This week we celebrate Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. Ring in this great feast by diving deeper into the mystery of Christ's greatest gift to His Church—the Holy Eucharist.



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CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Please be generous in this week's special collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development.

In the United States one in eight people live in poverty. With this collection, you support programs that address the root causes of poverty and provide a sustainable future for those struggling across the country. In addition, 25% of the funds we collect remain in our diocese to fund local antipoverty projects.

Learn more about the catholic Campaign for Human Development at www.usccb.org/cchd

NEW BIBLE STUDY



The Monday evening Bible study group will be reading Scott Hahn's book, **Hail Holy Queen**. The study focuses on Mary and her role in scripture and the Church. We will also view the videos that accompany this study, **The Bible and The Virgin Mary**.

The group meets Monday evenings at 6:00pm in the Meeting Room. For more information or to sign up for this study, please call Patti Spinelli at 814-938-4720.

Everyone is invited to come and learn more about Mary.

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.



K. OF C. CHRISTMAS PARTY



The Knights of Columbus will be having their annual Christmas Party on Sunday, December 5th, at 6:30pm at the Anchor Inn. All Knights and a guest are invited to attend along with widows of Council #452.

The cost of the buffet dinner is \$25. Please call Tom Wise at 938-3088, by November 24th to make your reservation.

RECTORY OFFICE

The office will be closed on Thursday and Friday of this week in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday.

We wish all of you a very Happy Thanksgiving!



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ENGAGEMENT ENCOUNTER

The Marriage and Family Life Office is hosting an Engagement Encounter weekend January 28-30, 2022. Engagement Encounter is a restful retreat designed to provide engaged couples the tools for a happy, holy, and lasting marriage. The weekend provides time as a couple to focus on your relationship, a community that prays and has fun together, a non-judgmental atmosphere, the chance to set a good foundation for your marriage, and the opportunity to retreat from busy wedding details and enjoy each other. Learn more or register at <https://www.eriecd.org/familylifeoffice/ee.html>. We would love to welcome you this January!

PRE-CANA

For those planning to be married in 2022, Pre-Cana will be held at SS. Cosmas & Damian on Sunday, February 20 from 10am - 5pm in Wienker Hall.

If you wish to register for this session of Pre-Cana, please call the office, 814-938-6540.



A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

When we are young, our parents "tell us about Jesus" and we believe what our parents believe. At some point, we must leave our parents faith and ask Pilate's question: "Are you the King?" Pilate is just asking these questions on our behalf.

SANCTUARY CLEANERS THIS WEEK

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

EVENING OF INSPIRATIONAL MUSIC

All are welcome to attend an evening of inspirational music, featuring Bart Foradora and Charlie Prescott, this evening Sunday, November 21, at 7pm at St. Bernard Church in Falls Creek.

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, **November 28 - Apple Sauce.** Thank you for your support!

SAINT VINCENT DePAUL VOLUNTEERS

Saturday, November 27 -

Mary McHenry, Mary Wiesinger, Jeanne Ann Miller.

SPAGHETTI DINNER

St. Bernard Church, Falls Creek, Famous Spaghetti Dinner is being held today, Sunday, November 21, from 10am-1pm or until sold out. Dinners are dine in or take out; please bring your own container for take outs.



OFFERTORY FIGURES

Due to an early publication deadline for today's bulletin, the offertory figures are not listed on this page as they normally would be.

Offertory figures will be up-to-date in next week's bulletin.



WINTER COAT DRIVE

The C.D. of A. is partnering with Anna Horner in sponsoring a coat drive in our parish. They are collecting clean, gently used winter coats, scarves, hats, and gloves to be distributed to those in need in our community.

These items are being collected through today, November 21st. Your donations can be placed in the box in the back of the church. Thank you!



OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 21, 2021

- Sunday:** Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe
- Monday:** St. Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr
- Tuesday:** St. Clement I, Pope and Martyr; St. Columban, Abbot; Bl. Miguel Agustín Pro, Priest and Martyr
- Wednesday:** St. Andrew Dũng-Lạc, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs
- Thursday:** St. Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin and Martyr; Thanksgiving Day
- Saturday:** BVM
- Next Sunday:** 1st Sunday of Advent

Readings for the Week of November 21, 2021

- Sunday:** Dn 7:13-14/Ps 93:1, 1-2, 5 [1a]/Rv 1:5-8/
Jn 18:33b-37
- Monday:** Dn 1:1-6, 8-20/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56 [52b]/
Lk 21:1-4
- Tuesday:** Dn 2:31-45/Dn 3:57, 58, 59, 60, 61 [59b]/
Lk 21:5-11
- Wednesday:** Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28/Dn 3:62, 63, 64,
65, 66, 67 [59b]/Lk 21:12-19
- Thursday:** Dn 6:12-28/Dn 3:68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74 [
59b]/Lk 21:20-28
- Friday:** Dn 7:2-14/Dn 3:75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81/
Lk 21:29-33
- Saturday:** Dn 7:15-27/Dn 3:82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87/
Lk 21:34-36
- Next Sunday:** Jer 33:14-16/1 Thes 3:12—4:2/Ps 25:4-5, 8-9,
10, 14 [1b]/Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

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