

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

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

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

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

**September 4, 2022**

**In every age, O Lord,  
You have been our refuge.**

### **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, September 3

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, Sr. --

Dan, Peggy, & Maggie Prutzal

### Monday, September 5

**9:00 a.m.** Edward & Gerry McGinnis --

Bernice MacElroy

### Tuesday, September 6

8:00 a.m. Gloria Shenosky --

George & Fran Shenosky & Family

### Wednesday, September 7

8:00 a.m. Jean Tangren --

Dick & Connie Venesky

### Thursday, September 8

8:00 a.m. Vickie Snyder -- St. Clare Fraternity

### Friday, September 9

9:00 a.m. Parishioners

### Saturday, September 10

4:30 p.m. Anthony Gianvito --

Theresa Wilson

### Sunday, September 11

8:00 a.m. Parishioners

11:00 a.m. John Spinelli --

Patti & Gene Spinelli



## THE WEEK AHEAD

### Saturday/Sunday, September 3 & 4

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

### Wednesday, September 7

6:00pm -- Parents of Confirmation Class Meeting -  
Wienker Hall

### Sunday, September 4

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

### Sunday, September 11

9:15am -- Religious Education Classes, K-9

9:15am -- Confirmation Class -- Meeting Room

### Tuesday, September 6

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

6:00pm -- Adult Basketball - Gym

Dear Parishioners,

We are invited this week to have strong foundations for our faith, to live in wisdom, and to recognize the hand of God in all that happens to us.

The first reading, from the Book of Wisdom, teaches us to have patience and not to think that we immediately understand the ways of the Lord. This is such good advice. Today, many people don't even believe in God while others seem to believe that they are His spokesperson and interpret His word according to their own pleasure.

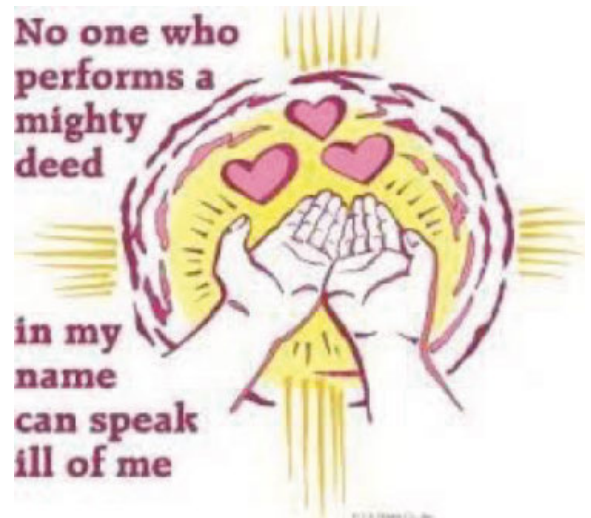
The second reading, from the letter to Philemon, indicates that even difficult situations, such as slavery, can be lived in the Lord. That is not a justification for slavery. It is a simple acceptance that no matter what happens, we can find the presence of God in every situation. People who have spent long years imprisoned are often an incredible witness to this.

The Gospel today, from Saint Luke, speaks about the commitment of discipleship. Jesus is totally clear: to follow Him will cost us everything even as it gives us everything. We must be willing to give up all in order to walk with the Lord. Jesus never asks us to give up what is bad for us. He does ask us to give up some good things for the sake of the Kingdom. That makes people unhappy today. We want to think that whatever is good is allowed for me. Jesus is clear that such is not the case. Jesus can ask us to leave behind our families, our wealth, our houses, etc. It is all for the sake of the Kingdom.

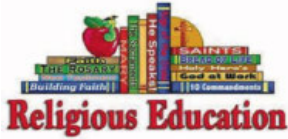
The challenge from these readings is this: Do I have wisdom to recognize what the Lord is asking of me here and now? Do I have the inner courage to follow the Lord, no matter what He asks of me? Am I willing to see every aspect of my life, here and now, in the light of God's love for me?

My sisters and brothers, do we want to follow the Lord? Or are we just looking for a way to make sure that we don't end up in hell? Or are we following the Lord for other reasons. There is only one reason to follow Jesus: we have come to know His love, even if it is ever so little, at work in our lives. We follow Him because we have come to believe in Him in some way. May we follow Him with joy and grow in our capacity to give our whole life over to Him.

God Bless,  
Msgr. J. Riccardo







**R**egistration 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 next Sunday, September 11th, from 9:15 - 10:45am.

### CONFIRMATION PARENTS:

**This Wednesday evening, September 7, there will be a mandatory meeting for the parents of the incoming Confirmation Class. We will meet at 6pm in Wienker Hall.**

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION VOLUNTEERS

We always welcome extra help in our Religious Education 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. Thank you!!



### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Kathy Painter of our parish who died this past week. Please keep her and her family in your prayers.

May her soul 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!



### 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.

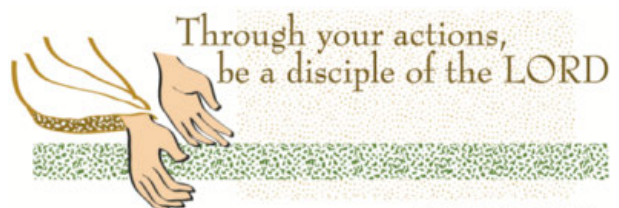


### SAINT VINCENT DePAUL WEEKLY FOOD DONATION

Food donation next **Sunday, September 11 - Green Beans.** 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.



### 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.



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.

### BACK TO SCHOOL BREAKFAST

#### & BAKE SALE Today!

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

The Menu includes scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, pancakes, and toast. The cost is \$8 for adults and \$5 for kids.

They are also offering a variety of delicious home baked goods for you to purchase.

Stop in after Mass for a great breakfast and take some delicious goodies home with you!



### FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

Today's gospel is clear: commitment to another involves sacrifice. Before we accept a commitment such as marriage or parenting, we must plan carefully like the king in today's gospel. These are serious commitments which demand complete self-giving and are not for the faint hearted or selfish.

### 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.

### SANCTUARY CLEANERS THIS WEEK

Debbie Rougeux, Pat Rougeux, Kim Kopas, Karen Burkett.

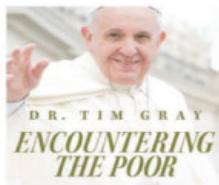
## FORMED

PICK OF THE WEEK

Sept 4, 2022

### ENCOUNTERING THE POOR: BIBLICAL ROOTS FOR CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING BY TIM GRAY

Dr. Gray expounds upon the teachings of the Catholic Church surrounding social justice in light of Sacred Scripture. Discover how social justice in regards to the poor is not one small piece in the puzzle, but instead frames the entire mosaic of Scripture.



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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.



**SAINT VINCENT DePAUL VOLUNTEERS**

**September 10 -**

Jesse Ananea, Sam Bevak, Greg Aikens, Bill Uzzo



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.

**RECTORY OFFICE**



The office will be closed on Monday of this week, September 5th, in observance of the Labor Day holiday.

Have a safe and happy Labor Day!

*Bless our labors,  
O Lord, and all  
those who perform them*

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**FALL BIBLE STUDIES**

The fall bible studies will resume the week after Labor Day.

The Monday evening study will begin on September 12th at 6:00pm. The Wednesday study will begin on September 14th at 10:00 am. We will meet in the Meeting Room.

We have chosen a new study from Ascension Press on the book of Revelation. In order to ensure enough study guides are ordered, please call Patti Spinelli at 814-938-4720 and leave your name and phone number.



**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.

**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.eriescd.org](http://www.eriescd.org) and can also be found on the tables at the entrances of the church.





Immaculate Conception and St. Dominic Churches will have their annual Fall Festival on September 9, 10 and 11 on the school grounds at 82 Summit Street, Brookville. Festival Hours are 8am to 8pm on Friday and Saturday, and 10am to 3pm on Sunday.

Fall Festival includes a \$2,500 Cash Raffle, a huge Flea Market, Craft and Christmas Room, Homemade Soup by the Quart, Cabbage Rolls (pre-order only), Raffle Auction, Sweet Shop, Theme Basket Room, Outdoor games and fun for the kids (Saturday and Sunday only) and Food Stand. Entertainment by John Eric McNeil on Friday and Saturday evenings from 6-8 pm. Sunday will feature a Roast Beef Dinner (Take-Out only) beginning at 11:15am. Cost is \$12 for adults and \$6 for children 5-10. Plus the drawing for all the prizes will begin at 3pm.

For a schedule of events and order forms for the soup and cabbage rolls, visit [icbrookville.com](http://icbrookville.com). Everyone is welcome!

### CATHOLIC EDUCATION COLLECTION

The 2022 Catholic Education Collection will take place on September 17/18. This important collection supports lifelong faith formation for all generations throughout our diocese.

Please give generously and know that half of what you give will remain here at SSCD parish to support our own religious education and faith formation programs.

### TWO EASY WAYS TO STAY IN TOUCH

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

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FORMED

PICK OF THE WEEK

Sept 4, 2022

FORMED NOW: THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

As we celebrate the birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary this week, listen as Dr. Tim Gray and Dr. John Sehorn discuss the traditions surrounding Mary's life and how her life is a model of humility for Christians.



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

#### WEEKLY OFFERTORY ANALYSIS

August 28, 2022

SACRIFICIAL GIVING MEANS 10%

#### Church Offertory

Envelopes sent	706
Adult Envelopes Returned	198
Adult	\$6006.95
Holy Day	\$70.00
Children	\$7.50
Loose	\$564.00
Monthly	\$490.00
Total	\$7,138.45
Weekly Goal	\$8,000.00
Surplus (Deficit)	(\$861.55)
Accumulated(+/-) Goal Since 7/1/2022	\$4,702.87 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:	\$87,015.70
Unpaid Pledges:	\$5,164.30
Unpledged Donations:	\$12,260.92
2022 CSA Collected to Date:	\$99,276.62

#### OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 4, 2022

Sunday:	23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday:	Labor Day
Thursday:	The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Friday:	St. Peter Claver, Priest
Next Sunday:	24th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Patriot Day; Grandparents' Day

#### Readings for the Week of September 4, 2022

Sunday:	Wis 9:13-18b/Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14-17/ Phlm 9-10, 12-17/Lk 14:25-33
Monday:	1 Cor 5:1-8/Ps 5:5-6, 7, 12/Lk 6:6-11
Tuesday:	1 Cor 6:1-11/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b/ Lk 6:12-19
Wednesday:	1 Cor 7:25-31/Ps 45:11-12, 14-15, 16-17/ Lk 6:20-26
Thursday:	Mt 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30/Ps 13:6ab, 6c/ Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23
Friday:	1 Cor 9:16-19, 22b-27/Ps 84:3, 4, 5-6, 12/ Lk 6:39-42
Saturday:	1 Cor 10:14-22/Ps 116:12-13, 17-18/ Lk 6:43-49
Next Sunday:	Ex 32:7-11, 13-14/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 17, 19/ 1 Tm 1:12-17/Lk 15:1-32 or 15:1-10

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