

SS. Cosmas and Damian Church

616 W. Mahoning Street, Punxsutawney, PA 15767

814-938-6540 - sscdofc@comcast.net

Website - sscdchurch.com

School - 814-938-4224 - 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-Second Sunday In Ordinary Time

August 28, 2022

**How Blessed are
the peacemakers!**

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 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

Monday, August 29

8:00 a.m. Ross & Jessie Gigliotti -- Mr. & Mrs. John Farcus

Tuesday, August 30

8:00 a.m. James A. Martino -- The Camuso Family

Wednesday, August 31

8:00 a.m. Parishioners

Thursday, September 1

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

Friday, September 2

9:00 a.m. Cecelia Noonan -- Estate

Saturday, September 3

8:00 a.m. Leonard Hoch -- John & Pat Farcus
4:30 p.m. Carmenell & Sam Renne -- Rose Day

Sunday, September 4

8:00 a.m. William A. Barilar --
Lisa & Bob Pascuzzo & Family
11:00 a.m. Bill Roberts -- Dan, Peggy, & Maggie Prutzal



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THE
WEEK
AHEAD

Tuesday, August 30

6:00pm -- Recitation of the Rosary -
Church
6:00pm -- Adult Basketball - Gym

Friday, September 2

9:30am - 4pm -- Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
- Church

Sunday, September 4

7:30am - 1pm -- "Back To School" Breakfast -
Wienker Hall

Saturday /Sunday, September 3 & 4

Following all Masses -- Blood Pressure and Blood
Sugar testing - Meeting Room



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MASS TIME CHANGE

Our Mass schedule will change to our Fall/Winter schedule beginning next Sunday, September 4th. The only change is to the last Mass on Sunday. Mass times will be:

- ♦ Saturday evening - 4:30pm
- ♦ Sunday morning - 8:00 and 11:00am

Dear Parishioners,

The theme of the Readings for today is the virtue of *humility*. So, what is humility? We often confuse humility with modesty or timidity, which are similar. Modesty and timidity are more about concern with outward appearances or speech, whereas humility is a spiritual or internal virtue. Humility recognizes that all we are and all we have are gifts from God even though we might have worked hard to acquire them. He gave us time, talents, or opportunity to acquire them. There is no such thing as a "self-made" man or woman. Further, our recognition of God's gifts should cause us to help those less fortunate. Let us see how this is illustrated in today's readings.

The **First Reading** is from the *Book of Sirach* (3:17-18, 20, 28-29). Sirach might be considered to be a book of "Good Counsel." The writer is giving sage advice when he encourages all mankind to be humble, for boasting and arrogance have no place in the kingdom of God. The message is straight-forward and needs little interpretation and yet, modern society seems to think that humility is only for the meek or weak. In reality, it takes a strong character and a strong sense of God in one's life to be truly humble.

The **Responsorial Psalm** is (68:4-7, 10-11). This prayer picks up the same theme recognizing our dependence upon God as the "father of orphans and the defender of widows," and it is He who gives all talents and graces to those who seek His guidance.

The **Second Reading** is from the *Letter to the Hebrews* (12:18-19, 22-24A). The author is comparing the harshness of the Mosaic Law of the Old Testament with the Love and forgiveness that Jesus holds out to us in the new covenant. These are gifts that we don't deserve but are offered none the less because of God's benevolence. The strange language about "a blazing fire, gloomy darkness, a trumpet blast and people begging to have no further messages" are in reference to many scenes of the Israelites in the desert during the time of Moses. (See **Exodus 19:12-20**) While there, fear was used to get the people to obey God's commands. What *we* should fear is being left out of Heaven because we could do "it" all by ourselves without God's help or guidance.

The **Gospel Reading** is from the *Gospel of Luke* (14:1, 7-14). All of Chapter 14 is a lesson in humility and probably the clearest statement from Jesus on the subject, "For everyone who exalts himself shall be humbled and he who humbles himself shall be exalted," in the eyes of God. The last part of this reading, with reference to inviting the poor, the lame and the blind to dinner, is not so much a directive, but rather an exaggeration of the point of observing the virtue of humility to benefit those less fortunate.

Again, we must try to understand the spiritual (or Biblical) meaning of *humility*. It does not mean to demean or belittle oneself, but instead to recognize who we are in the eyes of God and what God is in our life and then recognizing that all of our possessions, talents, and good qualities are God's gifts to us. *What we do with them is our gift to God*. Something to think about during your prayer time this week!

God Bless!

Msgr. J. Riccardo, Pastor



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Registration for Religious Education Classes for this coming school year is currently underway. Forms and information have been sent to parents. If you didn't receive a form, just call or stop in the office.



If you have any questions about our Religious Education Program just call or stop in the office.

The first class for all grade levels will be Sunday, September 11th from 9:15 - 10:45am.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION HELP NEEDED

We are in need of a teacher for our 5th grade class as well as help in the office. And we are always in need of substitute teachers in our program

If you have a few hours a month to give and would like to become involved in our program, you can contact the office. Training will be provided.

You are needed!

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.

FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

Family life well lived confirms the words of Jesus in today's gospel, "Those who humble themselves will be exalted." Commitment, intimacy, loyalty and love are the rewards of humble service and care for one another.



Rest In Peace

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Elizabeth (Betty) Barilar, Ron Canton, and Rose Stello of our parish, all of whom died in the past week.

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

JOIN THE CHOIR!

Our Choir is in need of spirit-filled singers to join our ranks at the last Mass on Sundays! The ability to read music is not required.



We sing at Sunday Masses September through May and other special occasions throughout the year.

Rehearsals will be held most Wednesdays at 6pm **beginning on September 7th.**

We'd love for you to join us! Please contact Toie Neal at 814-952-1523 or come to any practice and give it a try!

SAINT VINCENT DePAUL WEEKLY FOOD DONATION

Food donation next **Sunday, September 4 - SpaghettiOs**. 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.

*For everyone who exalts
himself will be humbled, but
the one who humbles himself
will be exalted*



Friday of this week, September 2, is the first Friday of the month. Confessions for the First Friday will be on Thursday at 8:30am.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

There will be Adoration on Friday beginning after the 9am Mass and closing at 4pm. Our special intention for this month will be for all students as they return to classes. We pray for success in their studies.

Please plan to come spend some time in adoration of our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament on First Friday. Sign-up sheets are posted in church.



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.

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 Scrip, Mon - Fri, 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.

SANCTUARY CLEANERS THIS WEEK

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

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.



FESTIVAL SHIRTS

A special thank you goes out to Standard Pennant Company of Big Run for donating the beautiful bright blue t-shirts you saw being worn by committee members throughout Festival weekend.

We are grateful to Standard Pennant for their generosity and support of our Festival.

We are hoping to have a similar shirt available for sale next year at the Festival.



SAINT VINCENT DePAUL VOLUNTEERS

September 3 -

Rod & Jessica Perry and Sharon Murray

FORMED

PICK OF THE WEEK

August 28, 2022

AUGUSTINE: A VOICE FOR ALL GENERATIONS WITH MIKE AQUILINA

During this very special week for the Augustine Institute, we celebrate both our patron, St. Augustine, and his mother, St. Monica! As a preeminent Doctor of the Church, Augustine has been said to be "the holiest of the wise and the wisest of the holy." To celebrate this great Church Father, please enjoy Augustine: A Voice for all Generations!



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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.



"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.



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.

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.



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.



BACK TO SCHOOL BREAKFAST AND BAKE SALE



The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring a **"Back To School" Breakfast and Bake Sale** to be held next Sunday, 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.



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 so we can add you to our address book.

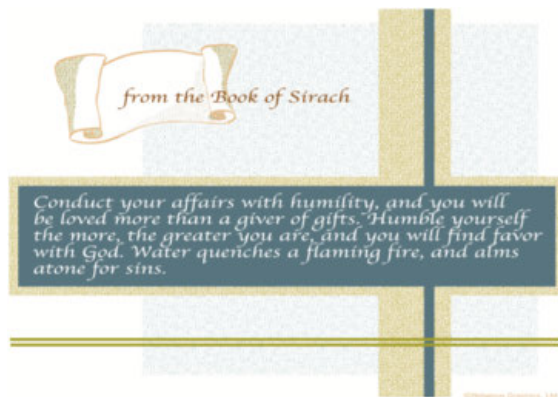


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PRAY FOR PRIESTS IN DIOCESE OF ERIE

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.erieecd.org and can also be found on the tables at the entrances of the church.



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COLLECTION FOR THE CHURCH IN LATIN AMERICA

Thank you for your generous contributions in last week's collection for the Church in Latin America.

Your donations, amounting to \$1,187.00, will be used to share the faith with our brothers and sisters in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Your gift makes a difference!

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 28, 2022

- Sunday:** 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time; St. Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
- Monday:** The Passion of St. John the Baptist
- Saturday:** St. Gregory the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church
- Next Sunday:** 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

WEEKLY OFFERTORY ANALYSIS August 21, 2022 SACRIFICIAL GIVING MEANS 10%

Church Offertory

<i>Envelopes sent</i>	706
<i>Adult Envelopes Returned</i>	201
Adult	\$6,762.15
Holy Day	\$436.00
Children	\$4.50
Loose	\$315.00
Monthly	\$476.00
Total	\$7,993.64
<i>Weekly Goal</i>	\$8,000.00
Surplus (Deficit)	(\$6.35)
Accumulated(+/-) Goal Since 7/1/2022	\$3,841.32 Under Goal

Catholic Services Appeal 2022

2022 Diocesan Assessment \$79,692.00	
Total Parish Goal \$129,692.00	
Pledged Amt:	\$92,180.00
Paid on Pledge:	\$86,660.70
Unpaid Pledges:	\$5,519.30
Unpledged Donations:	\$12,041.93
2022 CSA Collected to Date:	\$98,702.63

Readings for the Week of August 28, 2022

- 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
- Monday:** 1 Cor 2:1-5/Ps 119:97, 98, 99, 100, 101,
102/Mk 6:17-29
- Tuesday:** 1 Cor 2:10b-16/Ps 145:8-9, 10-11, 12-13ab,
13cd-14/Lk 4:31-37
- Wednesday:** 1 Cor 3:1-9/Ps 33:12-13, 14-15, 20-21/
Lk 4:38-44
- Thursday:** 1 Cor 3:18-23/Ps 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/
Lk 5:1-11
- Friday:** 1 Cor 4:1-5/Ps 37:3-4, 5-6, 27-28, 39-40/
Lk 5:33-39
- Saturday:** 1 Cor 4:6b-15/Ps 145:17-18, 19-20, 21/
Lk 6:1-5
- Next Sunday:** Wis 9:13-18b/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14-17/
Phlm 9-10, 12-17/Lk 14:25-33

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