SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT
March 17, 2019

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT
Our mission is to build up the Kingdom of God by offering ourselves with Jesus for the true good of every person.

EUCHARISTIC SELF-OFFERING PRAYER
I am all Yours, O most loving Jesus, through Mary, Your Mother.
ST. FLORIAN OFFERTORY STEWARDSHIP:  
Due to an early bulletin deadline, the March 9-10 offertory report will be in next week’s bulletin.

MEMORIAL GIFTS

With deepest gratitude we acknowledge the following gifts:

To St. Florian Church Capital Campaign

In Memory of Anna Klementic
By: Daughter, Theresa Freeman

In Memory of Mary Ann Mizikar
By: Joan Zuricane

Virtus/Mandated Reporting Training Session

offered here at St. Florian on Saturday, March 16 from 9:00 - 1:30 pm. Breakfast and lunch will be served along with getting all the information to acquire the necessary clearances to serve at our parish as a volunteer/minister.

Please contact the Rectory or Faith Formation Office to register. Your help is needed.

Please join us in prayerfully commemorating the Stations of the Cross each Friday in Lent at 7:00 pm.

“The Little Black Book”

The Little Black Book is available for use for this Lenten Season. Please help yourselves while supplies last!

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

AGNES NOVAK RUSINKO MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Now Accepting Applications
Deadline is March 31, 2019

WILLIAM AND MARY ANN MIZIKAR MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

$1,000.00

Now Accepting Applications from High School Seniors
Deadline is April 1, 2019

Contact the parish office or email areese@dioceseofgreensburg.org for applications

THIS WEEK

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
St. Florian Altar Society Meeting
Festival Planning Meeting

Tuesday—Wednesday
Tuesday, 7:00 PM
Wednesday, 6:30 PM
(Social Hall)

Ministry Schedule

Saturday, March 16, 2019—5:00 PM
Lector ................................................................. J. Lawrence
Eucharistic Ministers .................. G. Kovacina, J. Mizikar, J. Lesko
Altar Servers ................................................. M. Reese, J. Hornyak
Greeters ................................................. E. Carpenter, J. & E. Kovalik
Ushers ............................ E. Carpenter, E. Kovalik, P. Bitner, A. Smail

Sunday, March 17, 2019—9:00 AM
Lector ................................................................. J. Mizikar
Eucharistic Ministers .............. S. King, T. Jackson, K. Kitz
Altar Servers ................................................. G. & T. Sofranko
Greeters ................................................. S. Jackson, B. Mondock, J. Mott
Ushers ............................ R. Mizikar, G. & D. Vidakovich, M. Bilik

Sunday, March 17, 2018—11:00 AM
Lector ................................................................. M. Sopko
Eucharistic Ministers .............. W. Bossart, D. Neiderhiser, W. Back
Altar Servers ................................................. Z. Koch, A. Kelly
Greeters .................................................. D. Seekeres, J. Burik
Ushers ............................. F. Seekeres, J. Burik, E. Uhrin, J. Mylant
Children’s Liturgy ...................... M. Klimchock, M. Kelly

Saturday, March 23, 2019—5:00 PM
Lector ................................................................. J. Mizikar
Eucharistic Ministers .............. C. Kelly, C. Gricheck, G. Kovacina
Altar Servers ................................................. J. & M. Labuda
Greeters ............................................... F. Kernicky, J. & E. Kovalik
Ushers ............................. E. Carpenter, D. & T. Ulishnye, K. Labuda

Sunday, March 24, 2019—9:00 AM
Lector ................................................................. E. Zider
Eucharistic Ministers .............. T. Jackson, K. Kitz, H. Szewczyk
Altar Servers ................................................. J. & J. Kitz
Greeters ............................................... J. Mott, N. Tracy, C. Szewczyk
Ushers ............................. Ron Mizikar, G. & D. Vidakovich, P. Bitner

Sunday, March 24, 2019—11:00 AM
Lector ................................................................. B. Mizikar
Eucharistic Ministers .............. W. Back, R. & B. Obusek
Altar Servers ................................................. A. & C. Reese
Greeters ............................................... D. Seekeres, J. Burik
Ushers ............................. E. Seekeres, E. Uhrin, J. Mizikar, J. Burik
Children’s Liturgy ...................... A. Reese, J. Reese

Mass Intentions

(Request Form on back of bulletin)

Sat., Mar. 16 Lenten Weekday
8:00 AM  +John Rusinko by Cindy & Tom Gricheck
5:00 PM  +Dennis Mocydlowsky by Marilee & Ted Butler

Sun., Mar. 17 Second Sunday in Lent
9:00 AM  For the Parishioners
11:00 AM +Margaret Kadylyak by John & Debbie Brehun

Mon., Mar. 18 Lenten Weekday
8:00 AM  +Cecilia Casterwiler by Delmar & Mildred Overly

Tue., Mar. 19 St. Joseph
8:00 AM  +Joseph Emanuele by Family

Wed., Mar. 20 Lenten Weekday
8:00 AM  Living and Deceased member of the St. Florian Altar Society

Thu., Mar. 21 Lenten Weekday
8:00 AM  +Gerald L. Farzat by Karen, Ed & Megan

Fri., Mar. 22 Lenten Weekday
8:00 AM  Living and Deceased members of the Catholic Daughters of America

Sat., Mar. 23 Lenten Weekday
8:00 AM  +Mary E. Zimmerman by Terry & Janice Frederick
5:00 PM  +Leonard Lucotch by Wife Rita

Sun., Mar. 24 Third Sunday in Lent
9:00 AM  +Mary Tandaric by Barb Tompko
11:00 AM  For the Parishioners

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STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Saturday, March 16, 2019 ~ 5:00 PM
Stations of the Cross

Agnes Novak Rusinko Memorial Scholarship

Now Accepting Applications
Deadline is March 31, 2019

William and Mary Ann Mizikar Memorial Scholarship

$1,000.00

Now Accepting Applications from High School Seniors
Deadline is April 1, 2019

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THIS WEEK

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
St. Florian Altar Society Meeting
Festival Planning Meeting

Tuesday—Wednesday
Tuesday, 1:00 PM
Tuesday, 7:00 PM
Wednesday, 6:30 PM
(Social Hall)

Bulletin Deadline: submissions for the Bulletin are due by Monday at 9 AM to: areese@dioceseofgreensburg.org
Faith Formation News

Faith Formation News:
Elementary Classes for Grades K-7
March 18th — 6:00 — 7:15 pm
The children will be praying the Stations of the Cross beginning at 6:40 pm in church. Parents and other parishioners are invited to come and join us in this devotion.

Our next Confirmation/Youth Group gathering will be held on Sunday, March 24 following the 11:00 am Mass. Confirmation students are reminded to bring in the forms recently distributed concerning Baptism certificates, sponsor approval form and Confirmation name. Confirmation will be celebrated on May 7.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2019

JUNE 24–28 FOR STUDENTS – KINDERGARTEN – GRADE 6 –

Because of a scheduling conflict and an extended school year, our VBS for this year has been rescheduled for June 24-28. Volunteers are needed to help with story time, teaching the lesson of day, music, and crafts. For those with all completed diocesan clearances and are able to help, please contact Dr. Dreliszak at the Faith Formation Center

WE ARE ALSO PLANNING A “VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL FOR SENIOR CITIZENS” FROM JUNE 17–21. MORE DETAILS TO COME. WE ARE MAKING HISTORY BY ATTEMPTING TO PROVIDE A WEEK FOR SENIORS TO GATHER AND SHARE IN THE WONDER OF OUR FAITH. OUR FOCUS WILL BE ON THE “SACRAMENTS”. MORE INFORMATION TO COME!

Our next VBS planning meeting is set for Sunday, March 17 following the 11:00 am Mass. Volunteers with all clearances are needed for music, crafts, Bible stories, etc. Contact the Faith Formation Office if you are able to help.

St. Florian Preschool
Wilson Candy Fundraiser

St. Florian Preschool is selling Wilsons Easter Candy. Order information is available at the preschool or at the rectory. Orders are due by March 28. Candy available to pick up on April 12. Call the Preschool at 724-423-4437 for more information.

Divine Mercy Chaplet

A new practice has begun in our parish and ALL are welcome to join us as individuals pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet AFTER our 8:00 am morning Mass on Tuesdays and Fridays. The prayer takes no longer than 15-20 minutes and is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on God’s mercy and love for us.

Rosary of the Seven Sorrows of Mary

During the Season of Lent, the Rosary of the Seven Sorrows of Mary will be prayed AFTER the morning Mass. Interested individuals are welcome to join those who are praying this devotion.

Adult Education Opportunities

Adult Faith Sharing: Adult Faith Sharing will be held on Sunday, March 17th after the 9:00 am Mass in the Faith Formation Building. New participants are encouraged to join this group. Please contact Dr. Dreliszak for more information

Book Club: For the Season of Lent, our parish will be using a new video/discussion series called “No Greater Love”. Our next session is on Wednesday, March 20 following the 8:00 am Mass. Cost for material is only $10.00. Participants unable to join the discussion group may use the book at home. This series centers on the Passion of Christ and is a well recommended resource for this special holy season of the year. Please contact the Faith Formation Office to order materials or if you have any questions.

Prayer Chain

Please Note: If you have a particular prayer intention, please contact the FAITH FORMATION CENTER at 724-423-5087 and your request will be forwarded to those who have agreed to take part in this special ministry. New members on our Parish Prayer Chain are always welcome to join!

Due to an early bulletin deadline for the week, all the names given may not be listed. Please note that the intentions will still be prayed for by those who share in this ministry.

Maggie  Hanna  Taylor  Richard  Bill
Kelly & Child  Monica  Katie  Joshua  Kelly
Bill  Elaine  Lena  Regina  Rick
Sue  Amber  Michael  Ed  Pam
Debbie  Sheri  Nicole  Mark  Luke
Zachary  Mark

May we continue to remember these individuals in our daily prayers!
Second Sunday of Lent

In many instances in Sacred Scripture, we hear or read about covenants between God and man and it is God who initiates the Covenant. Today we hear God’s covenanting with Abram in the Old Testament passage. During the Transfiguration of Jesus with Moses and Elijah we learn of the final covenant that God decrees by sending His Son in whom God declares “listen to Him”.

This passage from Genesis accounts God’s first covenant with Abram. Here God makes a three-fold Covenant with Abram. These include a nation for Abram, a dynasty regarding Abram’s name, and eventual worldwide acceptance of Abram. The passage begins some ten years after Abram began his journey of obedience to the Lord’s command to seek a new land which God has chosen for Abram’s present household and his descendants with no specified attachments. Abram believed God at His word. God reward Abram for this relationship, for Abram has lived the obedient life for more than ten years prior to this instance of forming a Covenant.

God orders specified animals to be collects and split...in two, and placed each half opposite the other. This ritual for covenanting parties passing between the animal parts demonstrate their willingness to share the fate of these animals if the parties disobey the terms of the Covenant.

When birds of prey attempt to eat the sacrificed animals Abram alertly defends the covenant by chasing them away. His action symbolizes the danger that may threaten the Covenant. God places Abram into a trance and God appears as flaming smoke to go between the animal parts as a symbol of the danger that may threaten the Covenant. God places each half opposite the other. This ritual for covenanting parties passing between the animal parts demonstrate their willingness to share the fate of these animals if the parties disobey the terms of the Covenant.

This God who has initiated his covenant has created a family bond– not a promise nor a contract. The bond is something much more important. It is a bonding, binding of parties and cannot be canceled or annulled. Later God assures Israel as a nation to possess the land for Israel cannot be a nation if they are landless. This secures the first promise to Abram in Genesis 12:2 and the Covenant is fulfilled when Moses brings the 12 tribes to this promised land. God sets the boundaries. Today Israel declares their claim of land on this passage as a right to the title of ownership.

Background What we hear today will be repeated on August 6, the Feast of the Transfiguration of Jesus which is about a year before His death and resurrection. He has fed the two large crowds; walked on water, presented His bread of life speeches, and Peter has revealed “You are the Christ” (God’s anointed one). Jesus has renamed Peer as the rock on which to build His Church. He gives Peter the right “to bind and loose.” About eight days later, today’s passage occurs.

Luke builds his story to create a parallel with Moses who goes up Mount Sinai. There God appears as a burning bush to give him the Ten Commandments. Jesus takes His inner circle of Apostles (Peter, James and John). Peter is listed first to show his primacy. For a life and death moment requires two or three witnesses as stated in Deuteronomy. Luke often depicts Jesus at prayer before an important event.

Jesus undergoes a sparkling transformation in appearance as two men begin to speak with Him: one is Moses who represents the Law and the other is Elijah who represents the prophets. The entire Old Testament is represented. Specifically this scene heralds the coming of the Messiah. Only Luke’s Gospel tell what the three are discussing: Jesus’s mission (his exodus to Jerusalem to be crucified, spend 40 days on earth before ascending to His Father). Again God appears as a cloud to symbolize His presence. This is the center point of this passage. The two who represent the Old Covenant leave while Jesus remains to herald the New Covenant.

We have heard the old covenant of Abram, who becomes Abraham, and the establishing of a new and final Covenant through Jesus. The old and the new Scripture meet for us to see how each is related and dependent for our understanding.
LENTEN FAST & ABSTINENCE: The norms on fasting apply to persons age 18 to 59. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal, and nothing in-between. The norms concerning abstinence from meat apply to persons at least 14 years of age. All Fridays during Lent are days of abstinence from meat. Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are days of both fast and abstinence.

PRE-LENTEN SURVEY RESULTS will be given in next week’s bulletin.

DIOCESAN LENTEN APPEAL (DLA) 2019

is now officially underway. Watch the bulletin and the DLA Thermometer in the back of church for updates. Please use the DLA envelopes in the pews or the pledge form found at the bottom of my March 1st letter to you. To make an online DLA donation go to dioceseofgreensburg.org/HOPE. The Diocesan Target for our parish is $29,241 and our parish goal is $10,000 over this, for a total of $39,241. Reaching our parish goal will help us meet our operating expenses as we pay down our loan. Any amount over this goal can help us pay off the loan early in order to reduce interest costs.

2019 LENTEN Penance Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Church</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon., March 25th</td>
<td>St. Florian</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues., April 2nd</td>
<td>St. John the Evangelist, Connellsville</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat., April 6th</td>
<td>St. Pius X, Mt. Pleasant</td>
<td>11:00 am</td>
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<td>Thurs., April 11th</td>
<td>St. Raymond of the Mountains, Donegal</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
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<td>Sat., April 13th</td>
<td>St. John the Baptist, Scottsdale</td>
<td>11:00 am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon., April 15th</td>
<td>St. Aloysius, Dunbar</td>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
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DEATH, JUDGMENT, HEAVEN AND HELL – the four last things – is the theme for this year’s Christians Uniting Ecumenical Lenten Prayer Services which continues this Wednesday, March 20th at 7:00 pm at St. Paul United Church of Christ. All are invited. Remaining services are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Church</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 27 (Wednesday)</td>
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<td>7 pm</td>
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<td>April 3 (Wednesday)</td>
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<td>7 pm</td>
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<td>April 10 (Wednesday)</td>
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<td>7 pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 19 (Good Friday)</td>
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<td>11 am</td>
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Read Fr. John’s Homily at www.saintflorian.org under the “Parish Life” tab.

AFFORDABLE SENIOR HOUSING

WANTED: Property for Possible Senior Affordable Housing in Our Area!

If you or someone you know has 3.5 acres of level property in the greater Norvelt area that could be donated or purchased for the site of Senior Affordable Housing units, please contact the parish office.

Eucharistic Adoration

For March 5-6, the following hours had only one adorer: 2 pm, 3 pm, 5 pm, 6 pm, 6 am and 7 am. Please call the parish office or (after hours) Fr. John’s cell phone if the next adorers do not show up. Please continue to pray for the reform of the Church and for good government at all levels.
NEW MASS INTENTION POLICY

All Mass intentions must be in writing along with donation.

Requests must include:

Offered by: ____________________________  Phone: ____________________________

Intention for: ____________________________  (Living) ________ (Deceased) ________

Date requested: First Choice: ________________  Second Choice: __________________

Donation: ____________________________

All requests must be dropped into the offering basket in their own envelope marked "Mass Intention" or mailed to or dropped off at the parish office. No phone requests please.

HELP PROTECT YOUR FAMILY
With a home security system monitored by ADT professionals 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. As an added benefit, installing a Security System may lower your homeowners insurance cost.

CALL NOW! 1-888-331-6501