

GOOD SAMARITAN | OUR LADY OF PEACE | SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST | SAINTS JOHN & PAUL

GREAT PARISH GROUPING + BEAVER VALLEY EDITION

Evangelion

(Evan-JEL-yon, Greek, "the good news")



HE is HERE! | August 29, 2021 | 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

FIRST READING—Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8

Moses said to the people:

“Now, Israel, hear the statutes and decrees which I am teaching you to observe, that you may live, and may enter in and take possession of the land which the LORD, the God of your fathers, is giving you. In your observance of the commandments of the LORD, your God, which I enjoin upon you, you shall not add to what I command you nor subtract from it. Observe them carefully, for thus will you give evidence of your wisdom and intelligence to the nations, who will hear of all these statutes and say, ‘This great nation is truly a wise and intelligent people.’ For what great nation is there that has gods so close to it as the LORD, our God, is to us whenever we call upon him? Or what great nation has statutes and decrees that are as just as this whole law which I am setting before you today?”

SCRIPTURE SPEAKS

Let God reveal Himself to you in His Word. As you reflect on these readings, feel free to use available space to make notes, mark, or highlight anything that speaks to you.

RESPONSORIAL—Psalm 15:2-3, 3-4, 4-5

Response: The one who does justice will live in the presence of the Lord.

Whoever walks blamelessly and does justice; who thinks the truth in his heart and slanders not with his tongue.(R.)

Who harms not his fellow man, nor takes up a reproach against his neighbor; by whom the reprobate is despised, while he honors those who fear the LORD.(R.)

Who lends not his money at usury and accepts no bribe against the innocent. Whoever does these things shall never be disturbed. (R.)

SECOND READING—James 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27

Dearest brothers and sisters:

All good giving and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no alteration or shadow caused by change. He willed to give us birth by the word of truth that we may be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

Humbly welcome the word that has been planted in you and is able to save your souls.

Be doers of the word and not hearers only, deluding yourselves.

Religion that is pure and undefiled before God and the Father is this: to care for orphans and widows in their affliction and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

GOSPEL— Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

When the Pharisees with some scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus, they observed that some of his disciples ate their meals with unclean, that is, unwashed, hands.

—For the Pharisees and, in fact, all Jews, do not eat without carefully washing their hands, keeping the tradition of the elders.

And on coming from the marketplace they do not eat without purifying themselves.

And there are many other things that they have traditionally observed, the purification of cups and jugs and kettles and beds. —

So the Pharisees and scribes questioned him, “Why do your disciples not follow the tradition of the elders but instead eat a meal with unclean hands?”

He responded,

“Well did Isaiah prophesy about you hypocrites, as it is written:

This people honors me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me;
in vain do they worship me,
teaching as doctrines human precepts.

You disregard God’s commandment but cling to human tradition.”

He summoned the crowd again and said to them,

“Hear me, all of you, and understand.

Nothing that enters one from outside can defile that person; but the things that come out from within are what defile.

“From within people, from their hearts, come evil thoughts, unchastity, theft, murder, adultery, greed, malice, deceit, licentiousness, envy, blasphemy, arrogance, folly. All these evils come from within and they defile.”

THE NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.



TRUST IN THE TRUTH

A MESSAGE FROM FATHER JAY



“**T**ocayo” is a Spanish word used when two people have the same name. Jay Passavant was my tocayo and I am honored to have called him a friend. He modeled to hundreds of thousands in communities around Western PA and beyond what St. Paul writes in *Galatians*: “For freedom Christ set us free.” Jay was set free to let the love of Jesus lead him. He was free to follow Christ as a faithful husband to Carol, as a faithful father and as a faithful grandfather and as a faithful apostle.

He passed on August 19, 2021. My heart broke as I realized what a blessing God gave me, to know my tocayo.

Jay was at my side as a part of the *Pittsburgh Leadership Foundation* when I was pastor at Saints Simon & Jude Catholic Parish in Greentree. Despite the fact he was retired and loved spending time with his dear wife Carol and his family, he would drive from the North Hills to the South at least once a week for three years, from 2014-2017. His desire was to help my Catholic community to follow Jesus through small group scripture circles which we called the “Living Room Church.”

Over 25 small groups grew under the leadership of us Jays. All of us found Jay relatable, funny, challenging and warm-hearted. For me, he was my coach on how to be a pastor of the Word of God.

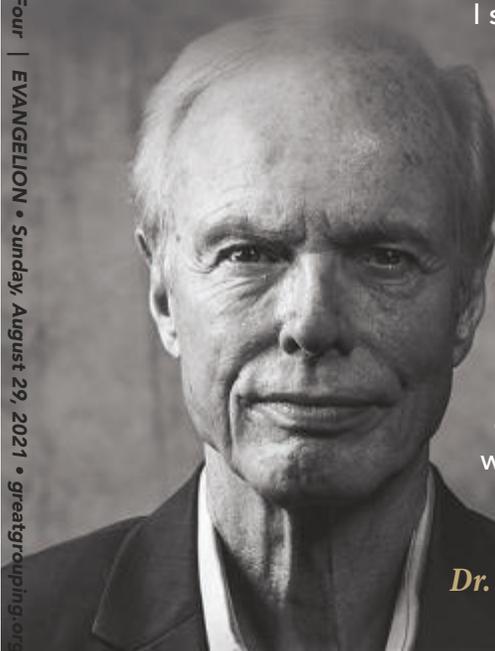
In the Fall of 2018, I became the administrator of four churches stretching from the Beaver Valley to Wexford. It was just a few years into this new ministry I heard of Jay’s health situation. I prayed but didn’t want to bother him. Then a mutual friend, Reid Carpenter, and I were at lunch. We were talking about Jay and Reid said, “Let’s call Jay now.” Thirty minutes of talking to Jay inspired me to ask if I could visit him.

On August 12, I was honored to spend a few hours in his home where as always he and his wife hosted with great charity and fresh fruits. We prayed and discussed ways to empower *Young Life* in Ambridge.

I should have known when Jay commented on the scripture of Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead, that this would be the last time I would hear my coach bring Jesus alive to me through scripture. It makes sense, as Jesus says in that Lazarus scene, “I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live...” This is what Jay leaned on completely: total trust in the Truth of Jesus’ grace, experienced in scripture.

I am so proud to share the same name with a man of God who up until his last moments witnessed the words of Jesus to me. He is now free from suffering and eternally free to be in communion with Christ. Jay, rest in the peaceful heart of Christ, who is our Lord and Savior. 

*Dr. Jay Passavant, Founding Pastor of North Way Christian Community
1947-2021*



Respect
LIFE



PENNSYLVANIA MARCH FOR LIFE

Monday, September 27, 2021
Pennsylvania State Capitol



The March for Life in Washington D.C. provides an opportunity each year for thousands of pro-life Americans to be seen and heard in our nation's Capital—to our federal legislators.

I have participated in the *March* many times and find solidarity with other like-minded people from across the United States.

There is strength in numbers, and the thousands who have participated each year since 1973 show an unwavering support for human life in our country.

I am excited to take part in the first-ever *Pennsylvania March for Life* and take this effort, along with fellow Pennsylvanians, to the steps of our State Capitol in Harrisburg in September.

The *March* will send an important message to our elected officials in Harrisburg and beyond that unborn life must be protected.

It will offer a unique opportunity to show public support for the sanctity of human life, closer to home and during a warmer time of the year!

I hope you will join us on **September 27**. Register at the link below, and mark your calendar!

—Marie Pfau

PENNSYLVANIA MARCH FOR LIFE

greatgrouping.org/respect-life

GOOD SAMARITAN **PARISH** 2021
 25th Annual **FESTIVAL**

LABOR DAY WEEKEND
 THURSDAY THRU SUNDAY
 SEPTEMBER 2-5

BIG MONEY RAFFLE

1ST PRIZE: \$6000
 2ND PRIZE: \$3000
 3RD PRIZE: \$1500
 PLUS 5 \$100 PRIZES

Drawing held Sunday, Sept 5 at 9:45 PM.
 Winner need not be present.

FESTIVAL HOURS

THURSDAY SEPT 2—6-9:30 PM
 FRIDAY SEPT 3—6-11 PM
 SATURDAY SEPT 4—2-11 PM
 SUNDAY SEPT 5—1-10 PM

BOOTHS OPEN AT 2 PM

BINGO • FACE PAINTING •
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 HUGE SILENT AUCTION • DANCING ON
 HARDWOOD FLOOR • ETHNIC FOOD •
 BEER & BAR TENT • WHEELBARROW OF
 GIFTS & CERTIFICATES RAFFLE •
 LIVE ETHNIC MUSIC & MORE!

Events & schedules are
 subject to change

ENTERTAINMENT



★ THURSDAY ★

EL DORADO 6-9:30 PM

★ FRIDAY ★

DANCING QUEEN 7-11 PM

★ SATURDAY ★

DICK TADY ORCHESTRA 2-5 PM

POLKA MASS 5:30 PM

JIMMY ROSS & THE JAGGERZ

8-8:50 PM • 9:30-10:20 PM

★ SUNDAY ★

AMBRIDGE STEEL DRUM BAND 1-2 PM

THE CAVALIERS 3 PM

CASANOVA & THE DIVAS 7-9:30 PM

HOME STYLE DINNERS

THURSDAY: STUFFED CHICKEN BREAST
 4:00-7:00 PM

FRIDAY: OUR FAMOUS FISH FRY
 4:00-7:00 PM

SATURDAY: STUFFED CABBAGE DINNER
 3:00-7:00 PM

SUNDAY: DON'T MISS OUR FAMOUS
SPAGHETTI & MEATBALL DINNER
 NOON-6:00 PM

NO OUTSIDE FOOD OR BEVERAGES PERMITTED

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★ HALUSHKI

★ HOMEMADE PIZZA

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RCIA

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FEELING CALLED TO
THE CATHOLIC CHURCH?

OUR RCIA PROGRAM WILL
BE STARTING IN THE FALL.
WATCH FOR DETAILS ABOUT
THE INFORMATIONAL MEETING!

GOT QUESTIONS NOW?
CONTACT US!

Cindy Deschaine
cdeschaine@greatgrouping.org
(724) 266-6565

Ruth Willman
ruth.willman@zoominternet.net

Karen Walker
kwalker@greatgrouping.org
(724) 935-2104 x223

When I think about my time in RCIA, I actually get a warm tingly feeling all over, like I'm settling in near a warm fire after a big Christmas lunch. I felt drawn to the Catholic Church about two years before I started RCIA, and in that time I amassed a long list of heart-deep questions and worries, all of which I, over the course of the program, dumped at the feet of our teachers. I was humbled by the warmth, patience, and understanding shown to me not only by my personal sponsor (who was AWESOME) but by the whole team collectively. They really did wrap their arms around every one of us and each of them showed interest and concern about the journey each class member was taking. They each took extra time to speak with me, bring me resources, and check on how I was doing. It was an incredible experience. When the time came for me to join the Church, I was able to do it with a heart wide open, not a question in my mind, and with the comfort of knowing I had gained a real Catholic family in the process. The bond shared among a group of RCIA classmates and also between them and their teachers is a special one. I know there is no better RCIA team than the team at the Great Grouping. I will be praying for the team, the RCIA participants, and any of you considering the program this year. It is life changing and soul-changing and amazing, start to finish.

—Farrar Frazee, RCIA Class of 2019



The Great Grouping



MARIAN PRAYER GROUP

Marian Prayer Group meets every **Friday from 7:00 – 9:00 PM** at Good Samaritan. Join us for the rosary, Adoration, and Mass.

MADONNA & CHILD STATUE

If you would like to take the Madonna and Child statue into your home please contact Jackie at (724) 869-9908. The statue and a small notebook are located on the table near the side entrance along with baskets for any intentions.

FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION

Registration is open for the 2021-2022 Faith Formation year. We offer classes from Birth to 8th grade. Classes begin September 20 greatgrouping.org/formation.

EDGE/LIFETEEN KICKOFF

EDGE/Lifeteen Kickoff is on **Sunday, September 19** at Old Economy Barn in shelter 3. There will be food, games and hanging out with friends! More information coming soon!

WEEKEND RIVER TRIP

Set out over the deep waters, and encounter God in the beauty of nature! On **September 18 and 19**, Fr Jay and David Belczyk will be taking a 2-day, 35 mile canoe trip down the Allegheny River, through lush forests and tranquil valleys. For details, questions, and to reserve a spot on the trip, please contact David Belczyk: davidbelczyk@gmail.com or at (412) 523-0055.

GRIEF MINISTRY

You have suffered one of the greatest losses anyone has to experience, the loss of a loved one. Your life has been turned upside down and it feels as if part of you is missing. Each person approaches grief in their own way and each one's path is different. We are here for you, sessions for those who have lost a loved are held to support each other in our grief and walk alongside each other during life's most difficult experiences. Our Grief Ministry meets every **Monday evening beginning at 6:30 PM**. For more information or to register please call Deacon Tony Giordano at (724) 385-8628 or agiordano@diopitt.org

OLOP FISH FRY

Our Lady of Peace will resume their First Friday Fish Fry **beginning October 1**. They are in need of volunteers to staff these dinners. If you can lend a hand please call Sylvia at (724) 869-5406 to leave a message. The dinners will be held the first Friday of October, November and December from 11:00 AM to 7:00 PM.

Thank you in advance for your help!

MASS SCHEDULE

Beginning Saturday, September 11, the updated interim schedule will include these items:

- 9:00 AM Mass on Saturday morning at Saints John & Paul will be discontinued
- 7:00 PM Mass on Sunday evening at Saints John & Paul will be discontinued
- Saints John & Paul weekend schedule will be:
 - o Saturdays:
 - 4:00 PM Confessions
 - 5:00 PM Vigil Mass
 - o Sundays:
 - Mass at 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM, & 11:00 AM
- Beaver Valley weekend schedule will be:
 - o Saturdays:
 - 3:00 PM Confessions at Our Lady of Peace
 - 4:00 PM Vigil Mass at Our Lady of Peace
 - 3:00 PM Confessions at Good Samaritan
 - 4:00 PM Vigil Mass at Good Samaritan
 - o Sundays:
 - 9:00 AM Mass at Our Lady of Peace
 - 10:00 AM Mass at St. John the Baptist
 - 11:00 AM Mass at Good Samaritan
 - 4:00 PM Mass in Spanish at Good Samaritan

This schedule will be re-evaluated in the spring 2022.

WINGS

WINGS (Women in Gods Spirit) is excited to present Gary Fritsch speaking on "The Real Presence"! **Saturday, September 18, 9:30 AM—11:00 AM** at Saints John & Paul in the Upper CDC. Perfect opportunity for women to gather for prayer, fellowship, light brunch and music! For more information e-mail ggwomensww@gmail.com.

MASS INTENTIONS & READINGS

MONDAY, AUGUST 30 (1 Thes 4:13-18/Lk 4:16-30)

8:00 AM Good Samaritan • Bailey Branesky (Giordano Family)

TUESDAY, AUGUST 31 (1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11/Lk 4:31-37)

6:30 PM Good Samaritan • Lynn Berckmiller (Kim Channels Pardi)

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1 (Col 1:1-8/Lk 4:38-44)

8:00 AM St. John the Baptist • Aggie Rhodes (Christian Mothers)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2 (Col 1:9-14/Lk 5:1-11)

8:00 AM Our Lady of Peace • John Wargo (Wargo Family)

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 3 (Col 1:15-20/Lk 5:33-39)

8:00 AM St. John the Baptist • Alex & John Derochis (George Rozman)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4 (Col 1:21-23/Lk 6:1-5)

4:00 PM Our Lady of Peace • In Honor of Tillie Neville's Birthday (Neville Family)

4:00 PM St. John the Baptist • Deceased of the Frynkewicz & Makowski Families (Don & Karen)

5:30 PM Good Samaritan Polka Mass • For the Parishioners of the Great Grouping

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5 (Is 35:4-7a/Jas 2:1-5/Mk 7:31-37)

8:00 AM St. John the Baptist • Aunt Gay Bohinsky (Rosemarie & Woodrow Young)

9:00 AM Good Samaritan • Donna Platz (Joe & Sandra Dolinski)

11:00 AM Good Samaritan • In Honor of the 71st Wedding Anniversary of Eugene & Ezia Romano

4:00 PM Good Samaritan Spanish Mass • Norma Stahl Bohorquez (Jennifer Palacios-Weis)

OUR FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Anna Mae Doyle

Parishioner of St. John the Baptist

Helen Ringel

Parishioner of St. John the Baptist

Leslie Maytic

Parishioner of Good Samaritan

John Wagner

Parishioner of St. John the Baptist

Mary McDade

Parishioner of Good Samaritan

OUR GIFTS TO GOD

For the weekend of August 15 For the weekend of August 22

BEAVER VALLEY PARISHES

Weekly Offering—\$7,930
Online Giving—\$3,132
Total Offertory—\$11,062

PSP goal—\$158,353
PSP to date—\$102,418
PSP remaining—\$55,935

BEAVER VALLEY PARISHES

Weekly Offering—\$8,734
Online Giving—\$2,742
Total Offertory—\$11,476

PSP goal—\$158,353
PSP to date—\$103,353
PSP remaining—\$55,000

THIS WEEK WE REMEMBER

BREAD & WINE

(GS) In Memory of Anthony Crusciel, Jr.
by Frank & Denise Salopek

SANCTUARY CANDLE

(SJ) In Memory of Helen Ringel
by Ladies of Charity

(GS) In Memory of Peter Pucci
by Daughter, Rachel

BLESSED MOTHER SHRINE CANDLE

(GS) In Memory of Barbara Reick Frank
by Ladies of Charity

(GS) In Memory of Anthony Crusciel, Jr.
by Nicole, John & Emalyn McLane & Frank Salopek

MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

In Memory of Earl Stange
by Brian & Cynthia Kozminski, Victoria Groholski,
Paul & Joanne Romanek, Mitch & Suzanne Nace,
Art & Patti Columbe, Pat & Pete Brasko,
and Valerie Satkoske

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Caregivers of older adults & Grandparents
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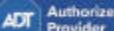

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GOOD SAMARITAN
ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
OUR LADY OF PEACE

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday, August 30

6:00 PM Grief Share (OLOP)

Tuesday, August 31

10:00 AM Outreach Samaritan Kitchen (SJ)

5:30 PM Confessions (GS)

5:30 PM St. Vincent DePaul Meeting (GS)

Wednesday, September 1

Nothing Scheduled

Thursday, September 2

6:00-9:30 PM PARISH FESTIVAL

Friday, September 3

6:00-11:00 PM PARISH FESTIVAL

7:00 PM Marian Prayer Group (GS)

Saturday, September 4

2:00-11:00 PM PARISH FESTIVAL

3:00 PM Confessions (OLOP)

3:00 PM Confessions (SJB)

4:00 PM Guitar Trio at Mass (OLOP)

5:30 PM Polka Mass (GS)

Sunday, September 5

1:00-10:00 PM PARISH FESTIVAL

25th Annual **PARISH FESTIVAL** 2021

LABOR DAY WEEKEND
September 2-5

HELP LINES

24 Hour Child Abuse Hotline
1-800-932-0313

Crisis Pregnancy Option Line
1-800-395-4357

Post-Abortion Healing/Project Rachel
(412) 456-3167

Pittsburgh Diocese Victim Assistance
1-888-808-1235

Crisis Management Services
1-888-796-8226

Father Jay Donahue, Administrator—(412) 697-5876 | seefrjay@gmail.com
Father John Batykefer, Sr. Parochial Vicar—(724) 470-6689 | frjib317@gmail.com
Father Michael Roche, Parochial Vicar—fatherroche@gmail.com
Father Joe Carr, Parish Chaplain—(412) 867-8673 | frjoecarr@me.com
Father Antoine Kairouz, Maronite Priest-in-residence
Deacon Anthony Giordano, Deacon James Olson, Deacon Tom Boucek

REGULAR MASS & CONFESSION TIMES

M

8:00 AM Good Samaritan
9:00 AM Saints John & Paul

T

7:00 AM Saints John & Paul
9:00 AM Saints John & Paul
5:30 PM CONFESSION at Good Samaritan
6:30 PM Good Samaritan

W

8:00 AM Saint John the Baptist
9:00 AM Saints John & Paul

Th

7:00 AM Saints John & Paul
8:00 AM Our Lady of Peace
9:00 AM Saints John & Paul
6:00 PM CONFESSION at Saints John & Paul

F

8:00 AM St. John the Baptist
9:00 AM Saints John & Paul
1st Friday 7:00 PM Saints John & Paul

S

9:00 AM Saints John & Paul
3:00 PM CONFESSION at Our Lady of Peace
3:00 PM CONFESSION at St. John the Baptist
4:00 PM Vigil Mass at Our Lady of Peace
4:00 PM Vigil Mass at St. John the Baptist
4:00 PM CONFESSION at Saints John & Paul
5:00 PM Vigil Mass at Saints John & Paul

Su

7:30 AM Saints John & Paul
8:00 AM St. John the Baptist
9:00 AM Saints John & Paul
9:00 AM Good Samaritan
11:00 AM Saints John & Paul
11:00 AM Good Samaritan
11:00 AM Our Lady of Peace (Maronite)
4:00 PM Good Samaritan (Spanish)
7:00 PM Saints John & Paul

For Holy Day & Holiday times, please see Week Ahead

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

As Catholics, we believe that Christ becomes truly present within the Blessed Sacrament. As promised by Him, His Presence is abiding, not something that vanishes at the conclusion of Mass. During Eucharistic Adoration, we can sit silently in His Presence and open ourselves to His Graces. Adoration available at Our Lady of Peace, Monday-Thursday 8AM-8PM and at Saints John & Paul, Sunday-Friday 8AM-8PM.

