

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-Third Sunday In Ordinary Time

September 11, 2022

Lord, open my lips and my
mouth shall proclaim your praise!

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 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

Monday, September 12

8:00 a.m. Gerry Gigliotti -- Jean Gigliotti & Family

Tuesday, September 13

8:00 a.m. Madlyn Mankovich -- Doug Mankovich

Wednesday, September 14

8:00 a.m. Deceased of the McSteen & Roselli Families --
Family

Thursday, September 15

8:00 a.m. Mamie Bosak -- Jim & Jo Rudolph

Friday, September 16

9:00 a.m. Charles & Josephine Ruffner -- Family

Saturday, September 17

4:30 p.m. Reed, Phyllis, and Bernard Himes -- Family

Sunday, September 18

8:00 a.m. Albert & Alice Koza -- Paul & Bertha Koza

11:00 a.m. Art Marks -- Gary & Patty Anderson



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THE
WEEK
AHEAD

Sunday, September 11

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

9:15am -- Confirmation Class -
Meeting Rm

Monday, September 12

6:00pm -- Bible Study --Meeting Room

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

Tuesday, September 13

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

6:00pm -- Adult Basketball - Gym

Wednesday, September 14

10:00am --Bible Study - Meeting Room

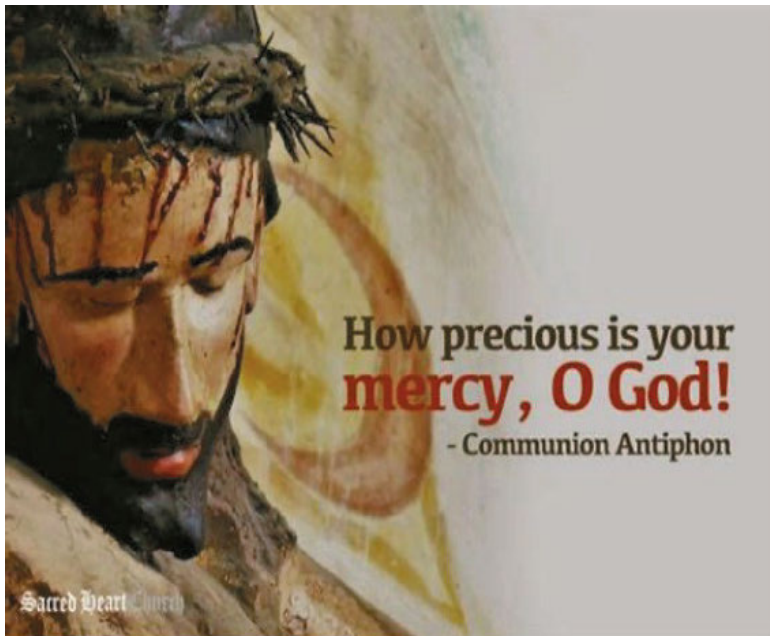
Sunday, September 18

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



GOD will not spurn a heart
that is contrite and humble

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Dear Parishioners:

The gospel reading for today is the entire 15th chapter of Luke's gospel. It appears to be all about 'lost property': the lost sheep, the lost coin and the lost son. This is bound to strike a chord with all of us, because there is no one who doesn't feel lost in some way. Jesus told these three stories in response to the Pharisees who accused him of consorting with sinners – people who had lost their way.

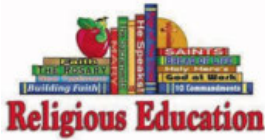
But to be more exact, these parables are not about being lost, but about being found. Each of them underlines the joy of the finder: God's joy in seeking and finding what is lost.

'Rejoice' is the key word at the end of each story. These stories are Jesus' revelation of what God is like. He had a vivid imagination and could have invented any kind of story, but he invented these.

To appreciate a story, you have to notice not only what is in it but also what isn't in it. It would have been difficult for most story-tellers to avoid adding qualifying phrases, cautionary asides, morally improving maxims. We want to balance everything and let no one get off too lightly. This is because we don't believe in the power of a story; we think the power lies in the moral extract we squeeze out of it – "moralic acid," Nietzsche called it. This means we don't believe in imagination or appreciate its power to shape our life. Beneath all our rationality there are a few images—or perhaps just one—that give our life its shape; and all our rationality is a playing-out of these images. At the heart of a great deal of modern philosophy there was the image of the human being as a kind of Mr. Spock (of Star Trek). One of my favorite texts in this connection is Nietzsche's description of the Übermensch—the Superman, or human being of the future—as "free from the happiness of serfs, redeemed from gods, fearless and fearful, great and solitary." Another is Iris Murdoch's description of the hero of so many modern novels and books of moral philosophy: "free, independent, lonely, powerful, rational, brave." The power of an unacknowledged image is hard to exaggerate. Imagine what someone harboring such an image would say about God. But we don't have to imagine; we know. They said "God is dead." How so? All the divine attributes (except mercy) had collapsed into the human ego. We were now God – but what a shriveled God!

Jesus could have invented any kind of story to reveal what God is like. That he invented these is a matter of immense significance. God rejoices to find what is lost. It doesn't require any moral extracts because its appeal is much deeper than thought. It works in us; it shapes us if we allow ourselves to dwell in it.

God Bless!
Msgr. J. Riccardo



**RELIGIOUS
EDUCATION CLASSES
BEGIN TODAY**

Religious Education Classes start today, Sunday, September 11, for all grade levels. Classes are being held from 9:15 - 10:45am.

If you have not yet registered your child/children in our program, stop in the Religious Education office prior to class today.

VOLUNTEERS

It's not too late to volunteer! 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!!



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 18 - Canned Corn.** 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.



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.

Give peace, O LORD,
to those who wait for you

CATHOLIC EDUCATION COLLECTION

Next weekend we will participate in the 2022 Catholic Education Collection. Please give as generously as you can.

Without you, our faith formation and religious education programs would not be as successful as they are. Because of you, our children and their families are led to greater faith.

There is an envelope included in your bi-monthly packets for this special collection, or just use a plain envelope marked "Catholic Education Collection". Remember that one half of the funds we collect will remain here in our own parish.

Thank you for your support!

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.



FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

Parents are like that shepherd in today's gospel for they don't give up and can't rest if one of their children has wandered away. A parent's persistent love provides a glimpse of the unconditional love for each of us by God, Our Father. A parent is a window to the Divine.

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.



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.

"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.

FORMED

PICK OF THE WEEK

Sept 11, 2022

THE RELUCTANT SAINT: THE STORY OF ST. JOSEPH OF CUPERTINO

Maximilian Schell stars as "the flying friar," St. Joseph of Cupertino, in this story of the humble Franciscan friar. In Cupertino, Italy, Joseph's peasant mother convinces the reluctant Abbott to accept her son into the monastery. With the support of the kindly local Bishop who sees in him a great deal more than others do, and by a series of miraculous incidents, the simple but pious Joseph is ordained a priest.



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FALL BIBLE STUDIES

The Fall bible studies will resume this week.

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 on 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.



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.



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 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.

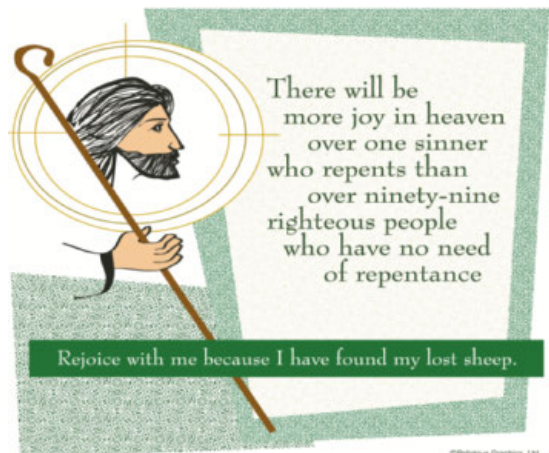
The current calendar can be found on the Diocesan website at www.eriercd.org and can also be found on the tables at the entrances of the church.

CHILD PROTECTION AND CREATING SAFE ENVIRONMENTS

Diocesan Child Protection Policies:

The Diocese of Erie, is committed to protecting minors who are entrusted to our care. The Diocese has policies and procedures in place to address the national problem of child abuse, to aid in the prevention of abuse, and to maintain safe environments. All those who minister to minors are screened, trained, and agree to a Code of Conduct. To read the Policy that includes the Code of Conduct, go to: [Policy effective March 15, 2021.](#)

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





Immaculate Conception and St. Dominic Churches annual Fall Festival continues Saturday and Sunday, September 10 and 11, on the school grounds at 82 Summit Street, Brookville. Festival Hours are 8am to 8pm 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. Everyone is welcome!

SANCTUARY CLEANERS THIS WEEK

Bob Henretta, Katie Roberts, Rita Yenzi.

SAINT VINCENT DePAUL VOLUNTEERS

Mario Cardamone, Tom Brown, Greg Aikens.



OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2022

Sunday:	24th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Patriot Day; Grandparents' Day
Monday:	The Most Holy Name of Mary
Tuesday:	St. John Chrysostom, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Wednesday:	The Exaltation of the Holy Cross
Thursday:	Our Lady of Sorrows
Friday:	Sts. Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs
Saturday:	St. Robert Bellarmine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Next Sunday:	25th Sunday in Ordinary Time; Catechetical Sunday

SPAGHETTI DINNER

St. Bernard Church, Falls Creek, Famous Spaghetti Dinner, the first one of the season, will be held next Sunday, September 18th.



Dinner will be served in the dining hall and take-out dinners will be available 11am-1pm **or until sold out. Sauce and meatballs only** will be available for take-out on Saturday, September 17, after the 4:30pm Mass and after the 8am Mass on Sunday.

The new prices are \$10/dinner, \$1/meatball and \$6/quart of sauce. Please bring your own containers for take-out.



Readings for the Week of September 11, 2022

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
Monday:	1 Cor 11:17-26, 33/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 17/Lk 7:1-10
Tuesday:	1 Cor 12:12-14, 27-31a/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Lk 7:11-17
Wednesday:	Nm 21:4b-9/Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17
Thursday:	1 Cor 15:1-11/Ps 118:1b-2, 16ab-17, 28/Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35
Friday:	1 Cor 15:12-20/Ps 17:1bcd, 6-7, 8b and 15/Lk 8:1-3
Saturday:	1 Cor 15:35-37, 42-49/Ps 56:10c-12, 13-14/Lk 8:4-15
Next Sunday:	Am 8:4-7/Ps 113:1-2, 4-6, 7-8/1 Tm 2:1-8/Lk 16:1-13 or 16:10-13

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OFFERTORY FIGURES

Because of an early deadline for submitting this week's bulletin to the publisher, the offertory figures do not appear in this space as they normally would.

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

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