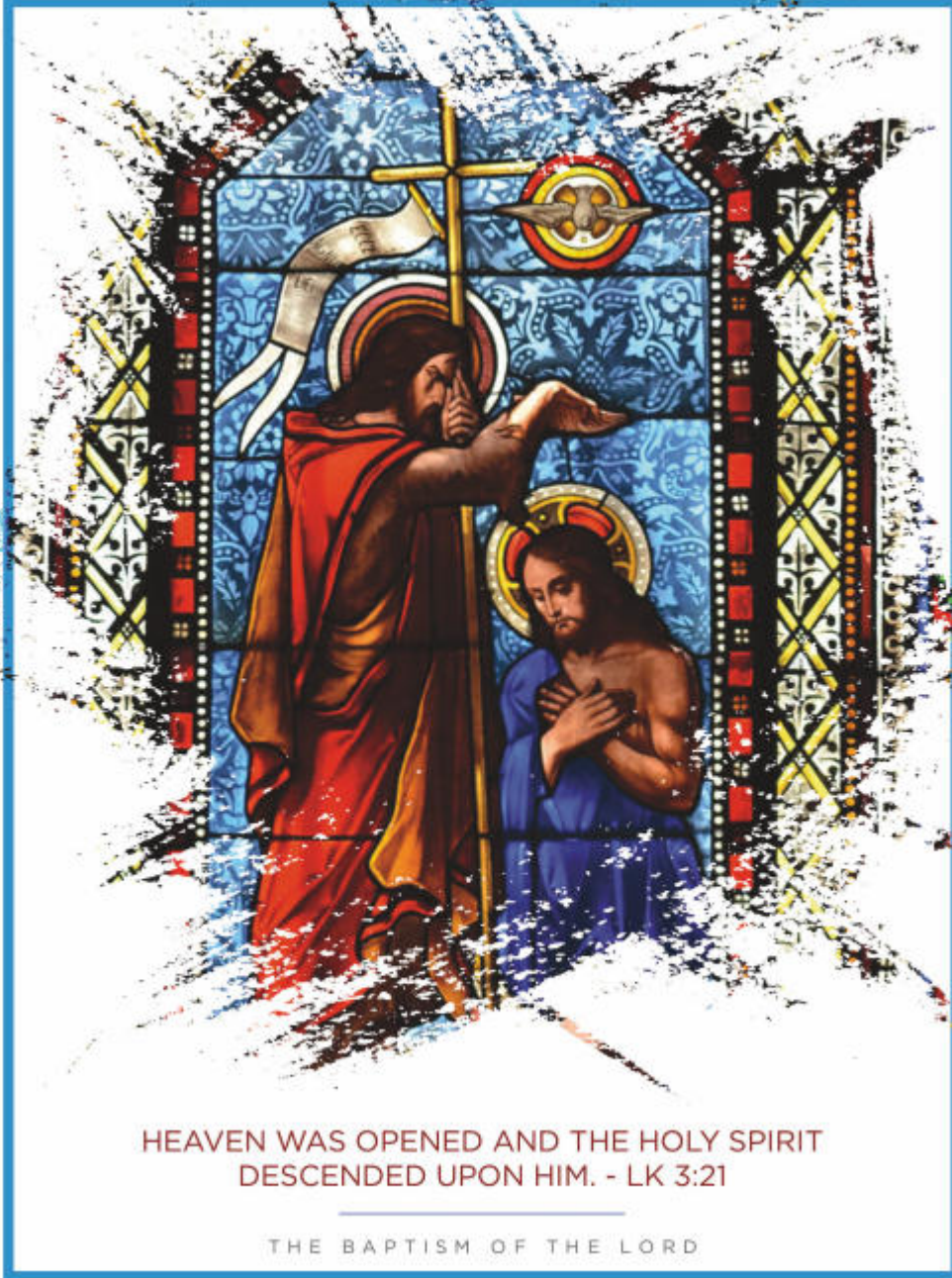


The Cities of God



St. Ferdinand Parish
2535 Rochester Road,
Cranberry Township PA, 16066

Saturday Vigil 4:00 pm
6:00 pm
Sunday 8:00 am
10:00 am
12:00 pm
5:00 pm

Holy Redeemer
415 4th Street,
Ellwood City PA, 16117

Saturday Vigil 5:00 pm
Sunday 9:00 am
11:00 am

St. Gregory Parish
2 West Beaver Street,
Zelienople PA, 16063

Saturday Vigil 5:00 pm
Sunday 8:00 am
11:30 am

Welcome Everyone

...to "The Cities of God" Catholic Community. OUR three parishes share a diversity of culture and faith experience all united in the one Body of Christ. The doors of OUR churches, as well as the doors of OUR hearts are open, inviting all to join in the journey to new life in Christ within OUR Catholic tradition. OUR hope is to assist one another toward a deeper encounter with the Lord through Word, Sacrament, and Community in faith, hope, and love.

Mass Intentions

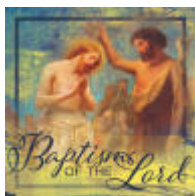
2 | January 9, 2022

CLERGY

Rev. Philip Farrell, Administrator, pfarrell@diopitt.org
Rev. John P. Gallagher, Senior Priest, jpgallagher@diopitt.org
Rev. Mark L. Thomas, Senior Parochial Vicar, mlthomas@diopitt.org
Rev. David J. Egan, Parochial Vicar, degan@diopitt.org
Rev. Mr. Donald Pepe, Deacon, dpepe@diopitt.org
Rev. Mr. Jeffrey Ludwikowski, Deacon, jludwikowski@diopitt.org

PARISH STAFF

Kay Bellissimo
Pastoral Associate
724.758.4411 Ext. 222 hrreledu@zoominternet.net
Dr. Thomas J. Brozich, D. Min, Psy. D.
Director of Faith Formation
724.776.2888 Ext. 302 TBrozich@stferd.org
Adam Blotzer
Music Minister
724.477.7245 blotzeradam@gmail.com
Luma Bunni
Executive Assistant/Office Manager
724.776.2888 Ext. 105 luma@stferd.org
Frances Fotia
Music Minister
724.752.9518 ciaofotia@yahoo.com
Lou Ferrario
Administrator Assistant
724.758.4411 Ext. 110 laf@zoominternet.net
Kevin Johnson
Interim Director of Worship and Music
724.776.2888 Ext. 401 KJohnson@stferd.org
Alena Kucan
Director of Communication
724.776.2888 Ext. 107 AKucan@stferd.org
Rev. Mr. Jeffrey Ludwikowski
Pastoral Associate
724.776.2888 ext. 303 jeff@stferd.org
Sister Patricia Meyers, SHS
Pastoral Associate
724.452.7245 srpatty1@stgregzelie.org
Cathy Nowak
Safe Environment Coordinator
724.776.2888 Ext. 112 cathy@stferd.org
Chris Razani
Maintenance Supervisor
724.758.4411 Ext. 225 crazani@zoominternet.net
Erin Rice
St. Gregory School Principal
724.452.9731 Ext. 105 erice@stgregzelie.org
Julie Strosnider
Business Manager
724.776.2888 Ext. 103 jstrosnider@stgregzelie.org



MASS INTENTIONS

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

4:00 pm (S.F.) Wagner & Bernath Families (Family)

5:00 pm (S.G.) Norbert Miller (Kathy & Fritz Ligday)

5:00 pm (H.R.) Otterina Yount (Tressa Bellissimo)

6:00 pm (S.F.) Alfons Cams (Ingrid Peters)

SUN. JAN. 9 THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

8:00 am (S.G.) Betty Speicher (John & Mary Ann Darak)

8:00 am (S.F.) Dominic Iacobucci (The Hickey Family)

9:00 am (H.R.) Frank Zayas (Mary Anne Mansell)

10:00 am (S.F.) Frank Maksin (Phyllis & Jack Wirth)

11:00 am (H.R.) Dr. John DeCaro, Sr. & Mary DeCaro (Christa Gagric)

11:30 am (S.G.) Ron Rishack (Dave & Martha Florie)

12:00 pm (S.F.) Katherine Daly (The McKerne Family)

5:00 pm (S.F.) Stanley Verona (John & Rita Verona)

MON. JAN. 10

8:00 am (S.G.) Ronald J. Rishack (Wife, Judie Rishack)

8:30 am (S.F.) Patrick Crossman (Don & Mary Jana Vano)

9:00 am (H.R.) Mary Hrabosky (M/M Duane Maietta)

TUE. JAN. 11

8:00 am (S.G.) Raymond Thompson

(Family, 10th Anniversary of Death)

8:30 am (S.F.) William Glasser (Joanne Warren)

9:00 am (H.R.) Rose Dudick (Lou Ferrario)

WED. JAN. 12

8:00 am (S.G.) Nancy Sullivan (Jack & Mary Pat Neal)

8:30 am (S.F.) Pamela Donahue (Family & Friends)

9:00 am (H.R.) Orlando & Gina Ferrucci (Debbie Pagley, daughter)

7:00 pm (S.F.) Carole Wagner (Ray & Joann Badzik)

THUR. JAN. 13 ST. HILARY, BISHOP AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

8:00 am (S.G.) Shirley Depp (Polly)

8:30 am (S.F.) Regis Osterrieder (Toloboski Family)

9:00 am (H.R.) Catherine trevelline (Darlene Marnich)

FRI. JAN. 14

8:30 am (S.F.) Robert Gross (Frank & Norma Wolff)

9:00 am (H.R.) Phyllis & Bob Foley (Dave & Jeff Krupa)

9:15 am (S.G.) Don Jones (Gasprin, Stirling, Jones Families)

SAT. JAN. 15

9:00 am (H.R.) Olga Sawor (Vickie Koach)

**Confessions: 10:00 am at St. Ferdinand and St. Gregory
12:30 pm at Holy Redeemer**

SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

4:00 pm (S.F.) Bill Glasser (Vera)

5:00 pm (S.G.) For Prayers Answered (Anonymous)

5:00 pm (H.R.) John A. Folino (Family)

6:00 pm (S.F.) William, Sr. & William, Jr. Yarussi
(Concetta & Ron & Family)

SUN. JAN. 16 SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

8:00 am (S.G.) Barbara Ann Doyle (Althouse Family)

8:00 am (S.F.) Deborah Errington (Greg & Terrie Pecora)

9:00 am (H.R.) Stella Fray (Nancy Piecuch)

10:00 am (S.F.) Joe Sklarsky (Mom, Dad, & Family)

11:00 am (H.R.) Deceased Members of the LaCava & Gaydosz
Families (Steve & Teresa Gaydosz)

11:30 am (S.G.) Alan & Stephanie Martin 10th Anniversary
(Alan Martin)

12:00 pm (S.F.) Vincent Trotta (Mary Jane Trotta)

5:00 pm (S.F.) Francis Profeta (Matilda Hock)

S.F.: St. Ferdinand, H.R.: Holy Redeemer, S.G.: St. Gregory

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

RECEIVING THE CALL

Once I walked into a Walmart dressed in my priestly blacks with the white collar neatly in place. As I approached the greeter, he looked me in the eye and said, "Hey, Buddy, how ya doin'?" When I take my car for repairs, one of the service technicians struggles with calling me "Father", and so I let it go if he just calls me "Phil". When I introduce myself, I often will use my birth name of "Philip" because if I say "Phil" people will invariably call me "Bill", and this opens a never-ending complication. Of course, I remember something my father would say – "I don't care what you call me, as long as you call me for supper". I guess it's not "what" we're called that matters, but "why" we're called.

In this weekend's Gospel from St. Luke, we see Jesus in prayer following His baptism by John the Baptist. All of a sudden, the heavens open, the Holy Spirit appears over Him in the form of a dove, and a voice is heard from heaven calling Him "Son" and saying that God is "well pleased" with Him. (Lk 3:21-22) The name "Son" is not so important as is what it means. Jesus is the image of God, Who is His Father. Jesus is carrying on the legacy of His Father. Therefore, what we will be seeing and hearing from Jesus will be a direct transmission of the heart of the Father. Remember, we call Jesus the "Word made flesh", and so He is the Father's word, the Father's intention, the Father's desire for us, in human form. The Father also tells Jesus – and all of us – that He is well pleased with His Son, which is an assurance to all of us that what we are about to see and hear is authentic and true. The Father calls the Son by name to fulfill a mission of representing the Father's will and the Father's plan for the world for all times and places.

In OUR lives WE receive two very important documents. The first is a Birth Certificate. It tells US OUR name, when and where WE were born, and the identity of OUR parents. The second is a Baptismal Certificate. It tells US that same information, but also when, where, and by whom WE were Baptized, the name(s) of OUR sponsor(s), and many other Sacraments WE may have received since the time of OUR Baptism. The Birth Certificate is about who WE are in the eyes of the world. The Baptismal Certificate is about who WE are in the eyes of God. Through Baptism, WE become God's children, His sons and daughters. He has fashioned US to continue spreading His Word, Jesus Christ, through OUR words and deeds. The Father desires that WE be a pleasing witness to Him as well. OUR name isn't as important as is God's plan and dream for US. Across OUR three parishes, WE are working through a process of recommending names for OUR new parish that will be representative of who WE are and agreeable to Bishop Zubik. So many of you suggested names that don't just have a nice ring to them but that also speak of whom WE so much desire to become. While the name is important as an identifier, what is more important is how WE live up to it in faith. This will be OUR name – a name



REV. PHILIP N. FARRELL

for all of US. At the same time, OUR Baptism says that WE are called by God to live out the fullest definition of what it means to be a son and daughter of God but also a brother and sister to one another. WE are united in OUR one family of faith to OUR common Father, Who is God. WE are united in OUR one family of faith to OUR Brother, Who is Jesus Christ. WE are united in OUR one family of faith through the Power of God, Who is the Holy Spirit. God calls US by OUR one name to be one with Him through faith, hope, and love.

God Bless The Cities of God!



It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Frank "Cheech" Fotia, husband of Holy Redeemer's Music Minister Frances Fotia, and Raymond Nowak, husband of The Cities of God Safe Environment Coordinator, Cathy Nowak, both on January 3, 2022. The Cities of God Family and Staff send our sympathies to Frances, Cathy, and their entire families. "Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen. May his soul and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen."

Prayers and Worship

4 | January 9, 2022

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

SUNDAY READINGS

First Reading:

Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together;
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken. (40:5)

Psalm:

O bless the Lord, my soul. (Ps 104)

Second Reading:

He saved us through the bath of rebirth
and renewal by the Holy Spirit. (Ti 3:5)

Gospel:

After all the people had been baptized
and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying,
heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended upon him
in bodily form like a dove. (Lk 3:22)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved. ©LPI

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 9, 2022

Sunday:

Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/Acts 10:34-38/
Lk 3:15-16, 21-22 or, Is 40:1-5, 9-11/
Ps 104:1b-2, 3-4, 24-25, 27-28, 29-30 [1]/Ti 2:11-14; 3:4-7/
Lk 3:15-16, 21-22

Monday:

1 Sm 1:1-8/Ps 116:12-13, 14-17, 18-19/Mk 1:14-20

Tuesday:

1 Sm 1:9-20/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd/Mk 1:21-28

Wednesday:

1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Ps 40:2 and 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10/Mk 1:29-39

Thursday:

1 Sm 4:1-11/Ps 44:10-11, 14-15, 24-25/Mk 1:40-45

Friday:

1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Ps 89:16-17, 18-19/Mk 2:1-12

Saturday:

1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Ps 21:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mk 2:13-17

Next Sunday:

Is 62:1-5/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 7-8, 9-10 [3]/1 Cor 12:4-11/Jn 2:1-11

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SOULS AND FAMILIES OF:

Melvin J. Chrostowski, father of Joel Chrostowski,
Domenico A. Mundo, Don Buzard,
Margaret H. Gibbs, and Lou L. Gatto.

May the souls of our deceased parish members
and the souls of all the faithful departed, through
the mercy of God, continue their journey to eternal
life in the heavenly kingdom. Amen

SANCTUARY CANDLE

The Sanctuary Candle will burn this week in loving memory of

St. Ferdinand:

Robert Klenk

from Family

St. Gregory:

Norbert Miller

from Family



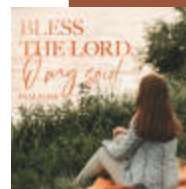
PRAYER GARDEN CANDLES

A prayer Garden Candle will burn this week in loving memory of:

St. Ferdinand:

May Meyers Dobro

from Helen Nazar



SANCTUARY FLOWERS

St. Gregory:

Christmas Donation

from Parishioners



SACRAMENTS

Confession/Reconciliation: Saturdays at 10:00 am at
St. Ferdinand and St. Gregory and Saturday at 12:30 at
Holy Redeemer.

Anointing: Contact the Parish Office before
entering the hospital for a scheduled surgery or an
illness, or contact the Pastoral Care Department of
the Hospital.

Marriage: Please call six months in advance for an
appointment with a priest. Marriage preparation
classes are required. Call the Parish Office as soon as
possible to schedule.

Baptism for Adults: Through Rite of Christian
Initiation of Adults.

Baptism for Infants: By appointment. Please call
the Parish Office at least two months in advance.
A Baptism class is required for parents. Please call
the Parish Office to register.

Victims of Sexual Abuse Hotline 1.888.808.1235
Diocesan Victim Assistance Office 412.456.3093
PA Childline 1.800.932.0313

Prayer and Parish Office Information

January 9, 2022 | 5

**PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR PRAYERS FROM
HOLY REDEEMER AND ST. GREGORY**

Carlo Agostinelli	Steve Grinnen	Charlotte Miller	Diane Scott	Helen Yuricha
Sarah Arbaelaz	John/Mary Guerrini	Jodi Minter	Catherine Shuttleworth	Peggy
B.J. Biondi	Helen Guy	Dara Morris	Nancy Smith	Betty Korczynski
George Bokor	Jim Hackett,	Roberta Morris	James Spielvogel	Dorothy Mellon
Norma Borroni	James M. Hackett	Ann 'Tootsie' Muoio	Sr. Patricia Dunham	Mary Tomayko
Cathy Bucci	Isaac Hall	Olga Nardone	Paul Stefura	Eleanora Milbert
Vance Byram	Nancy Hinzman	Bob Nauman	Judy Stiteler	Bob Polak
Kristi Campbell	Sandy Huffman	Jim Norton Sr.,	Rita Stoops	Michael Mack
Helen Colosimo	Beth Jansen	Bill Oehmler	Connie Tetmire	Andy Szakelyhidi
Frederick Conley	Kathie Joiner	Christine Osche,	Doreen Tomon	Ed Smith
Mary Jo Conley	John Kati	Antoinette Pansera	Kenneth Ung	Marie Voelker
Sally Costanza	Frank LaGrotta	Regina Pasini	Carol Viccari	Elaine Hafner
John DiLeonardo	Paula Maochi Laird	Patrick, Bruce & Janet	Dom Viccari	Sharon Hunter
Shirley Dominelli	Jared Longwell	Audrey Patterson	Lisa Marie Vincik	Patricia Zivkovic
Darlene Esoldo	Antonietta Lightner	Debbie Piper	Nikki Usenick	Stacey & David
Donna Evans	Ray Lutz	Kathleen Russo	Karen Williams	Mary Pat O'Neal
Gus Fornataro	Chris MacDonald	Cy Saba	Kenneth Wiley	Krissy White
Michael Garrett	Arlene Maielli	Julie Santillo	Mike Yuricha	Smail Family
Mark Greene	Mary McClurg	Greg Santo	Chuck Ziegler	Clarence Marsh



Call:
St. Ferdinand- 724.776.2888
Holy Redeemer - 724.758.4411
St. Gregory- 724.452.7245
to add or delete a name.
Only family members are to call!

PARISH OFFICE

ST. FERDINAND

Administration Office

Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Saturday 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

724.776.2888 Fax: 724.776.2378

Faith Formation Office

Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

And during Faith Formation Classes

724.776.9177 Fax: 724.776.6640

Counseling by Appointment

Catholic Center 724.775.0758 ext. 4052

Parish Office 724.776.2888

Music Ministry

724.776.2888 ext. 401

Directory

General email - parish@stferd.org

Pastoral Council - pastoralcouncil@stferd.org

Safe Environment - cathy@stferd.org

Small Faith Communities 724.776.1357

Website - www.stferd.org

Youth Ministry Office - 724.776.1920

HOLY REDEEMER

Administration Office

Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Closed for Lunch 12:30pm - 1:00 pm

724.758.4411 Fax: 724.752.1466

Faith Formation & RCIA

724.752.1271

Social Services

724.758.3465

Music Ministry

724.752.9518

Catholic Parish Cemetery Association

724.323.0033

ST. GREGORY

Administration Office

Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Closed for Lunch 12:00 pm - 12:30 pm

724.452.7245 Fax: 724.452.4064 parishoffice@stgregzelie.org

Ritzert Hall Rental (temporarily suspended)

724.452.7245

Directory

St. Gregory School - 724.452.9731 schooloffice@stgregzelie.org

School Website - www.stgregzelie.org

Church Website - www.stgregparish.org

Bulletin: AKucan@stferd.org

The bulletin deadline for submitting articles is ten days before the bulletin date (except for Holidays). All articles must be written in paragraph form and include a name and phone number. Pdf articles are not accepted for print in the bulletin. For complete article submission guidelines, please visit our website at <https://stferd.org/>

BAPTISM CLASSES

One parent preparation session is required before baptism. Please come before the baby is born.

* Classes at Holy Redeemer are on January 12, 2022, April 6, 2022, July 13, 2022, and October 12, 2022 from 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm at the Holy Redeemer Catholic Center.

Pre-registration is required by calling 724.758.4411

* Classes at St. Ferdinand and St. Gregory are on February 7, 2022, April 4, 2022, and June 6, 2022 at 7:00 pm.

Pre-registration is required by calling 724.776.2888 ext. 101

Schedules

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READERS

ST. FERDINAND

January 8/9, 2022

4:00 pm - Julie Klimaszewski
6:00 pm - Brian Connel
8:00 am - Daria Kubisiak
10:00 am - Michael Garczynski
12:00 pm - Kathleen Flango
5:00 pm - Bill Yates

January 15/16, 2022

4:00 pm - Rich Ruga
6:00 pm - Bill Yates
8:00 am - Art Riccadonna
10:00 am - Emeka Emecheta
12:00 pm - Amy Navoney
5:00 pm - Daria Kubisiak

HOLY REDEEMER

January 8/9, 2022

5:00 pm - Virginia Ottaviani
9:00 am - Debbie Kucan
11:00 am - Jennifer Bowser

January 15/16, 2022

5:00 pm - Stacey Cunningham
9:00 am - Janice Chesko
11:00 am - David DeCaria

ST. GREGORY

January 8/9, 2022

5:00 pm - Mike Kamnikar
8:00 am - Chuck Schaun
11:30 am - Andy Wagner

January 15/16, 2022

5:00 pm - Valerie Bucek
8:00 am - Mark Harmanos
11:30 am - Jack Neal



EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

ST. FERDINAND

January 8/9, 2022

4:00 pm - Vera Belfiore, Betsy Diana, Mike Lynch, Betty DeCicco
6:00 pm - Barbara Margo, Patricia Mann, Anita Stright, Michele Vetovich
8:00 am - Rich Watson, Norma Wolff, Beverly Quinn-Huston, Peggy Watson
10:00 am - Patty Besonson, Phyllis Wirth, James Shipley, Fred Galovich
12:00 pm - Mark DeNapoli, Sally Jack, Barbara Moeller, Daniel Flynn
5:00 pm - Cynthia Olshavsky, Joan Spirk, Tom Way, Pat Way

January 15/16, 2022

4:00 pm - Vera Belfiore, Debbie Frazier, Kevin Monahan, Richard Sismour
6:00 pm - Debbie Gallagher, Marsha Grabowski, Anita Stright, Julie Heidish
8:00 am - David Creedon, Jim Haefner, Karen Good, Anthony Bartley
10:00 am - Dave Harris, Judy Shearer, Bob Meinert, Carol O'Shea
12:00 pm - John Milius, Barbara Moeller, Mark DeNapoli, Maureen Hulick
5:00 pm - Steffany McCafferty, Heide Resch, Joan Spirk, Kathleen Kozmin

HOLY REDEEMER (* GOES TO TABERNACLE)

January 8/9, 2022

5:00 pm - *Vickie Koach, Patti Kuhn, Betsy Petti
9:00 am - *Mark Strosnider, Julie Strosnider, Jan Zayas
11:00 am - *Kathy Gorzkowski, Loretta Silvestri, Mary Ann Viccari

January 15/16, 2022

5:00 pm - *LuAnn Salvati, Karen Woloszyn, Kay Bellissimo
9:00 am - *Dorothy Schilling, Grace Fornataro, Cathy DeBlaso
11:00 am - *Rosina Betz, Mary Ann Viccari, Paula Keane

ST. GREGORY

January 8/9, 2022

5:00 pm - Dave Dailey, Drew Mathew, Teresa O'Malley
8:00 am - Mary Ann Brill, Don Koger, Matt Sauers
11:30 am - Mary Barry, Cathy Shantz, Jim Shantz

January 15/16, 2022

5:00 pm - Dave Dailey, Drew Mathew, Teresa O'Malley
8:00 am - Mary Ann Brill, Don Koger, Matt Sauers
11:30 am - Mary Barry, Cathy Shantz, Jim Shantz



ALTAR SERVERS

Altar Server Schedule Coming Soon
(St. Ferdinand is already Scheduled in the app)



FAITH FORMATION

ST. FERDINAND:

Sessions resume this week, Sunday, January 9, Monday, January 10, and Tuesday, January 11 for all classes. There are no sessions next week, January 16th-18th due to the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday. Sessions resume Sunday, Monday and Tuesday January 23 – 25. If you have any questions, give Dr. Thom a call at 724.776.9177, ext. 302. or email him at TBrozich@stferd.org.

ST. GREGORY:

Sessions resume this week, Sunday, January 9, Monday, January 10, and Tuesday, January 11 for all classes. There are no sessions next week, January 16th-18th due to the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday. Sessions resume Sunday, Monday and Tuesday January 23 – 25. If you have any questions, give Dr. Thom a call at 724.776.9177, ext. 302. or email him at TBrozich@stferd.org.

HOLY REDEEMER:

Holy Redeemer Elementary Faith Formation for January: Sessions will be held January 10, 24, 31, 2022 from 4:45pm to 6:00 pm. NO sessions on January 3 or 17, 2022. If you have questions please contact Kay at 724.758.4411, ext. 222 or hrreledu@zoominternet.net.

ADORATION

Please join us on the second and fourth Thursday of every month at St. Gregory Church to worship our Lord in the Eucharist. Holy Hour begins promptly at 6:30 pm, and Benediction will conclude by 7:30 pm. Come spend some time in silent fellowship with Jesus, really present in the Eucharist. All are welcome for all or any part of the Holy Hour. We look forward to seeing you, but more importantly, so does our Lord. We will next be gathering for this beautiful time of adoration and prayer on Thursday, January 13, 2022. CORPUS SANGUIS ANIMA et DIVINITAS



MARCH FOR LIFE

All parishioners are invited; Friday, January 21, 2022 from 6:00 am - 11:30 pm for March for Life. Pilgrims will meet for a 6:00 am Mass at St. Ferdinand Church followed by a 6:45 am departure to Washington DC and returning at approximately 11:30 pm. \$30 per person, \$15 per additional family member or \$20 per student. Price includes metro ticket. For more information please call Bill Slusser at 724.772.7962 or go to our website for the form on our homepage in Grouping News or to St. Ferdinand Parish Office.

COME PRAY WITH US -- FROM HOME! LOOKING FOR A GREAT WAY TO KICK OFF YOUR DAY?

Is it often too tough to be up and about before that first cup-O-Joe? Well, bring your steeping hot mug and come join us from the comfort of your home - on ZOOM - for morning prayers, as we come together for the rosary, daily petitions, the daily Mass readings and a brief reflection. This regional on-line prayer group started to meet at the beginning of the COVID shut down back in March of 2020 with a group of faithful Catholics, including Deacon Jeff, in response to the need for a spiritual experience in those isolating days, but now continues to welcome participants from many neighboring North suburb parishes as well as friends and family members from all over the country. We start each morning promptly at 7:00 am, and finish by about 7:40 am. Feel like you might want to join but don't want to have to get all gussied up that early in the morning? No problem, leave your video feed off!

- we won't mind. If you are interested in joining this group, or even just checking it out, email Deacon Jeff at Jeff@stferd.org and he will send you the zoom link.

HOLY REDEEMER HOLY NAME SOCIETY

All Men from St. Gregory, Holy Redeemer and St. Ferdinand are invited to join the Holy Redeemer Holy Name Society on Sunday, January 9, 2022 for the 9:00 am mass at Holy Redeemer. We will recite the Rosary at 8:30 am followed by Mass. Following Mass we will go to the lunchroom in the Catholic Center for a light breakfast and meeting. We hope you will be able to join, so as brothers we may pray together.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON LUNCH BUNCH

If you are looking for fellowship and conversation, please join our "Lunch Bunch" on Thursdays at 12:30pm. We will be meeting in the Upper Room at St. Ferdinand. Please bring your lunch with you. Questions? Please contact Vera at 724.513.9099. Looking forward to seeing you then!

ST. PATRICK'S POT OF GOLD

Holy Redeemer's Holy Name Society's St. Patrick's Pot of Gold tickets are available for \$5.00 at Holy Redeemer Church Office. Prizes are \$500 on March 15 and 16 and \$1500 on March 17 based on the 3 digit Lottery number. Call the church office at 724.758.4411 Ext. 110 if you have any questions. Good Luck!

2022 HOLY REDEEMER SPECIAL ACTIVITIES GROUP (SAG) \$UPER \$PECIAL

Tickets have arrived and are available from any member or the parish office. These \$120 tickets pay \$135 Sunday thru Friday and \$500, \$750 or \$1000 on Saturdays, based on the 3 digit PA lottery evening number, from January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022. If there is a special number you wish, call the parish office at 724.758.4411. Good Luck!



SUNDAY BREAKFAST

Please join us for the Parish Breakfast on Sunday, January 16, 2022, at St. Ferdinand's Oldenski Hall, serving from 9:00 am to 11:00 am. This is a great time to come together as a parish community, as friends, and as neighbors to relax, dine, and spend time together. We will serve, pancakes, eggs frittata, scrambled eggs, hams, sausage, potatoes, toast, yogurt parfaits and beverages. A Happy, Healthy New Year to all from the Breakfast Ministry! See you Sunday!

LIVING ROSARY AT ST. FERDINAND CHURCH ON MONDAY, JANUARY 10

The Knights of Columbus Council 11838 invites all parishioners to join them in the recitation of the holy Rosary on Monday evening, January 10 at 7pm at St. Ferdinand Church. A 75' rosary will be spread down the main aisle of the church and everyone will be asked to hold a bead and help recite the Rosary. Prayer handouts will be available for those who wish them. What a wonderful way to start the New Year, especially for families.



VALENTINE'S DAY DANCE

The St. Ferdinand Women's Club is hosting a Valentine's Dance on Saturday, February 12 in Oldenski Hall. The cost is \$75.00 per couple (or \$37.00 for a single). This will include an hour of appetizers, dinner, dessert, beer and wine. It is a BYOB and we will supply the set ups. We will also enjoy the music of a band this year. Doors open at 7:00 pm. Please call Peggy at 724.816.4109 or email peggyw919@gmail.com to make your reservations.

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Monday Evenings of Scripture-based Prayer
Based on the Spirituality of St. Ignatius of Loyola
In this 5th session, a guided meditation will help you tap into your personal experience of each Gift. We ask the Spirit for an understanding of the Gifts that we may use them better for her greater service.

Monday January 17, 2022 from 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm.
Free but registration is required. Please register by Wednesday, January 12, 2022 so you can receive the Zoom link. To register send an email to Theresa.Rossi@yahoo.com with your preferred email.

Presenter will be Theresa Rossi, Graduate, Spiritual Direction & Spiritual Leadership Program
Pneuma Institute, Pittsburgh, PA
If you have questions call Theresa at 724.316.5575.

HOLY REDEEMER SOCIAL CLUB 2022 YEARLY CALENDAR TICKET

The 2022 Social Club Yearly Calendar ticket is now available at the Holy Redeemer Parish Office or from any Social Club member. The \$40 ticket is based on the 3 digit evening Pa. lottery number. Weekday prizes are \$40 and weekend prizes are \$60, except on holidays and Feast days, where prizes range from \$100 to a maximum of \$500. If there is certain number you wish, please call Lou at the parish office, 724.758.4411 Ext. 110 or Stretch at 724.752.3751. These make a great birthday gift, etc.. that lasts all year long. All proceeds help assist our parish.

RECENTLY BAPTIZED AT HOLY REDEEMER

Liam Alexander Robinson, son of Seth Aaron Miller and Olivia Robinson. May God Bless all your family and friends.



ST. GREGORY SCHOOL CHOIR

The St. Gregory School Choir will provide the music at the Saturday, January 22, 5:00 pm Mass at Holy Redeemer. We hope you can join us to hear the voices of our beautiful young students sing praises to our Lord. Welcome and God Bless You!

MERGER UPDATE FROM DEACON JEFF

January 9, 2022 | 9

As you all no doubt know by now, The Cities of God Grouping is scheduled to be finally merged into a new parish by July of 2022. Much activity in preparation of the merger has been happening somewhat behind the scenes for several months. This includes staff realignments, space allocation, unification of various ministries, etc. All of these efforts are ongoing but hopefully will be substantially complete by July.

However, one aspect of the merger that has been very visible is the process to select a new name for our parish (NOTE: we are only picking a name for the “parish”, not the “churches”, which will retain their existing names as Holy Redeemer, Saint Ferdinand and Saint Gregory). That process, as outlined by the diocese, has four (4) phases.

Several weeks ago, as the first phase of this process, you were asked to consider submitting potential names for the new parish, with supporting rationale. As a result of that first step in this process, we received almost 300 submissions.

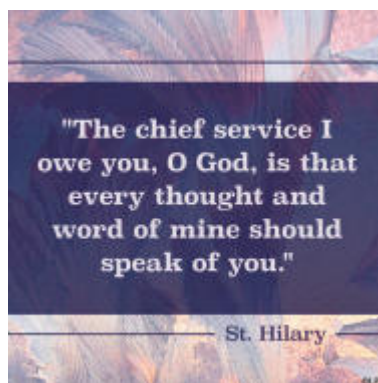
The second phase of the process required that those names and rationale then be reviewed by our Grouping Joint Pastoral Council, who met three times in an effort to select 20 names to be submitted to the Bishop. The Joint Pastoral Council did amazing work in reaching a consensus on those 20 names, and a detailed rationale for each, and are to be highly commended for their contribution of time, effort, and incredible cooperation in coming together in this effort. Great Job folks!!!!

Bishop Zubik now has the list of 20 names with supporting rationale, and as the third phase of the process, will select from that list of 20 names, a subset of names that he would approve for our new parish. He will then return that smaller list to us for final consideration. That list could be anywhere from 2 to 20 names, at the Bishop’s discretion. The Joint Pastoral Council will then meet again to determine the exact process and procedure to be followed in all three of our churches for allowing our congregations to vote on reducing the list to no more than our top 5 choices.

So . . . expect in the near future to see a ballot asking for you to choose a new parish name from that list, which will be the final phase of our Grouping involvement in this process. Once your votes are tabulated, the top five (5) choices will then again be submitted to Bishop Zubik, in order for him to select our new Parish name. He is, of course, (being the Bishop and all) not bound to choose from the five submitted names, but in all of the mergers completed so far, he has made his best effort to give each grouping one of its top choices.

We would be remiss if we didn’t take the opportunity to thank you all for engaging in this process, and to especially reiterate a deep sense of gratitude to each and every member of our Joint Pastoral Council, who have set an excellent example of cooperation for us as we continue On Mission for the Church Alive.

If you have any questions please email TheCitiesofGod@gmail.com.





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Christmas Trees

Thank you Mary and David Sherwin, Jim and Sue Belt, Dick Litz, and Sandra Matson for donating your beautiful Trees for the Christmas Season



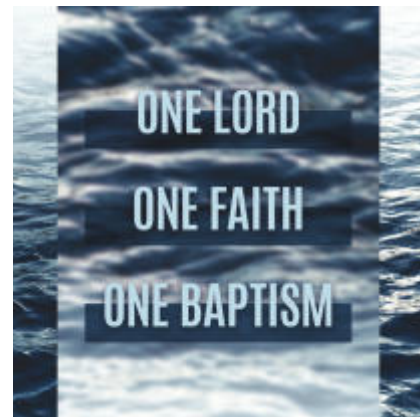
Windowed, Divorced, Separated?

The loss of a spouse through death, divorce, or separation is a traumatic experience. The Beginning Experience© Pittsburgh Lay Apostolate will host a 1-day Saturday seminar, Coping with Life Alone-In the Beginning Program, intended to help widowed, divorced, or separated men and women work through their grief and begin to move forward with hope on their life journey.

Please plan to join us Saturday, January 29, 2022 from 8:45 am – 4:00 pm at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Community Center (St. Athanasius) located at 7 Chalfonte Ave., West View, PA 15229. Fee is \$25.00 (lunch included). Register by January 25 at www.BeginningExperiencePittsburgh.com or make a confidential call to Rob at 412.584.5575 or Kim at 412.352.2653 to learn more about this healing ministry.

Holy Redeemer Greeters

Attention all current greeters and anyone interested in being an greeter. There will be a meeting at the Holy Redeemer Church at 10am on Saturday, January 16, 2022. The meeting should last 1 1/2 hour. If you can't make that one a second one will be held on Saturday, January 23, 2022 at the same time. Contact Hank Glogowski at 724.730.7681 if you have any questions.



St. Hilary of Poitiers, Bishop and Doctor of the Church | January 13

Born a pagan, St. Hilary (c. 315 – c. 367) studied philosophy and the meaning of life, eventually making his way through the bible. He became a convert and was appointed bishop of Poitiers in 353. Sometimes referred to as the Hammer of the Arians, St. Hilary defended the Nicene Creed against a popular heresy, Arianism. He was exiled to Phrygia for opposing Roman emperor Constantius II, who preferred the heresy which denies Christ's divinity. From Phrygia St. Hilary fought with his pen, zealously writing against the heresy. Eventually he was allowed to return to Poitiers, but did so by a circuitous route, preaching against Arianism all the way. St. Hilary was likely the first writer of hymns in the West, his writings on the Trinity, Psalms and Gospel of Matthew survive today. St. Hilary was named a Doctor of the Church, a title given to those who provided important contributions to theology and doctrine, in 1851 by Pope Pius IX.



GOSPEL MEDITATION - ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

January 9, 2022

The Baptism of the Lord

“We are called to live our baptism every day, as new creatures, clothed in Christ.”

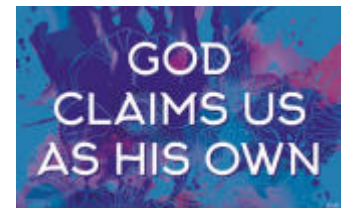
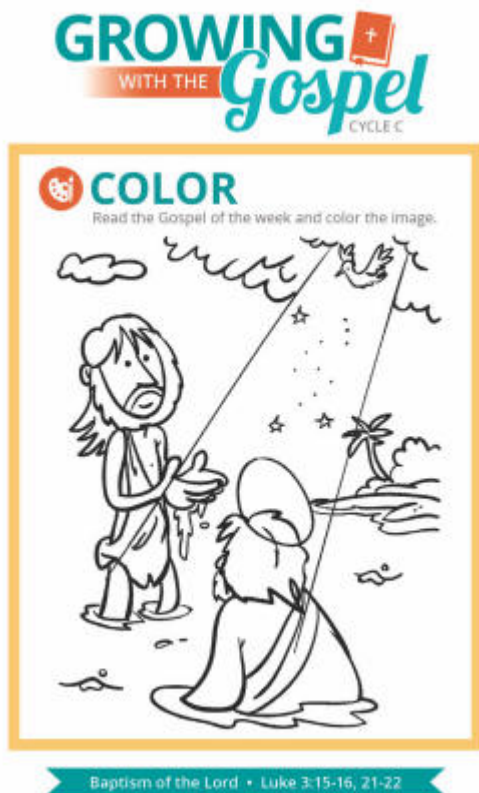
— Pope Francis

What reference point do you use when making decisions? Many times, impulse takes control and decisions are made based solely on emotion and desire. We all know that these types of decisions can often get us into trouble. When a person has a confident sense of who they are and a real understanding of what is important and of value, the likelihood of kneejerk impulsive choices diminishes. Baptism gives us what we need to make well informed and purposeful decisions. By this simple gesture, God claims us as His own and provides us with the identity and purpose we need to properly live life.

It is tremendously reassuring, when we truly embrace this revelation and realize that we no longer have to wonder about the purpose of our lives or struggle to find our way. The answer of who we are in God has been given to us. We no longer have to fumble around, trip over ourselves or walk aimlessly about. Issues surrounding the sacredness of life, the meaning of death, the protection of those most vulnerable, care for the weak and the poor, offering hospitality to those in search of a home, the purpose and proper place of work, how to create a just social order, caring for creation, and understanding our roles as heralds and stewards are just a few of the wonderful gifts baptism brings. When we make decisions based on things such as these core Gospel truths we really act as Christ himself, revealing to others the new creations that we are. This is how we live our baptism.

It is difficult to walk against the tide. Yet, that is precisely what baptism calls us to do. Although we are sinners, in need of mercy and far from perfection we are called to order our life and make decisions based upon the wisdom and guidance of Almighty God. He alone is the one who can claim us as His sons and daughters. Standing up for our principles will not make us popular. But who ever said Christianity is a popularity contest? Baptism calls us to stand up for that which goes against the grain of secularism. Standing in line with other sinners, we have our anchor to steady us in the tempests of life and God is very pleased. Forge ahead. There is nothing to fear.

©LPi



Sharing the Gospel:

Your Dad says, "Wash your hands, please. It is almost time to eat." After you wash your hands really well, your Dad smiles. He says, "That's my boy. You did a good job!" In today's Gospel, it was time for Jesus to be baptized. After his baptism, Jesus talked to God his Father in prayer. Jesus did everything his Father asked. God was happy with his Son and said, "I'm pleased with you."

Prayer: God, I want to make you and my parents happy.

Something to Draw:

Draw a picture of God telling you, "Good job!"

Mission for the Week

Find out what makes God happy. As a family, read John 15:9-12.



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