Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church

A Place to Grow in the Love and Knowledge of Jesus Christ

December 5, 2021 · Second Sunday of Advent ·

DIRECTORY

Parish Office Hours

Monday-Friday
9 a.m.. - noon & 1 - 4 p.m.
724-838-9480

For assistance with utilities and other financial needs:

St. Vincent de Paul Helpline
724-837-5154

For assistance with food:

St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry
724-836-0175

For other assistance:

Catholic Charities
724-837-1840

Pastoral Staff

Pastor: Fr. Daniel L. Blout

Parochial Vicar:
Fr. Ignatius Camello, OSB

Director of Liturgy: Marisa Cazden

Director of Discipleship & Evangelization & Youth Ministry: Katrina Coleman

Coordinator of Children's Discipleship & Evangelization: Kelly Dembiczak

Office Staff

Secretary: Joyce Petrunyak

Secretary: Donna Stewart

Administrative Assistant for Discipleship & Evangelization & Social Media: Itzia Peluso

Custodian: Don Sabol

Custodian: Jeff Andrejcik

Church Hours

Saturday Vigil

4 p.m.* Live-Streamed

* Interpreted Mass for the Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing

Sunday

8:00 a.m.
10:30 a.m.
and
6:00 p.m.

Weekday

7:00 a.m. M-W-F

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Noon to 1 p.m. Saturday
in the Day Chapel

Private Prayer Schedule

The church is open
Monday through Thursday,
6 a.m. to 6 p.m.;
Friday, 6 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Access limited to Gathering Space and Devotional Area

CHECK US OUT

www.ourladyofgracechurch.org

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1011 Mount Pleasant Road + Greensburg, PA 15601

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FIRST READING

For God will show all the earth
your splendor:
you will be named by God forever
the peace of justice, the glory of God's
worship. (Bar 5:4)

PSALM

The Lord has done great things for us; we
are filled with joy. (Ps 126)

SECOND READING

And this is my prayer:
that your love may increase ever
more and more
in knowledge and every kind
of perception,
to discern what is of value,
so that you may be pure and blameless
for the day of Christ. (Phil 1:9-10)

GOSPEL

The winding roads shall be made straight,
and the rough ways made smooth,
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.
(Mk 7:37)

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WORSHIP & MEDITATION

GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

St. Ambrose shares some wisdom on our need to prepare the way and open the door for Christ. "You see that when the Word of God knocks hardest on your door, it is when his hair is wet with the dew of the night. In fact, he chooses to visit those who are in tribulation and trial, lest one of them be overwhelmed by distress. So, his head is covered with dew, with drops, when his body is laboring hard. It is important to keep watch so that when the Bridegroom comes, he is not shut out. If you are asleep and your heart is not keeping watch, he will go away without knocking; but if your heart is alert for his coming, he knocks and asks for the door to be opened to him." When life gets overwhelming and difficult and we find ourselves feeling a bit downhearted and miserable, these words can bring great comfort.

We sometimes choose to remain stuck in our uncomfortable darkness and being stuck becomes our norm. In this time of self-focus our hearts are closed to the graces and life God desires to give us. Wrapped in the robe of mourning and misery, we fail to see the mercy, justice, and love the Bridegroom wants to bring. If we take seriously the need to prepare the way for Christ and open our hearts in preparation for his visit, we can hear God's gentle voice calling us deep within. It beckons us to seek out its source and discover the inner calm and peace that can prevail over the darkness of despair. Sometimes our darkness is so dark that it may seem unsurmountable. Trusting in the spiritual friends who journey with us, and God's promise may bring a glimmer of light even when it is most difficult to keep our hearts' doors open. Sometimes, the only light in the darkness is found in trusting the faith of others both past and present.

We have to trust that God has already begun the accomplishment of good work in us and that humanity is on an incredible journey to something wonderful and awesome. God is not done. When we open the doors of our hearts, straighten the paths of our lives, and prepare the way, Jesus can come with God's simple gifts of peace, grace, and joy. Life throws a great deal at us. It is easy to get tired and confused. We have to train our hearts to keep watch, discern what is of value, and forge ahead. Not allowing ourselves to become so weighed down by things and brought out of focus is a tremendous goal to achieve this Advent season. God is knocking. Answer the door. You will see and understand life in ways you never thought possible before.

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MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4

4:00 p.m. Ricki DeNunzio
by Chris & Cheyenne Tollari

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5

8:00 a.m. Suzanne McDonnell
by Megan Bozzuto

10:30 a.m. John & Alice Kohan
by children

6:00 p.m. Enricketta DeNunzio
by Mary Anne Tumilty
& Robert Bisignani

MONDAY, DEEMBER 6

7:00 a.m. Richard A. Fry
by Peggy Mongelluzzo

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8
Immaculate Conception

7:00 a.m. Nicholas Zappone
by Tom Angelo & Joyce Petrunyak

12:10 p.m. Joseph Marturano
by Luke Sacco

5:30 p.m. Mario Paulone
by family

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10

7:00 a.m. Eziagulu family
by family

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11

4:00 p.m. Edward Constantine
by loving wife, Rita Constantine

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12

8:00 a.m. Parishioners of Our Lady of Grace
& Saint Benedict churches

10:30 a.m. Tim Grohal
by Norreen Grohal & Grohal family

6:00 p.m. Denny Ferretti
by Mom, Jim & Loni

SANCTUARY LAMP

The Sanctuary Lamp acknowledging the Real Presence of Christ in the tabernacle is burning this week in loving memory of

Matilda Lynch
by Karen & Jim Lynch.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Mildred Andrykovitch
Gary Bailey
Tiger Certain
Flora Fannerella
Norma Japalucci
Joan Ross
Donny Sabol
Richard Sackett
Linda Santone
Phil Sinclair
Marian Spino
Shawn Teamann

PRAYER REQUESTS

Family members may add loved ones to the prayer list by contacting the parish office. Names will be removed after one month, unless you notify the office.

PRAYERS FOR OUR ACTIVE MILITARY

Jake LeJeune - Marines
John Petrucci - AF
Baylee Gardner - AF
CPO Cole Terrell - USN
Peyton Smith - Nat. Guard
Lt. Col. Thomas Naughton - AF
Capt. Thomas Shine - AF
CPO Eric Cain - USN
Sean Bialecki - AF
Tara McGuire - Nat. Guard
Zachary Daigle - Army
Nathan Daigle - Nat. Guard
Ryan Daigle - Army
WO Andrew Couchenour - Nat. Guard
Staff Sgt. Nicholas Baker - AF

ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO THEM

May all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, continue their journey to new life in the presence of God in the heavenly kingdom.

VISITS TO THE SICK & HOMEBOUND

Monthly visits to the sick & homebound by a lay minister of communion are resuming. Homebound ministers may contact Fr. Ignatius at the parish office with any questions.

Fr. Ignatius and Fr. Dan will provide Anointing of the Sick or the Sacrament of Reconciliation, if requested. If you or your loved one are in need of this spiritual care, please contact the parish office.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

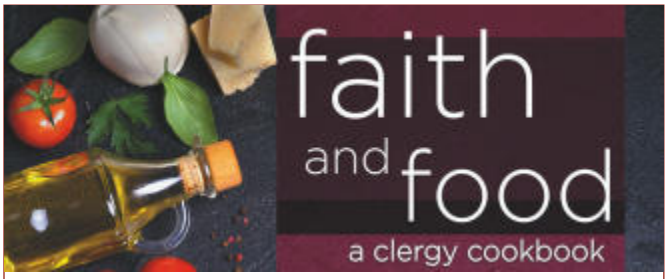
Parish Support — November 21, 2021
Offertory (from mail & collection basket): $ 12,504.00
Online Giving: 5,475.00
$ 17,979.00

Parish Support — November 28, 2021
Offertory (from mail & collection basket): $ 7,529.00
Online Giving: 5,206.67
$ 12,735.67

Thank you for your continued faithful support of our parish!

The Knights of Columbus Council #1480

Keep Christ in Christmas — KoC and Seton Assembly #914 are selling "Keep Christ in Christmas" items through the end of November. Items include Christmas cards, yard signs and magnets. For information, contact: Jason Anderson, 724-396-0130; Jeff Peterinelli, 724-989-0164; or Pat Zello, 724-331-2561.



The Diocese of Greensburg is excited to announce the release of a clergy cookbook. ***"Faith and Food"*** is a collection of dozens of delicious personal or family recipes submitted by bishops, priests and deacons from the diocese. Fr. Dan has two recipes in the book: Cherry Delight, and Lady Locks, a recipe he remembers his mother making when he was a child. Orders received prior to Dec. 6 will arrive in time for Christmas. To place an order, please visit www.dioceseofgreensburg.org/cookbook. Proceeds benefit the International Priest Program Endowment.

MASS BOOK OPEN

Our parish office has opened the Mass Book for 2022. Mass Request forms are available in the Gathering Area of the church and also on the parish's web page. All intentions must be submitted in writing using the Request Form and must include the Mass stipend of $10 per Mass. PLEASE READ THE GUIDELINES printed on the back of the form. No Mass requests will be accepted over the phone.

ANGEL TREE GIFT COLLECTION

Reminder — The final days for gifts for the Angel Tree to be brought to Albanese Hall are this weekend,

Saturday, Dec. 4, 3-5:30 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 5, 8:30 a.m.-noon

** Please return all gifts by Sunday so they can be sorted for distribution.

Thank you for your generosity to this parish service ministry!

If you missed the Angel Tree and would still like to help a child, please contact Jennifer Kemerer at Westmoreland Community Action, 412-707-3551, or jkemerer@westmorelandca.org. All gifts must reach them no later than Friday, Dec. 17.

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES

In Guatemala, almost 2 million people were greatly affected by flooding from hurricanes Eta and Iota, losing their homes, crops, and businesses. With the support of USAID and our local partners, we provided emergency relief to 5,000 affected families. Visit www.crs.org for more information and to see how you can help! Thanks for your support!

OPLATKI CHRISTMAS WAFERS
are available in the Gathering Area of the church.
Donation is $2 per packet.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE Blessed Virgin Mary

Mass Schedule

Wednesday, Dec. 8,
Our Lady of Grace: 7 a.m., 12:10 p.m. & 5:30 p.m.

St. Benedict: 9 a.m. & 7 a.m.

Please note:
The parish office will be closed on Wednesday in observance of the Holy Day.

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Advent Confessions

Sunday, December 12, 2 p.m.,
Holy Cross Church

Monday, December 13, 5:30 p.m.,
St. Bruno Church

Tuesday, December 14, 5:30 p.m.,
St. Paul Church

Wednesday, December 15, 5:30 p.m.,
St. Benedict Church

Thursday, December 16, 5:30 p.m.,
Our Lady of Grace Church

Saturday, December 18, 11 a.m.,
Blessed Sacrament Cathedral

The priests of our region have planned Confessions. Please make use of the times to gain the grace of the Sacrament and prepare yourself for the celebration of Christmas.

Please note: This will be the final opportunity to receive the sacrament before Christmas.

Liturgical Ministers Dec. 11-12

4 PM Mass

EM: Peggy Mongelluzzo
EM: Maria Kunkle
EM & Sacristan: Toni Herroscheck
Lector: David Karr
Servers: Cayla & Christa Monks
Teen Server: Needed

8 AM Mass

EM: Julie Tinney
EM: Needed
EM & Sacristan: Needed
Lector: Jim Obringer
Servers: Needed
Teen Server: Needed

10:30 AM Mass

EM: John Hutchins
Em: Kim Hutchins
EM: Susanne Mayhugh
Lector: Donna Fischer
Servers: Jason & Michael Eziagulu
Teen Server: Needed

6 PM Mass

EM: Needed
EM & Sacristan: Needed
Lector: Needed
Servers: Needed
Teen Server: Rachel Tinney

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

4 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass, Friday, Dec. 24
Reserved seating for in-person attendance for the 4 p.m. Mass will be required.

No Reserved Seating needed for these Masses:
7 p.m. Mass Christmas Eve Mass,
Friday, Dec. 24
10 p.m. Mass Christmas Eve Mass,
Friday, Dec. 24
10 a.m. Mass Christmas Day,
Saturday, Dec. 25

Please note:
The Parish Office will be closed Christmas Eve, Friday, Dec. 24
& There will be no 4 p.m. Mass on Chrismas Day, Saturday, Dec. 25

DISCIPLESHIP & EVANGELIZATION

SACRED STEPS TO SACRAMENTS

Preparation for Baptism

First-time parents and typically those who last had a child baptized five or more years ago are expected to participate in a Baptism preparation session. Due to covid-19, the prep session will be offered online. After contacting the office to request Baptism, you will be provided with the information to complete the online preparation. Both parents are expected to participate in the prep session.

First Reconciliation & Communion

Our next Sacrament Prep sessions will be held on ***Monday, Jan. 31, and Tuesday, Feb. 1, from 6:30-8 p.m.*** in Albanese Hall. Please choose the night that best fits your schedule. A parent must attend with their child. Contact Kelly Dembiczak at the parish office, Ext. 17, with questions or concerns.

Confirmation

If you have a teen currently in 8th grade or above who has not yet received this Sacrament or is not currently in preparation for this Sacrament, please contact Katrina at the parish office, Ext. 16, to be included in the 2021-2022 preparation group.

Sacraments for Adults who were Baptized Catholic

If you are an adult who has not received one of your Sacraments of Initiation — First Eucharist or Confirmation — you are invited to join other adults from the parish who will be completing their Sacraments of Initiation during the 2021-2022 academic year.

Sacraments of Marriage

Prior to setting a wedding date, please contact the parish office at least 6 months in advance so that all of the formation and paperwork can be completed.

December Children's Ministry

December 12

Grades 2nd-5th: 9-10:15 a.m., Shepherds Hall

Grades PK-1st: 10:15-11:30 a.m., Albanese Hall

DID YOU KNOW?

We have opportunities for everyone to grow in the love and knowledge of Jesus Christ.

Children's Ministry	For children in Pre-K thru 5th grade Meets 2x per month Fulfills pre-requisite for Sacraments for those not attending Catholic School
Youth Ministry	For teens 6th-12th grade Meets weekly Fulfills pre-requisite for Confirmation for those not attending Catholic School
Young Adult Ministry	For young adults 18 yrs old (graduated) thru 39 yrs old Meets 1x per month Gathers with young adults from our area parishes
Adult Ministry	For all adults who want to grow in their faith Gathering times vary by series and groups Consists of Fall and Lenten series, Mom's Group, Men's and Women's Groups

All ministries will be resuming in Fall 2021!

Check out the parish website for the most up-to-date information!

For Children's Ministry contact Kelly Dembiczak at x 17 For all other ministries contact Katrina Coleman at x 16

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