REVEREND JOHN A. SEDLAK
Pastor/Trust Administrator
jsedlak@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Mass Schedule
Weekday & Sat. Morning: 8:00 am
Saturday Vigil: 5:00 pm
Sunday: 9:00 & 11:00 am
Holy Days: As Announced

Sacrament of Reconciliation
Weekday & Sat. Morning: 7:30-7:50 am
Saturday Vigil: 4:00-4:45 pm
Sunday: 8:30-8:45 am & 10:30-10:45 am
(30 minutes before all other Masses)

Office Hours
Monday-Thursday: 8:15 am - 3:45 pm

Mailing Address
PO Box 187
4263 Route 981
United PA 15689

Website
www.saintflorian.org

Phone Numbers
Parish Office/Rectory: 724-423-4431
FAX: 724-423-4438
Pastoral Emergencies: 412-582-0425
Catechesis, Faith Formation & Evangelization (CFFE)
Office: 724-423-5087
Preschool: 724-423-4437
Social Hall: 724-423-9008
St. Vincent de Paul Helpline: 724-205-4406

Staff
CFFE Director: Dr. Joseph Dreliszak
Preschool Director: Lottie Hirak
Preschool Aide: Karen Dlugos
Music Director: Steven Makar
Parish Secretary and Bookkeeper: Angela Reese

Pastoral Council
Terry Foriska
Mike Reese
Don Scekeres
*Recorder

Finance Council
John Boggess
Stephanie Soflak
Jerry Yasher
Emily Uhrin
*Chair

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.

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord
April 14, 2019

St. Florian Parish
**Mass Intentions**

(Request Form on back of bulletin)

**Sat., Apr. 13**  
Lenten Weekday  
8:00 AM +Ellina Pendrick by Bob & Juanita Mizikar  
5:00 PM For the Parishioners

**Sun., Apr. 14**  
Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord  
9:00 AM +John W. Keslar Sr. by Bill & Fran Kute  
11:00 AM Stephen & Connie Urban —  
50th Wedding Anniversary

**Mon., Apr. 15**  
Monday of Holy Week  
8:00 AM +Adrienne Zontetti by Marty Drexler

**Tue., Apr. 16**  
Tuesday of Holy Week  
8:00 AM +Michael Homulka Sr. by Steve and Patty Lesho

**Wed., Apr. 17**  
Wednesday of Holy Week  
8:00 AM Living and Deceased Members of the  
St. Florian Altar Society

**Thu., Apr. 18**  
Holy Thursday  
7:00 PM Mass of the Lord’s Supper  
For the Parishioners

**Fri., Apr. 19**  
Good Friday  
3:00 PM Celebration of the Lord’s Passion

**Sat., Apr. 20**  
Holy Saturday  
9:00 PM Easter Vigil Mass  
For the Parishioners

**Sun., Apr. 21**  
Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord  
9:00 AM  
11:00 AM For the Parishioners

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**ST. FLORIAN OFFERTORY STEWARDSHIP:**

April 6-7:  
Adults: $5432.00; Loose: $209.00; Candles: $101.00;  
Parish Endowment: $131.00; Easter Flowers: $292.00;  
Catholic Home Missions: $5.00; Easter: $20.00; St. Vincent de Paul: $25.00; Catholic Accent: $3.00;  
Holy Land: $5.00.  
**TOTAL:** $6,22300.  
God Bless you!

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**Ministry Schedule**

**Saturday, April 13, 2019~ 5:00 PM**  
Lector: ___________________________  J. Lawrence, B. Mizikar  
Eucharistic Ministers: ___________ R. & B. Obusek, D. Mizikar  
Altar Servers: ____________________ T. Dillon, E. Lting  
Greeters: _________________________ C. Specht, J. & E. Kovalik  
Ushers: __________________________ E. Carpenter, K. Labuda, T. & D. Ulishney

**Sunday, April 14, 2019 ~ 9:00 AM**  
Lector: ___________________________ C. Sterecco, R. Mizikar  
Eucharistic Ministers: ___________ S. King, M. Ceroni, C. Szewczyk  
Altar Servers: ____________________ J. & L. King  
Greeters: _________________________ B. Mondock, S. Jackson, J. Mott  
Ushers: __________________________ H. Szewczyk, S. Sniwely, G. & D. Vidakovich

**Sunday, April 14, 2018 ~ 11:00 AM**  
Lector: ___________________________ M. Sopko, M. D’Amico  
Eucharistic Ministers: ___________ Klimchock, Neiderhiser, Gricheck  
Altar Servers: ____________________ Z. Koch, A. Kelly  
Greeters: _________________________ D. Seekeres, J. Burik  
Ushers: __________________________ D. Seekeres, J. Burik, J. Mizikar, E. Uhrin

**Thursday, April 18, 2019 ~ 7:00 PM**  
Lector: ___________________________ J. Mizikar  
Eucharistic Ministers: ___________ C. Kelly, W. Back, R. Mizikar  
Altar Servers: ____________________ B. Mondock, J. Labuda, J. Mott  
Greeters: _________________________ E. Carpenter, P. Bitner, K. Labuda, E. Uhrin

**Friday, April 19, 2019 ~ 3:00 PM**  
Lector: ___________________________ T. Jackson, A. Reese  
Eucharistic Ministers: ___________ J. Lesko  
Altar Servers: ____________________ J. Hornykak, M. Reese, T. & G. Sofranko  
Greeters: _________________________ B. Mondock, S. Jackson, C. Szewczyk  
Ushers: __________________________ A. Smail, S. Sniwely, H. Szewczyk, J. Burik

**Saturday, April 20, 2019 ~ 9:00 PM**  
Lector: ___________________________ A. Reese, J. Lawrence, E. Zider  
Eucharistic Ministers: ___________ W. Bossart, S. King, D. Mizikar  
Altar Servers: ____________________ A., M. & C. Reese, J. & L. King  
Greeters: _________________________ E. & J. Kovalik, C. Mizikar  
Ushers: __________________________ E. Carpenter, C. Mizikar, T. & D. Ulishney

**Sunday, April 21, 2019 ~ 9:00 AM**  
Lector: ___________________________ J. Lesko  
Eucharistic Ministers: ___________ R. Mizikar, M. Ceroni, K. Kitz  
Altar Servers: ____________________ T. Jackson, M. Mizikar, H. Szewczyk, C. Szewczyk  
Greeters: _________________________ J. & K. Kitz  
Ushers: __________________________ J. Mott, N. Logan, N. Tracy  
Thursday, April 18, 2019 ~ 7:00 PM

The Parish Office will be closed on  
Thursday, April 18th for Holy Thursday.

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**THIS WEEK**

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament  
Tuesday—Wednesday  
Prayer Shawl Ministry  
Tuesday, 1:00 PM  
St. Florian Altar Society Meeting  
Tuesday, 7:00 PM

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**The Pontifical Good Friday Collection**

**April 19, 2019**  
The Good Friday Collection is taken for the support of the services and facilities of the Church in the Holy Land. As good stewards of these places, we are responsible for their upkeep and preservation for future generations of the faithful. Monies from this collection are also used for the education and social service support of our Christian brothers and sisters in the Holy Land who are desperately in need of our extra help. Please be generous.

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**TURKEYS OR HAMS FOR PARISHIONERS IN NEED**

We are looking for St. Florian Parish members who need a ham or turkey for Easter. Call the parish office at 724-423-4431 or e-mail areese@dioceseofgreensburg.org by Monday, April 15th to submit the name(s) of anyone from the parish who needs this help to make their holiday happier.
**Gifts to our Shut-Ins** will be distributed throughout the week. Many thanks to those who are able to help with this project!

Sunday — **PALM SUNDAY!**  
Adult Faith Sharing after 9:00 am Mass—  
Faith Formation Center  
Viewing of Mel Gibson’s “The Passion” immediately following the 11:00 am Mass—All are welcome!  

Monday —  
Faith Formation Classes K to 7 — 6:00 to 7:15 pm  
Focus will be on the “Symbols of Holy Week”

Holy Thursday —  
Leaving our Church at 8:45 am to attend the  
Chrism Mass at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral

Sunday — **EASTER SUNDAY ... HE HAS RISEN**  
No Children’s Liturgy or Adult Faith Sharing

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**Faith Formation News**

**Faith Formation News:**  
Elementary Classes for Grades K-7  
April 15th — 6:00 — 7:15 pm  
The evening will center around the ‘Symbols of Holy Week’. Please try to have your child/ren present.

**On Palm Sunday - TODAY – our Youth and other interested parishioners are invited to view Mel Gibson’s “The Passion of the Christ”**. This is a wonderful way to begin the Holy Week experience.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2019**  
**JUNE 24-28 FOR STUDENTS – KINDERGARTEN – GRADE 6 –**  
Our next VBS planning meeting is set for Sunday, April 28 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.

WE ARE ALSO PLANNING A “VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL FOR SENIOR CITIZENS” FROM JUNE 17-21. 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!

**Children’s Liturgy of the Word**  
No gathering on Palm Sunday, Easter Sunday, First Communion Mass and Mothers Day. We will meet on April 28th and May 19th and then take a break during the summer months and will resume in September.

**FOOD BANK DONATIONS**  
Many thanks to ALL who were able to help our Easter Food Drive to support the work of our local food bank!

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**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.

**Adult Education Opportunities**

**Adult Faith Sharing:** Sunday, April 14th after the 9:00 am Mass in the Faith Formation Building. The group will not meet on Easter Sunday and will end the year on May 19. Special thanks to Bill and Val Back for leading this ministry and for all those who attend! Sessions will resume in September.

**IT’S TIME TO SAY THANK YOU TO THOSE “WHO KEEP US SAFE”**.

Our annual tradition to honor those who keep us safe: fire personnel, first responders, police, etc. are invited to a special ceremony on Monday, May 6 beginning at 6:30 pm. This is our final Faith Formation Session for the year and in honor of the Feast of St. Florian (May 4), the patron of firefighters; we would like to say “thank you” to all who help and serve our community in a special way. The evening will end with an ice cream social in our hall. If you are able to attend, please contact the Rectory Office or the Faith Formation Office.

**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!

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Angelina  Catherine  Ann  Gabrielle  Steve  
Sue  Jeff  Karen  Kelly  Eileen  
Homer  Shirley  Becky  Mark  Ann  
Karen  Bill  Fred  Bob  Ron  
Paul  Cheryl  Kelly  Cindy  Ryan  
Kyle  Joan  Louella  Kenny  Steve  
Steven  George  Bud  Danielle  Anna  
Patty  Sandee  Kathy  Joann  

May we continue to remember these individuals in our daily prayers!


**Connections**

by Joe Lesko

Fifth Sunday of Lent

(Note: Palm Sunday reflection was in last week’s bulletin by mistake. Today we present the missed reflection for the Fifth Sunday of Lent)

Today’s two scripture passages for comment call us to reflect on the need for redemption and to open our minds to the new things that God wants to establish in us.

Last week the conclusion of the exodus from Egypt has occurred. The first Passover has been celebrated in the land of Canaan. Today a new exodus is presented that God promises through the prophet Isaiah. This new exodus is to be more wonderful than the first. God will restore His people in Jerusalem after they have suffered in Babylonian exile. Verses 16-18 recount God’s help in the exodus from Egypt. He also cautions them not to dwell on the past but to learn from it.

God then announces a new redemptive act which must be seen and be recognized. This new redemptive act is a new exodus, an exodus from slavery to sin to a new birth in God. This exodus comes to fulfillment in the Eucharist through which man receives eternal life. This prophecy refers to the coming of the Messiah who brings the new and final Covenant. God’s promise comes from His new creation He has planned for this new exodus. The symbolism here points to the effect that the Messiah will incur as a mission from the Creator. Remember that God sends the anointed one to implant this new redemption to salvation.

As the Easter season nears in today’s Gospel account, God’s eternal mercy is proclaimed through Jesus who offers mercy to the woman taken in adultery. The scribes and Pharisees bring her to Jesus for judgment according to the Law. John 18:31 tells that the Romans have denied the Jews of the right to administer a death penalty in cases where Jewish Law required it. The scribes and the Pharisees again attempt to entrap Jesus similar to the he tribute money in Mark 12: 13-17. Jesus must reject the Law of Moses on the authority of Rome, so His adversaries think.

Knowing their intent as so many times before, Jesus diverts the discussion to write something with His finger in the soft soil. He announces, "Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her.” In a capital case, the witnesses against the accused were to take the initiative in the execution. Jesus asks them whether their own conscience makes them worthy to sit in judgment. Pharisees think of themselves as sinless; however, Jesus has, on other instances, makes it clear that He does not consider them as they propitiate themselves. If they throw the first stone and are arrested by the Romans, they cannot use the excuse that Jesus has told them to do it. They respond is to walk away.

The elders are the wise ones as they are the first to walk away. They recognize that their trap has been reversed and that they are in a dilemma. If they stone her, they will be held accountable and must answer to the Romans for their action. If they do not, they have rejected the Law of Moses. They leave, one by one, ashamed to have used the woman’s humiliation as a means to entrap a man.

The story concludes with the lesson that God condemns the sin but not the sinner. Jesus extends mercy to her that she may turn from her sin. It is for people like her that He is sent to redeem with the admission “do not sin any more.” It is likely that she had been raped. Most women in the ancient world were not given enough freedom to willingly engage in sexual relations.

The first passage gives us the means to redemption by God’s initiation. The prophet Isaiah reveals God’s plan for something new in salvic redemption. The Gospel puts God’s new plan, Jesus’ mission for people’s redemption, into action.

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**“Helping Moms Project”**

to begin today and last until May 1. For the past number of years, our parish has been working with Catholic Charities to help moms and their babies in time for Mother’s Day. The following items are most needed:

- Diapers (size 3-6)
- Any size of clothes for newborns to 6 month
- Clothes for infants/toddlers – new or slightly used
- Baby blankets
- Booties

You may place your items on the marked table at the entrance of the Church. Items will be delivered to Catholic Charities on May 2. Thank You

**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.

**FESTIVAL 2019**

Our parish festival 2019 is set for Sunday, August 11. Keep this date open and encourage friends and family to join us for this special event. It is not too early to begin plans for making your “baskets” for this event. Last year, our festival was a great success and we hope to make it even better this year. If you are interested in joining, please contact Dr. Dreliszak at the Faith Formation Center. All volunteers need to have all Diocesan Clearances but we will be offering one more training in July to help you obtain the necessary paper work. We need you in order to make this a successful project!

Next meeting is set for Wednesday, April 24th at 6:30 PM in the Social Hall.

*We would like to add “face painting” this year for our children. If you have this talent, please contact Dr. Dreliszak. If you are 17 or under, you don’t need clearances. However those 18 and older must have all diocesan required clearances.*

**Mutual VFD Fish Fry**

Every Friday of Lent

~ 4PM - 8PM

Eat-in/take-out ~ 724-423-4541

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Mark Your Calendars! What a Great Family Tradition to Begin....We will once again be placing flags on the graves of our veterans buried at St. Florian, St. Stanislaus and Forty Martyrs cemeteries on Friday, May 17. You are asked to gather at our parking lot at 5:45 pm and we will depart by 6:00 pm. Please spend an hour to honor those who gave their lives for our country. Please contact the Faith Formation Center if you are able to attend. All are Welcome!
ST. FLORIAN CAPITAL CAMPAIGN pledge total has climbed to $723,617.97 and the amount collected as of April 8th is now $701,512 which is $50,000 more than our original Campaign Goal! AMAZING! We are truly grateful to God and to all who have contributed to or prayed for the success of our Campaign, and to our Campaign Chairperson and co-leaders. Please continue to fulfill pledges, and to make extra gifts, when able. All new or extra gifts add to our total pledged and collected.

A One-Year Campaign Extension has been granted by Bishop Malesic to help St. Florian pay down its loan. Our Capital Campaign will now officially end April 30, 2020. This provides an opportunity: 1) to fulfill past pledges, 2) to continue making regular payments beyond the original pledge amount, and 3) to make occasional Campaign gifts. All Campaign donations are assessment-free and will help us to pay off our loan as soon as possible e.g., in 5 years instead of 10 years which would save us $17,000 in interest. A monthly Capital Campaign envelope will continue to be included in your packet until June, 2020.

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.

DIOCESAN LENTEN APPEAL (DLA) 2019: Watch for an update in next week’s bulletin.

TEN-YEAR LOAN REPAYMENT REPORT: Watch for an update in next week’s bulletin.

DEATH, JUDGMENT, HEAVEN AND HELL – the four last things – is the theme for this year’s Christians Uniting Ecumenical Lenten Prayer Services which concludes this Friday, April 19th at 11:00 am at Pleasant Unity Methodist Church.

HOLY WEEK MESSAGE

Beginning with Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord, the Church enters into a liturgical commemoration that will recall Jesus’ final days leading up to His Self- Offering unto the Cross for the salvation of the world. The Church believes and teaches that all her members are to join in Jesus’ oblation, not just liturgically, but actually. She furthermore understands and teaches that our self-offering is meant to draw all of humanity – all the world – all the willing – into Jesus’ saving sacrifice of love. This is the offering that is acceptable to the Father and by which many come to share His divine glory. May we and all those we hold dear be among these.

GOOD FRIDAY FAST & ABSTINENCE: This Friday of the Passion of the Lord (19th) is a day of fast and 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.

Read Fr. John’s Homily at www.saintflorian.org under the “Parish Life” tab.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

For April 2-3, all hours had at least two adorers except for 2 am which had one. THANK YOU! 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.

ATTENTION: A Woman’s ring was found in the Church recently. If you have lost a ring, please contact the parish office to determine if the ring is yours.

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK: JAY A. HOFFER FUNERAL HOME INC

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

FINAL LENTEN PENANCE SERVICES

Mon., April 15th
St. Aloysius, Dunbar
7:00 pm
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 offertory basket in their own envelope marked "Mass Intention" or mailed to or dropped off at the parish office. No phone requests please.