Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church

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

December 19, 2021 · Fourth 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
** will not be held on December 18*

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

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Text BENOLG to 84576

1011 Mount Pleasant Road + Greensburg, PA 15601
A Parish of the Diocese of Greensburg · A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust

FIRST READING

You, Bethlehem-Ephrathah
too small to be among the
clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to be ruler in Israel.
(Mi 5:1)

PSALM

Lord, make us turn to you; let us see
your face and we shall be saved.
(Ps 80)

SECOND READING

"Then I said, 'As is written of me
in the scroll,
behold, I come to do your will,
O God.'" (Heb 10:7)

GOSPEL

"Blessed are you among women,
and blessed is the fruit of
your womb.
And how does this happen to me,
that the mother of my Lord should
come to me?" (Lk 1:42-43)

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WORSHIP & MEDITATION

GOSPEL MEDITATION

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

St. Augustine tells us that a "Christian is a mind through which Christ thinks, a heart through which Christ loves, a voice through which Christ speaks and a hand through which Christ helps." As we look around and out at the world, we do not have to search too far before we come face to face with inequity and injustice. There is so much unfairness, prejudice, anger, hatred, violence, and want. The stories of human heartache, people being hurt, deprived of life's necessities, loneliness, and sickness are far too commonplace. For many of the world's ills, the vices of greed, lust, pride, gluttony, and jealousy are clearly among the more significant root causes.

Why doesn't God just step in and fix this mess? After all, God created this world, and one would hope that he would step up and take some measure of responsibility for it! Once we sit with this thinking for a while, we can begin to realize just how flawed it really is. God did take responsibility and God did fix the problem! God sent us Jesus Christ as the divine solution to the world's ills. It is not God who has shirked responsibility, we have. We are the ones who continually fail to set our own personal needs, wants, and securities aside so that One more powerful than us can use us.

Mary had to set her needs aside in order for the Son of God to come into the world. Put simply, Mary listened and believed. Having opened herself to being an instrument of the Divine, God could use her as his mind, heart, voice, and hand. She became God's vessel so that God's greatness could reach the ends of the earth and peace could come upon the world. God's fix for the world's difficulties is you and me. We are the ones who confess that Jesus Christ came into the world as the Son of God, the Prince of Peace, and herald of justice. All we have to do is believe, as did Mary, that what has been spoken to us by the Lord will be fulfilled. Then, we can step aside and be the Christians we claim to be. What a difference it would make if every person who professed to be Christian truly understood that their one and only vocation is to be God's instrument. What a beautiful, equitable, and just world it would be.

©LPi

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18

4:00 p.m. Nina & John Spino
by Maria Kunkle, John Spino & families

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19

8:00 a.m. Jack Moyer Sr.
& Saturday Night Gang

10:30 a.m. Red & Anna Mae Dominick
by Cheryl, Rosie & Gia Dominick

6:00 p.m. Aida Longo
by daughter

MONDAY, DECEMBER 20

7:00 a.m. Jack McGinley
by McGinley family

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22

7:00 a.m. Robert & Jane Urban
by James, Linda & Susie Soltis

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24, Christmas Vigil

4:00 p.m. Mario Paulone
by family

7:00 p.m. Michele Nauman
by Bill Nauman

10:00 p.m. The deceased members of the DiVirgilio & Zello families by the Cazdens

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25, Christmas Day

10:00 a.m. Intention of Celebrant

4:00 p.m. **NO MASS**

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26

8:00 a.m. Louis & Margaret Charley
by William & Nancy Charley
and grandchildren

10:30 a.m. For the parishioners of Our Lady of Grace & Saint Benedict churches

6:00 p.m. Special Intention

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.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Jim Ahearn
Mildred Andrykovitch
Gary Bailey
Tiger Certain
Estelle Dannhardt
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

M. Diana Seranko
Dorothy DeFloria
Maryann McGonigle
Cynthia J. Dzubak

May their souls and 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.

SANCTUARY LAMP

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

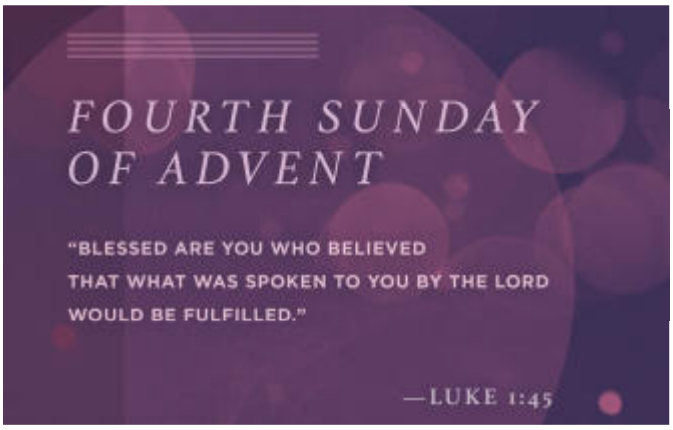
Jack Moyer, Sr.
by friends & family.

STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Parish Support — December 12, 2021

Offertory (from mail & collection basket) : $ 9,463.02
Online Giving: 6,020.00
$ 15,483.02

Thank you for your continued faithful support of our parish!



2022 CALENDARS

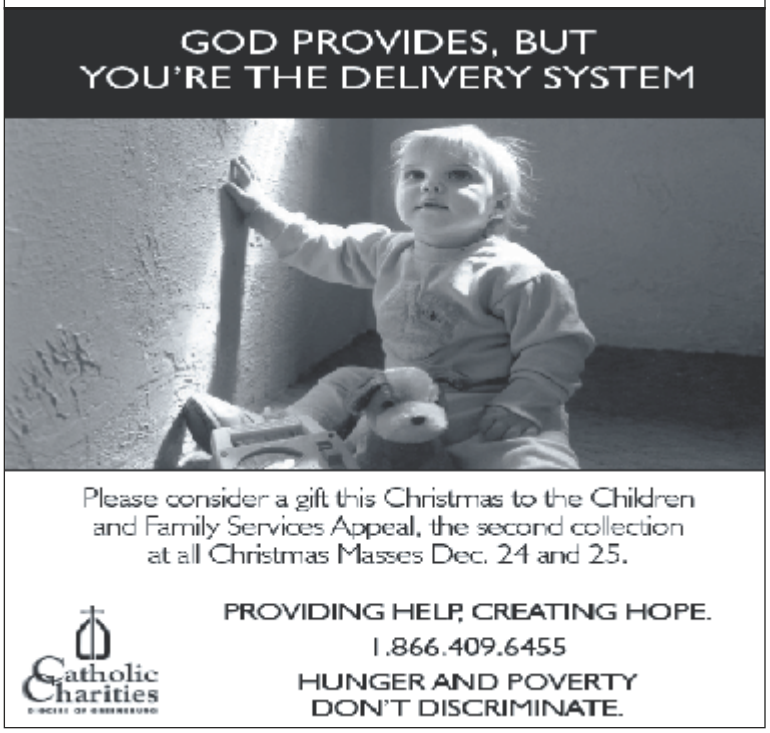
will be available
in the Church Gathering Space
compliments of
Leo M. Bacha Funeral Home Inc., Greensburg.

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. 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.

Special Collection

The annual Catholic Charities' ***Children and Family Services Appeal*** will be the second collection at all Masses Dec. 24 and 25 in the Diocese of Greensburg. This collection helps people in our diocese who are less fortunate. Your support can change the future of an individual, family or child through the good works of Catholic Charities.



CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES

Amanda lived through several violent situations in her life. But she didn't acknowledge them as violent and thought they were "normal." Her encounter with the Women's Support Group in El Salvador helped her recognize she was a victim of violence and learned ways to prevent it. Visit www.crs.org to see how you can help!

"After cancer, I understood that God had given me a second chance. And I think that Women's Support Group experiences have been a gift from God to tell me, 'Amanda, start living again.' We should live without burdens because we have a new opportunity." ~ Amanda, participant in Women's Support Group, El Salvador

Liturgical Ministers Dec. 24-26

4 PM Mass Dec. 24

EM: Susanne Mayhugh
EM: Carol Teacher
EM & Sacristan: Kristen Sepesky
Lector: Needed
Servers: Luke & Meredith Semelka
Teen Servers: Joseph and Anthony Semelka

7 PM Mass Dec. 24

EM: Julie Tinney
EM: John Hutchins
EM & Sacristan: Pat Santia
Lector: Cheryl Tkacs
Servers: Ryan Appleby
Teen Server: Rachel Tinney

10 PM Mass Dec. 24

EM: Needed
EM: Needed
EM & Sacristan: Needed
Lector: Henna Bautista
Servers: Needed
Teen Server: Kira Florek

10 AM Mass Dec. 25

EM: Esther Seranko
EM: Needed
EM & Sacristan: Nancy Anderson
Lector: Pauline Seranko
Servers: Tobi & Seyi Adesina
Teen Server: Needed

8 AM Mass Dec. 26

EM: Needed
EM: Needed
EM & Sacristan: Nancy Anderson
Lector: Needed
Servers: Ezra & Ethan Peluso
Teen Server: Needed

10:30 AM Mass

EM: Susanne Mayhugh
EM: Needed
EM & Sacristan: Cynthia Decos
Lector: Walt Szczygiel
Servers: Jason and Michael Eziagulu
Teen Server: Needed

6 PM Mass

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

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. Christmas Eve Mass,
Friday, Dec. 24
10 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass,
Friday, Dec. 24
10 a.m. Christmas Day,
Saturday, Dec. 25

Please note:
The parish office will be closed Thursday, Dec. 23 & Christmas Eve, Friday, Dec. 24, & there will be no 4 p.m. Mass on Christmas Day, Saturday, Dec. 25.

Our Lady of Grace Christmas Eve 4 p.m. Mass Reserved Seating Registration

Reserved seating for in-person attendance for the 4 p.m. Mass will be required.

Registration is available for registered parishioners through Flocknote.

To sign up for Flocknote, text BENOLG to 84576.

Each registered parish household will be able to pre-register up to six members. Friends who want to sit together should register as one group.

Please continue to watch our bulletin, Flocknote, and website for more details.

**Registered parishioners who do not have Internet access can phone the office to register.*

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.

RCIA

If you have ever thought about becoming Catholic or returning to the faith, please call Katrina, our Director of Discipleship & Evangelization, or our pastor to have your questions answered and be welcomed home.

Vocation Information

If you are interested in the priesthood or religious life, our pastor is happy to speak with you. Young men may also contact Fr. Tyler Bandura at 724-552-2535.

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