

Christ Our Savior

Roman Catholic Parish in the Diocese of Pittsburgh

May 2, 2021

SAINT BONIFACE CHURCH

2208 East Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15212

SAINT CYRIL CHURCH

3854 Brighton Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15212

SAINT PETER CHURCH

720 Arch Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15212

Sunday Masses

4:00 p.m. (Vigil) Saint Cyril Church

9:00 a.m. Saint Boniface Church

10:30 a.m. Saint Peter Church

11:00 a.m. Saint Cyril Church

Daily Masses

9:00 a.m. Saint Cyril Church
Mon - Sat

12:05 p.m. Saint Peter Church
Mon - Fri



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 9:30 a.m.
Saint Cyril Church



Christ Our Savior Parish Office

3854 Brighton Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15212

Phone: 412-761-1552

Fax: 412-415-0707

www.cospgh.org



5th SUNDAY OF EASTER

"I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing." - Jn 15:5

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

Fr. Nicholas Vaskov, Pastor
Fr. Dam Nguyen, Senior Parochial Vicar
Fr. Lawrence DiNardo, in residence
Fr. Louis DeNinno, in residence
Fr. Ferdinand Okafor, in residence
Deacon Gery Pielin

Reading I: Acts 9:26-31

When Saul arrived in Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples,
but they were all afraid of him,
not believing that he was a disciple.
Then Barnabas took charge of him and brought him to the apostles,
and he reported to them how he had seen the Lord,
and that he had spoken to him,
and how in Damascus he had spoken out boldly in the name of Jesus.
He moved about freely with them in Jerusalem,

and spoke out boldly in the name of the Lord.
He also spoke and debated with the Hellenists,
but they tried to kill him.

And when the brothers learned of this,
they took him down to Caesarea
and sent him on his way to Tarsus.

The church throughout all Judea, Galilee, and Samaria was at peace.

It was being built up and walked in the fear of the Lord,
and with the consolation of the Holy Spirit it grew in numbers.

Responsorial Psalm 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32
I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

Reading II: 1 Jn 3:18-24

Children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth.
Now this is how we shall know that we belong to the truth
and reassure our hearts before him
in whatever our hearts condemn,
for God is greater than our hearts and knows everything.
Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us,
we have confidence in God
and receive from him whatever we ask,

because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him.

And his commandment is this:
we should believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ,
and love one another just as he commanded us.
Those who keep his commandments remain in him, and he in them,
and the way we know that he remains in us is from the Spirit he gave us.

Gospel: Jn 15:1-8

Jesus said to his disciples:
“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower.
He takes away every branch in me that does not bear fruit,
and every one that does he prunes so that it bears more fruit.
You are already pruned because of the word that I spoke to you.
Remain in me, as I remain in you.
Just as a branch cannot bear fruit on its own unless it remains on the vine,
so neither can you unless you remain in me.
I am the vine, you are the branches.

Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit,
because without me you can do nothing.
Anyone who does not remain in me will be thrown out like a branch and wither;
people will gather them and throw them into a fire and they will be burned.
If you remain in me and my words remain in you,
ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you.
By this is my Father glorified,
that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.”

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.



Prayer to Saint Michael the Archangel



Saint Michael, the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil; May God rebuke him we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, cast into hell Satan, and all the evil spirits, who prowl through the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.



This week, the Sanctuary Candles in our church buildings are lit in honor of the following intentions:

Saint Cyril Church: Kelly Bookser



Mary is the saint among the saints, blessed above all others. She teaches us the way of holiness and she walks ever at our side. She does not let us remain fallen and at times she takes us into her arms without judging us.”—Pope Francis, *Gaudete et Exsultate*, no. 176

From the Desk of Father Nick

CHRIST OUR SAVIOR 2021 PARISH PASTORAL PLAN

Earlier this year, the Christ Our Savior Parish Pastoral Council met for a retreat day to pray about and discern a pastoral plan for our parish. A pastoral plan sets goals and objectives for the parish to undertake in order to grow and flourish over the course of the next three to five year. The pastoral planning work was guided by two factors:

1. Our Pastoral Plan must be in according with our Parish Mission Statement:

We, the members of Christ Our Savior Parish, guided by the Holy Spirit, are dedicated to forming a community which focuses on bringing God's love to the world through sacraments, prayer and service. We welcome all, support and attend to their whole well-being from conception to death, without judgement.

2. Our Pastoral Plan must incorporate the five essential qualities of parish life:

- I. Eucharist – the convergence point of all the vital elements of parish life
- II. Evangelization – the ways in which the parish continues to spread the Good News of Jesus
- III. Catechesis – the ways in which we teach, explain, and inform parishioners of Church teaching
- IV. Formation – the ways by which we promote a lived faith that is bold, courageous, and effective
- V. Stewardship – the ways in we share the gifts of God in thanksgiving for all he has given us

We present here to you the pastoral plan for our parish in order that you may know the fruit of the Pastoral Council's work and so that you may consider how you might be a part of the life of our parish in the months and years ahead. Please do not hesitate to contact one of the priests or one of the Pastoral Council members if you have questions or suggestions.

Quality of Parish Life: Eucharist

Goal: To foster unity in Christ Our Savior Parish through new celebrations across all church sites.

Objectives/Strategies	Completion Date
Host an annual 3-night Lenten mission with one night at each church.	Lent 2022
Begin a monthly Rosary, Confessions, & Holy Mass on the 1 st Wednesday of each month, held at a different church each month.	March 2021
Begin monthly Adoration & Confessions on the 3 rd Wednesday of each month, held at the same church as the 1 st Wednesday rosary	March 2021
Coordinate an annual Mass celebrating Marriage, including: - Newly married - 25 th , 50 th , 60 th , etc. anniversaries Held at a different church each year	February 2022 (Sunday closest to Valentine's Day)

Quality of Parish Life: Evangelization

Goal: To establish consistent channels for informing and promoting the spiritual and social life of Christ Our Savior Parish.

Objectives/Strategies	Completion Date
Explore new and traditional means of communication to parishioners and implement a communication plan for the parish	December 2021
Create parish marketing materials	June 2021
Implement a suggestion box in each church and create an online suggestion form	March 2021

Goal: To develop relationships with partners in the work of evangelization and community building

Objectives/Strategies	Completion Date
Engage with one neighboring Catholic parish to discover ways of working together.	End of 2021
Engage with one neighboring Christian church to discover ways of working together.	End of 2021
Engage with one local community organization to discover ways of working together.	End of 2021

Quality of Parish Life: Catechesis

Goal: To provide opportunities for parishioners of all ages to grow in knowledge and understanding of the faith.

Objectives/Strategies	Completion Date
Explore and evaluate K-8 faith formations programs and models and implement what is most effective for our parish.	Fall 2022
Develop engaging youth and young adult ministry programs for continued faith formation opportunities.	Fall 2022
Create a family catechesis program to engage families in our parish.	End of 2022
Host regular adult faith formation programs such as bible studies, speaker series, etc.	Ongoing

Quality of Parish Life: Formation

Goal: Plan activities and establish groups that work to form the whole human person, relying on parishioners who have particular expertise.

Objectives/Strategies	Completion Date
Complete a survey of gifts and interests among parishioners with a goal of increasing our volunteer pool by 10%	Summer 2021
Plan retreats and enrichment days for different demographics	Spring 2022
Provide access to training for groups that form, including <i>Protecting God's Children</i> , etc.	Ongoing
Form a hospitality committee to create a standard of welcome in our parish	End of 2021

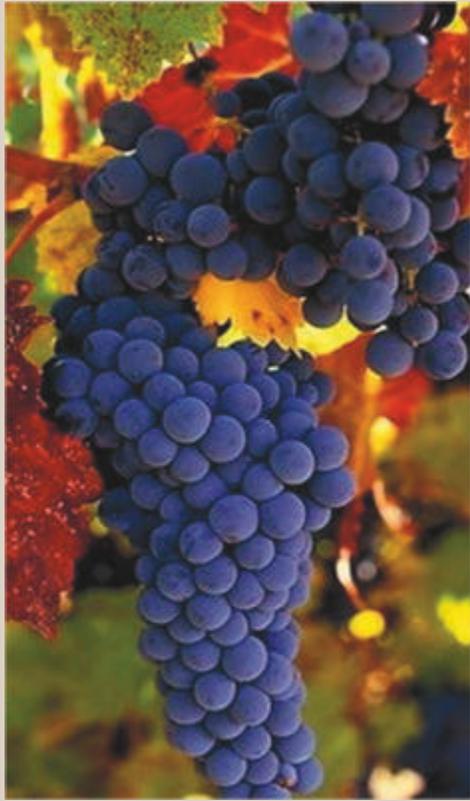
Quality of Parish Life: Stewardship

Goal: To use well the resources we are given to deliberately and equitably meet the needs of parishioners and the community.

Objectives/Strategies	Completion Date
Explore ways to provide transportation for the elderly and those in need, particular to Sunday Mass.	End of 2022
Increase the Saint Vincent de Paul Society presence among all church sites so that more may be helped by their support.	End of 2021
Create a Fundraising Committee and explore new fundraising opportunities to create a fundraising plan for the parish	End of 2021
Complete an assessment of all parish structures, publish it, and have opportunities to discuss it with parishioners	End of 2021

Reflection

VINE-BRANCHES



Jesus says “I am the vine, my Father is the vine grower and you are branches” on which grapes are borne. The attachment is necessary for the survival of the branches and vital for the continuing livelihood of the fruit. We, the grapes, cannot ourselves sustain and become productive without connecting to and remaining in Him.

Therefore, to remain in the vine is much more than to stick to its trunk externally. It rather intimately attaches to the source of food and nutrition internally. As no air no breath, so no sap no life. The grapes, juicy or dead, depend on their continuous and continual “blood life” with their vine and roots.

The original word **μένω** or “**menó**” means to remain, to stay or to abide is mentioned more than hundred times in St. John’s writings. It reminds that the quality of community membership is much more than its appearance or registration. To fall in love is good. However, to keep

loving is even better. To remain means to continue and abide without an interruption or even a break. Our daily lives, thoughts and movements should be animated, driven and motivated endlessly by Christ. He is like the engine of our beings! We remain in Christ even in our rest and our sleep. To St. Paul, we live and die in Christ. Continuously (without ceasing) and continually (with steadfast enduring), we, branches, are integrated into Christ, both physically and chemically.

I was fascinated by a college course, *Physical Chemistry*, that deals with the **physical** structure of **chemical** compounds and the way they react with other matter and the bonds that hold their elements together. The terms sound contradictory, don’t they? I am not good at either field of study (chemistry and physics), yet they make sense that both internal and external dynamics impact on each other. Without abiding in Christ, we cannot be called Christians. The divine-human relationship bonds and mingles closely together. It is more than that of a flowing chart mapping out the Father as the vine grower; Jesus the vine and us its branches. Rather, it spells out the vivid and vital circulation of sap, the lively traffic of nutrition flowing and channeling out to all parts of the organic vine.

Pruning, trimming, clearing, and cleaning are tough acts of discipline done for the sake of the welfare and wellbeing of the vine-branch relationship.

Remain in Christ, may we!

Fr. Dam Nguyen

Mass Schedule for the Week of May 2, 2021

Date	Time	Location	Intention	Offered By
Sunday, May 2 Fifth Sunday of Easter Acts 9:26-31 1 Jn 3:18-24 Jn 15:1-8	4:00 p.m. (Vigil)	St. Cyril	Doris & Vince Curtin 50th Wedding Anniversary	Family
	9:00 a.m.	St. Boniface	Helen Haramé	Mary Wehner
	10:30 a.m.	St. Peter	The deceased of the Hawkins Family	Jeanne Lazewski
	11:00 a.m.	St. Cyril	Living & Deceased Parishioners	
Monday, May 3 Saints Philip & James, Apostles 1 Cor 15:1-8/Jn 14:6-14	9:00 a.m.	St. Cyril	Sam & Josephine Faranda	Judy & Al Faranda
	12:05 p.m.	St. Peter	Maryann Stowitzky	Christine Bell
Tuesday, May 4 Acts 14:19-28/Jn 14:27-31a	9:00 a.m.	St. Cyril	Carol McGrath	Jack & Lyn McGrath
	12:05 p.m.	St. Peter	Francisco Sanchez	Mother & Sister
Wednesday, May 5 Acts 15:1-6/Jn 15:1-8	9:00 a.m.	St. Cyril	Bill White	Family
	12:05 p.m.	St. Peter	Poor Souls	
	7:00 p.m.	St. Cyril	Joy Baltos	
Thursday, May 6 Acts 15:7-21/Jn 15:9-11	9:00 a.m.	St. Cyril	For the Intentions of David Daleiden	Richard & Barbara Lewis
	12:05 p.m.	St. Peter	Debra Clarke	
Friday, May 7 Acts 15:22-31/Jn 15:12-17	9:00 a.m.	St. Cyril	Joy Lynne Baltos	John & Marianne Burns & Family
	12:05 p.m.	St. Peter	Frieda Bazzar	Family
Saturday, May 8 Acts 16:1-10/Jn 15:18-21	9:00 a.m.	St. Cyril	Peggy Greiff	John McGrath
Sunday, May 9 Sixth Sunday of Easter Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48 1 Jn 4:7-10 Jn 15:9-17	4:00 p.m. (vigil)	St. Cyril	Isabell Sestrich (Anniversary)	Family
	9:00 a.m.	St. Boniface	Helen Haramé	Marlene Stecklein
	10:30 a.m.	St. Peter	Living & Deceased Parishioners	
	11:00 a.m.	St. Cyril	Blanche & Orey DiDonato	Family

Join us at Saint Cyril Church this **Wednesday, May 5th** beginning at **6:00 p.m.** for our monthly 1st Wednesday devotions and Mass.



The evening includes:

- * 6:00 p.m. Confessions
- * 6:30 p.m. Rosary for our Nation
- * 7:00 p.m. Holy Mass

Our next devotions (Adoration and Confessions) will be held at Saint Cyril on the 3rd Wednesday, May 19th.



thank
you

Thank you for Household Goods Donations! The New Start Ministry was impressed and grateful for the wonderful collection of household goods gathered during Lent by the parish. They are assisting individuals and families in crisis on a daily basis, and the donations are needed and deeply appreciated. We look forward to continuing to support this ministry in the future. Thank you, again!



Damascus Diner – Saturday Men’s Breakfast The Damascus Diner will hold its last meeting before breaking for the summer on Saturday May 8th in Axmacher Hall at St Cyril’s Church. Breakfast will be served at 7:30am, following which we will finish discussing Bishop Olmsted’s booklet “Into the Breach”. The morning will conclude around 8:45am, so that those who wish to can attend the 9:00am mass. For more information or to confirm attendance (so we can be sure we have adequate food and socially distanced seating) please call George Ferrance @ 412-734-5955.

Easter Scripture Study with Father DiNardo—The fifty days from the Sunday of the Resurrection to Pentecost Sunday are celebrated in joy and exultation as one feast, indeed as one “Great Sunday.” These are the days above all others in which we sing the great “*Alleluia*.” During this Easter season, Father DiNardo will offer the study of the Sunday readings, with a special focus on the *Acts of the Apostles*. The scripture study class will take place on **Monday evenings from 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM through May 24, 2021**. You are invited to Saint Boniface Church for the scripture class or by **Zoom**. The Zoom links can be found on the Parish Website at www.cospgh.org.



The Holy Father has proclaimed this year a “**Year of Saint Joseph**”, but how much do you know about this wonderful saint and loving father? Christ Our Savior Parish will be conducting a **5 week study focusing on Saint Joseph** at Saint Cyril Church starting **Tuesday, May 4, 6:30—8pm** and ending Tuesday, June 1. Participants will be given the “*Consecration to Saint Joseph: The Wonders of Our Spiritual Father*” book meditation. Each session will examine Saint Joseph and his world (using a book by Mike Aquilina) and review important encyclicals and writings about Saint Joseph that complement the consecration meditations. Attendance is free, but **please register** so that enough books can be ordered. To register, email to office@cospgh.org or call 412-761-1552. This will be a fun and enriching study!

Christ Our Savior Parish

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Deacon Gery Pielin.....gpielin@diopitt.org

Council Members

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Rich Kielar

Ken Knochel

Mary Kushik

Vince Lewandowski

Hugh Mulvey

Shirley Novak

Sue Zientek

Sacraments

Baptism: Please contact Jean DiDonato for information of the requirements, conditions and options for baptisms. Classes for first time parents can be taken before or after their child's birth.

Matrimony: Arrangements are to be made at least six months in advance of the wedding date. Please contact the parish office.

Sick and Shut-ins: The Sacraments are available to those who are unable to celebrate Mass due to sickness or age. To make arrangements for visitation to your home, call the parish office.

Sacramental Sponsor: To be a Sacramental sponsor, one must be a practicing Catholic and a registered member of a parish.

Stewardship Update for April 25, 2021

Offertory: \$8,019.50

Parish Share: \$1,165

Building Fund: \$539

Votives: \$411

School Support: \$140

Social Services: \$45

Good Friday: \$15

Easter: \$115

Flowers: \$15

Holy Days: \$5

Thank you for your generosity!

2020 Tax Statements are available by request.

Please call the parish office.

Pregnant? Talk to someone 24/7
1-800-712 HELP (4357) or text "HELPLINE TO 313131."
For free help near you, www.OPTIONLINE.org

Northside Catholic Assumption Academy



ENTER TO LEARN

LEARN TO SERVE

Principal: Rosanne Kwiatkowski

rkwiatkowski@ncaacademynow.org

Administrative Assistant: Helene Kocay

hkocay@ncaacademynow.org



Spring has sprung at Northside Catholic Assumption Academy, and third grade has sprung in to action with fractions! We are learning about equivalent ones, comparing different ones, and putting them in order from least to greatest and greatest to least. There's a lot to learn with fractions! Third grade is also learning about the different types of communities (urban, suburban, and rural). We've learned about how people live, work, and play in these different communities. While it would be fun to experience living in a different kind of community, we've decided we like it right where we are! For more information on our 3 year old preschool – 8th grade Christ centered school, give us a call at 412-761-5043 to set up a personal tour!

Are you looking for a Christ centered, academically challenging, safe environment, and welcoming school for your child? Come and see Northside Catholic Assumption Academy! We offer full day 3 and 4 year old preschool programs, as well as the traditional half day two or three days a week. Our preschool through 8th grade boasts small class sizes – our largest class is 24 and the smallest is 13. Your child will receive individualized attention so that he or she can thrive! Our teachers are more than just certified by the state and accredited by the Diocese. They are dedicated teachers with an average of 20 years of experience in the Diocese. Our school is supported by the Extra Mile Education Foundation and has low tuition - \$3,600 for one child and \$4,200 for two or more children and generous financial aid. For more information on our school, give us a call at 412-761-5043 or email rkwiatkowski@ncaacademynow.org.





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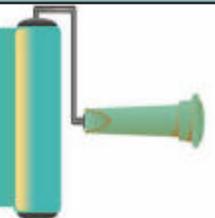


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