

# *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. 2224

**Secretaries –**  
Jean Gigliotti, ex. 2210  
Jude Griffith, ex. 2213

**Business Manager –**  
Tony Bofinger, ex. 2214

**Religious Ed Coordinator –**  
Ann Koppenhaver, ex. 2226

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

**August 21, 2022**

**Turn your ear and  
answer me, my God!**

### **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.

## Mass Intentions for This Week

### Saturday, August 20

4:30 p.m. Mary Agnello -- Tom & Nancy Wise

### Sunday, August 21

8:00 a.m. Joseph & Michael Salapata --  
George & Fran Shenosky

10:00 a.m. Don Ranieri -- Mom

### Monday, August 22

8:00 a.m. Maxine Kaza Humphrey --  
Kathleen Holderman

### Tuesday, August 23

8:00 a.m. Virginia Erdesky -- Chris & Judy Thurner

### Wednesday, August 24

8:00 a.m. Parishioners

### Thursday, August 25

8:00 a.m. Francis & Mary Hudock -- Sons

### Friday, August 26

9:00 a.m. Peter & Anna Bobalik --  
Marsha & Jeff Rush & Family

### Saturday, August 27

4:30 p.m. Frances M. & Samuel P. Villella --  
Jerry & Pauline Hallman

### Sunday, August 28

8:00 a.m. Deceased of the George & Anna Kaza Family --  
Family

10:00 a.m. Jesse R. Copenhaver --  
Patricia & Jim Murdock & Family



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THE  
**WEEK**  
AHEAD

### Tuesday, August 23

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

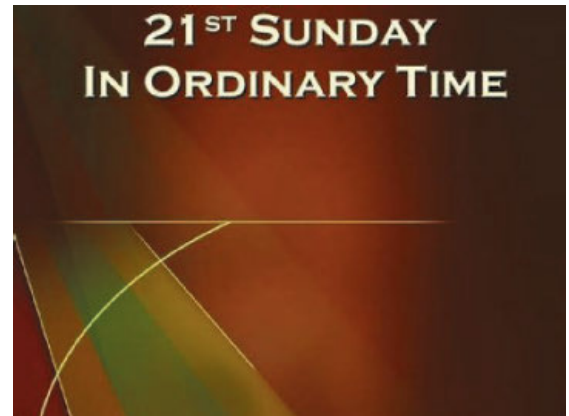
6:00pm -- Adult Basketball - Gym



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Dear Parishioners:

*Jesus went through one town and village after another, teaching as he made his way to Jerusalem. Someone asked him, "Lord, will only a few be saved?" He said to them, "Strive to enter through the narrow door; for many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able. When once the owner of the house has got up and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and to knock at the door, saying, 'Lord, open to us,' then in reply he will say to you, 'I do not know where you come from.' Then you will begin to say, 'We ate and drank with you, and you taught in our streets.' But he will say, 'I do not know where you come from; go away from me, all you evildoers!' There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth when you see Abraham and Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and you yourselves thrown out. Then people will come from east and west, from north and south, and will eat in the kingdom of God. Indeed, some are last who will be first, and some are first who will be last."*



In many situations in our lives we often ask the questions: “Why and ‘How much?’ and ‘What time is it?’” We want to quantify things; it’s a way to feel in control. They are all good questions in themselves, but they are not the right questions in every situation. Jesus ignored the question “How many?” in this reading. He ignored a similar question in Matthew 24: about “when” the end will be.

We imagine the person with a question to be in a superior position, especially if he or she has a microphone in hand. We imagine them to be neutral, clear-headed, authoritative – almost like judges. And we imagine that we are morally obliged to answer every question. But a question can be just as confused and wrong-headed as a statement; it can be biased and belittling; it can express, while trying to conceal, a personal agenda; it can be trivial; it can be everything that a statement can be. In fact, even at its best, a question is just an ambiguous statement.

It is as necessary to pay attention to our questions as to our answers – especially in religious matters. “Who made you?” someone asked the little slave girl in Uncle Tom’s Cabin. “Don’t think nobody ever made me,” she replied, “I s’pect I grewed.” Her answer was better than the question. The questioner’s image of God was of a craftsman of some kind: someone who makes objects and puts them there. We always have some image of God; it helps to hold some ideas and experiences and feelings together. But we know that no image can do justice to God. The trouble is when we have images that we are not conscious of having. Even very sophisticated people can be held captive by buried images of God. I once knew a moral theologian who had been a mechanical engineer before studying for the priesthood. His moral theology was a perfect piece of engineering: from an infinite tank grace flowed in to activate the four cardinal virtues, like pistons, which made the wheels of the moral life to turn.... It is very seldom that you get a simple theologian. Instead you get a theologian-engineer, or a theologian-lawyer, or a theologian-journalist .... What makes the difference is the question we ask, and the way we ask it. A loaded question gives you back only what you loaded it with.

Will only a few be saved? That is a question that a statistician would ask. The mind works comfortably when its object is ‘out there’, in the third person, so to speak. But Jesus’ reply was in the second person: “Strive to enter by the narrow door....” We have a tendency to survey our faith as if it were a landscape that did not include ourselves. But a genuine spiritual question is always intensely practical and personal. “What good deed must I do to possess eternal life?” asked the young man; and then “What more do I need to do?” (Mt 19:16, 20). They were real questions, even though he didn’t prove capable of acting on the answers to them. He had the grace to go away “sad”; he didn’t go away like the Pharisees thinking he was better than other people. There was hope for him. There is always hope for an honest person looking for the right way.

God Bless,  
Msgr. J. Riccardo





Classes will begin for students in Grade K through 6 on Monday, August 22nd.

Preschool classes will begin on Monday, August 29, for the PreK and Tuesday, August 30, for the 3-year olds.

Lunch will cost \$2.30 which includes milk. For milk only, the cost is \$.50.

You can apply for free or reduced lunches online at [www.compass.state.pa.us](http://www.compass.state.pa.us)

### Lunch Menu:

**Monday:** Hot Dog in Bun, Baked Beans, Carrot Sticks, Pears, Milk

**Tuesday:** Walking Tacos, Lettuce, Salsa, Cheese, Apples, Milk

**Wednesday:** Popcorn Chicken, Oven Fries, Mandarin Oranges, Milk

**Thursday:** Sloppy Joes, Tossed Salad w/ Cucumbers, Dressings, Banana, Milk

**Friday:** Chicken Fajitas, Lettuce, Cheese, Salsa, Cucumbers, Peaches, Milk

### School Staff:

Principal ..... Heather Kunselman  
 School Secretary .... Lisa Phillips  
 Preschool ..... Kerri Presloid  
 Preschool Aide ... Wendy Heberling  
 Kindergarten ..... Theresa Pearce  
 Grade 1 ..... Jeanine DiPietro  
 Grade 2 ..... Jennifer Szymanski  
 Grade 3 ..... Brianne Ryen  
 Grade 4 - 6 ..... Ann Koppenhaver  
 Grade 4 - 6 ..... Tasha Manners  
 2nd & 3rd Grade Sacramental Preparation  
 ..... Ann Koppenhaver  
 Music ..... Marcy Sallack  
 Custodian ..... Bud Bofinger  
 Cafeteria Manager ... Julie Hollenbaugh  
 Maintenance..... Dan Prutzal  
 ..... Michael Gmys



Rest In Peace

### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Sam Lorelli of our parish; and Jane Ann Spencer, mother of Tricia Spencer-Babco of our parish, both of whom died this past week.

Please keep them and their families in your prayers. May their souls rest in peace.

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are in need of additional volunteers for our 2022/23 Religious Education Program.



If you have a few hours a week to give and would like to become involved in our program, you can contact the rectory office, 814-938-6540, or Religious Education Coordinator, Mrs. Ann Koppenhaver 814-938-6540, ext 2226



Please consider sharing your time with this very fulfilling ministry. Training is provided as necessary and support throughout the year is readily available. Thank you!

### ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED

We are in need of Altar Servers at SS. Cosmas & Damian. Altar Servers perform a very important and much needed role in liturgical services. This role includes assisting the priest so that the liturgy can be conducted with grace and reverence.



I would like to invite students going into fourth grade or older, **as well as adults**, to consider becoming an altar server.

There would be a brief training session and then you would serve with an experienced server a few times as an additional part of your training.

Call or email the office to let us know of your or your child's interest.

### 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 and encouraged to attend. Please join us.



### 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.

### FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

The phrase in today's gospel, "I don't know where you come from," is often used by parents about children and children about parents. Change is so rapid one generation has little in common with another. We must depend on love, trust, and mutual respect to bridge this gap.

### SANCTUARY CLEANERS THIS WEEK

Sandy Hinderliter, Mary Claire Johnston, Arlene Stewart.



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 10am to join.



Be always open  
to the Spirit

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### SEWING MINISTRY

*Your gift of Time and Talent*

Attention all sewers, crocheters, knitters, and quilters - Our Prayer Shawl and Lap Quilt Ministry is in need of ladies who knit, crochet, and/or sew simple projects.



If you are interested in offering your God-gifted talents you are welcome to join us in Walston at the Church Office on Wednesdays from 12:30 till 2:30pm. If you would prefer, you can always offer your sewing or knitting skills in the quiet of your own home.

This ministry also gratefully accepts donations of fabric, yarn, and other supplies, as well as monetary donations and your prayers. Volunteers are always needed to distribute items to area nursing homes for those in need of a little comfort.

We welcome your involvement - Please join us! Contact Michele Aikens at 814-952-0702 for further information.

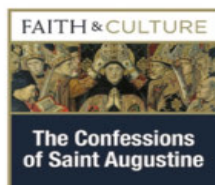
**FORMED**

PICK OF THE WEEK

August 21, 2022

#### THE FAITH AND CULTURE PODCAST: THE CONFESSIONS OF ST. AUGUSTINE

In this episode of the Faith and Culture podcast, Joseph Pearce and Dr. John Sehorn discuss the most towering Church Father of the West, St. Augustine. Together, Pearce and Sehorn describe the purpose of Augustine's Confessions, the relatability of this Saint, and his impact on the world in his own time and culture. Finally, they discuss what we can learn from Augustine today.



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**THANK YOU!**



Thank you to all who responded to our request for American Flags to fly on the flag pole in front of the rectory!

Your generous response is greatly appreciated.



To add a name to the Prayer Chain, please call Pat Rougeux, 814-938-4464.

If you are unable to reach her you may call the office weekdays 9am - 4pm.

**SAINT VINCENT DePAUL WEEKLY FOOD DONATION**

Food donation next **Sunday, August 28 - Spaghetti**. Thank you for your generosity!

If you or someone you know is in need of food assistance, please visit our food pantry on Saturdays between 10am and Noon.

If you have any questions, please contact Monika Bizousky at 814-938-0636.

**RELIGIOUS ARTICLES**

There are still items available in our Religious Articles cabinet. All items that we have in stock are being sold at a reduced price.

Stop in the back of the church and see if there is anything in the cabinet that you might be interested in. Not everything we have is on display, so if you don't see what you are looking for, just ask us.

Stop in or call the office during office hours and one of us can meet you in church to show you what is available and help you with your purchase.



*Rejoice  
in the good news  
of the Lord!*

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***"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.

**K OF C FOOTBALL TICKETS**

The Knights have the 2022 Football Tickets for sale!

New for this year - prizes have been increased to \$30,000 total or \$3,000 per week. The number of prizes are the same, but the amounts are higher! See any Knight for a ticket.

Cost is \$10. Based on NFL football team scores from November 6 thru January 8.



**BACK TO SCHOOL BREAKFAST AND BAKE SALE**



The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a **"Back To School" Breakfast and Bake Sale** to be held on September 4th from 7:30am - 1pm in Wienker Hall.

The Menu will include scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, pancakes, and toast. The cost will be \$8 for adults and \$5 for kids.

There will also be a bake sale as at past Breakfasts. Anyone interested in donating to the bake sale can contact John "Bruno" Martino.







### COLLECTION FOR THE CHURCH IN LATIN AMERICA

This weekend we are taking up the collection for the Church in Latin America. Your generosity enables our brothers and sisters in Latin America and the Caribbean to share in the life of the Church and grow closer to Christ. Thank you for your support!

### 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](mailto: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!

### 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 current calendar can be found on the Diocesan website at [www.eriercd.org](http://www.eriercd.org) and can also be found on the tables at the entrances of the church.

### SAINT VINCENT DePAUL VOLUNTEERS

August 27 - Nick & Marcy Gianvito

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[www.sscdchurch.com](http://www.sscdchurch.com)

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*ParishApp2* to 800-950-9952

### **OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 21, 2022**

<b>Sunday:</b>	21st Sunday in Ordinary Time; St. Pius X, Pope
<b>Monday:</b>	The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary
<b>Tuesday:</b>	St. Rose of Lima, Virgin
<b>Wednesday:</b>	St. Bartholomew, Apostle
<b>Thursday:</b>	St. Louis; St. Joseph Calasanz, Priest
<b>Saturday:</b>	St. Monica
<b>Next Sunday:</b>	22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time; St. Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

### Readings for the Week of August 21, 2022

Sunday:	Is 66:18-21/Ps 117:1, 2/Heb 12:5-7, 11-13/ Lk 13:22-30
Monday:	2 Thes 1:1-5, 11-12/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 4-5/ Mt 23:13-22
Tuesday:	2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17/Ps 96:10, 11-12, 13/ Mt 23:23-26
Wednesday:	Rv 21:9b-14/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18/ Jn 1:45-51
Thursday:	1 Cor 1:1-9/Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mt 24:42-51
Friday:	1 Cor 1:17-25/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11/ Mt 25:1-13
Saturday:	1 Cor 1:26-31/Ps 33:12-13, 18-19, 20-21/ Mt 25:14-30
Next Sunday:	Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29/Ps 68:4-5, 6-7, 10-11/ Heb 12:18-19, 22-24a/Lk 14:1, 7-14

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### **WEEKLY OFFERTORY ANALYSIS**

August 14, 2022

SACRIFICIAL GIVING MEANS 10%

### **Church Offertory**

<i>Envelopes sent</i>	706
<i>Adult Envelopes Returned</i>	187
Adult	\$5,638.15
Holy Day	\$485.00
Children	\$11.00
Loose	\$292.20
Monthly	\$160.00
Total	<b>\$6,586.35</b>
<i>Weekly Goal</i>	\$8,000.00
Surplus (Deficit)	(\$1,413.65)
Accumulated(+/-) Goal Since 7/1/2022	<b>\$3,834.97</b> <i>Under</i> <i>Goal</i>

### **Catholic Services Appeal 2022**

2022 Diocesan Assessment \$79,692.00	
Total Parish Goal \$129,692.00	
Pledged Amt:	\$92,180.00
Paid on Pledge:	\$86,610.70
Unpaid Pledges:	\$5,569.30
Unpledged Donations:	\$11,732.56
2022 CSA Collected to Date:	\$98,343.26

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