

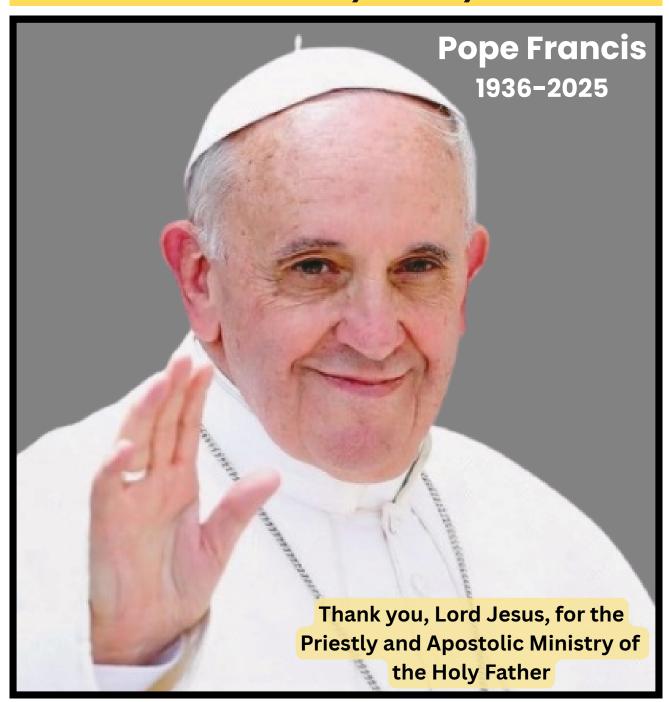
DIVINE GRACE PARISH

St. Ferdinand 2535 Rochester Road Cranberry Twp, PA 16066

St. Gregory 2 West Beaver Street Zelienople, PA 16063 Holy Redeemer 415 4th Street Ellwood City, PA 16117

divinegracepgh.org | 724-776-2888 | parishoffice@divinegracepgh.org

April 27, 2025 Divine Mercy Sunday



FATHER JIM'S WEEKLY REFLECTIONS

Reflection on Pope Francis

I was Rector of Notre Dame Seminary when Pope Francis was elected to the Chair of Saint Peter. The seminarians and I were in the main television room and I recall the enthusiasm that filled that space. His first encyclical, *Lumen Fidei* (The Light of Faith) became a call to arms for us as a Church. He wrote that we must enter the darkness of others in order to bring the light of Christ. He described the Church as a field hospital on the battlefield dressing others' wounds. His emphasis on going out to the peripheries to bring the Gospel of Christ was a dimension of evangelization that pushes us out of our comfort zone. Pope Francis challenged Pastors to smell like our sheep – meaning, to know the challenges that face ordinary people. His Papacy was one of service to the poorest of the poor that calls the Church to bring the light of Christ to all, regardless of their status. May he rest in peace!

Divine Mercy Sunday

Saint Pope John Paul II established Divine Mercy Sunday as the 2nd Sunday of Easter in 2000 to celebrate God's enduring and everlasting mercy that He desires for all of His creation. We hear in the Gospel this weekend how Saint Thomas came to believe in the Resurrected Lord because Jesus's Mercy was extended to him. We therefore do not give up on our family and friends who do not worship the Lord or may not believe in God at all. May the Mercy of God bring them to conversion.



More than 100 children are receiving their First Holy Communion on **Sat., April 26** at 11:00 am at Saint Gregory Church, **Sun., April 27** at 2:00 pm at Saint Ferdinand Church, and **Sun., May 4** at 2:00 pm at Holy Redeemer Church. Congratulations!

Saint Joseph the Worker

Twice a year we celebrate the great vocation of Saint Joseph – on March 19 as the Husband of the Blessed Virgin and this week, on May 1, as Carpenter and Worker. Fathers and husbands in the Church need God's blessings in a society where these vocations are undercut by secularism and a weakened identity of what it means to be a man. Saint Joseph – pray for them!

Ecumenical Prayer Breakfast

This Thursday is the National Day of Prayer for the United States. Cranberry Twp. is holding a prayer service, and Zelienople and Harmony will host a prayer breakfast at Grace Church of Harmony. I will represent the Catholic Church. Let us pray for our country that all may embrace the Divine Grace of Our Lord.

Welcome Bishop Zubik

Bishop Zubik will celebrate the Saint Anthony Novena Mass on **Tues., May 6** at 7:00 pm at Holy Redeemer Church . We celebrate 9 Masses on Tuesdays leading up to the Feast of St. Anthony on **Tues., June 13**. All are invited to celebrate this special Mass with our Bishop.

New Director of Sacred Music

I am pleased to announce that I have appointed **Mr. Kevin Johnson** as the Director of Sacred Music and Organist for Divine Grace Parish, effective June 1, 2025. Kevin currently serves as Director of Music Ministry at Mary, Queen of Saints Parish in Beaver. He served our grouping and parish from 2017–2023, and as Band Director at Seton LaSalle High School, Director of Music at Bishop Canevin High School, and Director of Music and Chair of the Arts Department at North Catholic High School. Kevin received a degree from Duquesne University in Choral Conducting.

Sale of Ritzert Hall

The Finance Council conducted a study of our use of Ritzert Hall in Evans City and determined we are losing \$20,000 a year. Considering the facilities at our other campuses, the council recommended to me that we put the property up for sale. As Pastor and steward of your donations, I have accepted the recommendation. We are engaged with a realtor and the diocese to sell the property. I will keep you updated.



April 27, 2025

Today's Gospel Reading

Jn 20:29

Jesus said
to Thomas,
"Put your
finger here
and see my
hands,
bring your
hands and
put it into
my side,
and do not
be
unbelieved,
but
believe."

Parish Leadership

Clergy

Fr. James A. Wehner, Pastor jwehner@diopitt.org

Fr. John P. Gallagher, Senior Priest jpgallagher@diopitt.org

Fr. Joseph M. Freedy, Sr. Parochial Vicar jfreedy@diopitt.org

Fr. Daniel Kushner, Parochial Vicar dkushner@diopitt.org

Deacon Donald C. Pepe dpepe@diopitt.org

Deacon Jeffrey J. Ludwikowski jludwikowski@diopitt.org

Deacon Joseph E. Ross <u>jross@diopitt.org</u>

Chris Baker, Seminarian cbaker@diopitt.org

Administrative Staff

Executive Assistant/Office Manager Luma Bunni: 724-776-2888 ext. 1105 Ibunni@divinegracepgh.org

Safe Environment Coordinator
Christine Kunz: 724-776-2888 ext. 1117
ckunz@divinegracepgh.org

Coordinator of Plant Operations
Deacon Don Pepe 724-776-2888 ext. 1211
dpepe@diopitt.org

Coordinator of Finance
John Grenci: 724-776-2888 ext. 1109
jgrenci@divinegracepgh.org

Bookkeeper Linda McAfee 724-776-2888 ext. 1104 Imcafee@divinegracepgh.org

Maintenance Supervisor
Chris Razani: 724-758-7587 ext. 3009
crazani@divinegracepgh.org

Facilitator of Parish Ministries
Jennifer Livorse: 724-776-2888 ext. 1210
illivorse@divinegracepgh.org

Divine Grace Parish Financial Report

Sunday Collection Total for April 12 & 13, 2025: -- \$38,157 Second Collection for Maintenance/Building Upkeep: -- \$5,162

Parish Members-- 18,765 Parish Households-- 7,089

Director of Communications
Bob DeWitt: 724-776-2888 ext. 1116
rdewitt@divinegracepgh.org

Digital Media Specialist Alena Kucan: 724-776-2888 ext. 1107 akucan@divinegracepgh.org

Director for Evangelization & Catechetical Ministries
Jason Gawaldo: 724-776-9177 ext. 1317
jgawaldo@divinegracepgh.org

Coordinator of Faith Formation Emma Sabados 724-776-9177 ext. 1406 esabados@divinegracepgh.org

Coordinator of Faith Formation
Kay Bellissimo: 724-758-7587 ext. 3006
kbellissimo@divinegracepgh.org

Coordinator of Youth & Young Adults Michael Assaf: 724-776-9177 ext. 1316 massaf@divinegracepgh.org

Organist & Sacred Music Minister Jon Zellhart: 724-776-2888 ext. 1111 jzellhart@divinegracepgh.org

Presider Schedule
The schedule of priests celebrating
weekend Masses can be found at
https://bit.ly/3QnKf5w

This weekend's second collection is for Catholic School Contribution. Thank you for your generosity.

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY April 26 Second Sunday of Easter 4:00 pm (SF) John Moravek (The Vida Family) 5:00 pm (HR) Mary & Carl Rozanski (Family) 5:00 pm (SG) Rose Sheeler (John & Deb Battaglia) 6:00 pm (SF) Ray Nowak (Family) Sunday April 27 Second Sunday of Easter 8:00 am (SF) Mary Richey (St. Ferdinand Comfort Blanket) 8:00 am (SG) Jesse & Mary Magill (Family) 9:00 am (HR) Karen Rybka (Michael Rybka, husband) 10:00 am (SF) Bob Meinert (Joe & Rocky) 10:00 am (SG) Rachel Mogielski (Mom, Dad, Tony, & Steve) 11:00 am (HR) Pat Surma (Rosina) 12:00 pm (SF) Diana M. Piocquidio (William Piocquidio & Family) 5:00 pm (SF) Audrey Rauterkus (Mike & Gretchen Short) **MONDAY April 28** 8:00 am (SG) Helen Mantz (Anthony & Laurie Nocera) 8:30 am (SF) Theresa Mogielski (Family) 9:00 am (HR) Geri Rough (Ricki Coccia) **TUESDAY April 29 St. Catherine of Sierna** 8:00 am (SG) Dilada Viccari (Tito Withner Family) 8:30 am (SF) Peggy Hinnebusch (Jack & Lori Carey) 9:00 am (HR) Francis Stoffa (Laura & Brian) 7:00 pm Saint Anthony Novena (HR) Gary Rozanski, Sr. (Family) **WEDNESDAY April 30** 8:00 am (SG) Catherine Hazen (Grace Geniviva Family) 8:30 am (SF) Joseph D'Alessandris (Familly) 9:00 am (HR) Woody and Doug Hazen (Mr. & Mrs. Charles Dombeck) 7:00 pm (HR) Delia Leopardo (Elvy Kirkham) 7:00 pm (SF) Geri Angeletti (Jim & Sue Belt) **THURSDAY May 1** 8:00 am (SG) Jerome Docchio (Bob Operchal) 8:30 am (SF) Sissie Connolly (Tom & Rita) 9:00 am (HR) Paul Petrak (Family) FRIDAY May 2 St. Athanasius 8:30 am (SF) Ruth Regan (Nettie & Moe Culley) 9:00 am (HR) Mary Jo Cioffi (Dwayne Maietta) 9:00 am (SG) Maryann Wallace (Jean Moyer) **SATURDAY May 3 Fourth Sunday of Easter** 8:30 am (SF) Ken Krivy (Susan McVaney & Michelle Fabry) 9:00 am (HR) Jason Kardish (Grace DeCaria & Family) 4:00 pm (SF) William Gruca (Patty Ober) 5:00 pm (HR) Elizabeth "Betty" Hulick-Anniversary & Birthday (Eugene & Margaret (Peggy) Ludwico) 5:00 pm (SG) Joseph Botti (Lillian Crespo) 6:00 pm (SF) Joyce Ann Snow (David & Kathryn Fuhr) **Sunday May 4** Fourth Sunday of Easter 8:00 am (SF) Marty Chabala (Margie-daughter) 8:00 am (SG) Tom Magnifico (George Hammer) 9:00 am (HR) Norberta Modliszewski (Dave & Vicky Manzo) 10:00 am (SF) Edward Bunni (Luma, Nadeem, Rawah, & Ryan) 10:00 am (SG) Evelyn Manzetti (Adam & Dana Ross) 11:00 am (HR) Rose DeNome (Lisa Thomas) 12:00 pm (SF George Bluemling (Ruthanne Bluemling)

5:00 pm (SF) Harry "Skip" Cook (Karen Bardos & Debbie Combes)

MASS SCHEDULE

SAINT FERDINAND CHURCH

2535 Rochester Road Cranberry Twp., PA 16066 MONDAY - FRIDAY 8:30 am 7:00 pm (WED)

SATURDAY 8:30am (FIRST SAT)

4:00 pm 6:00 pm

SUNDAY

8:00 am 10:00 am 12:00 pm

5:00 pm

HOLY REDEEMER CHURCH

415 4th Street Ellwood City, PA 16117

MONDAY - FRIDAY

9:00 am 7:00 pm (WED)

SATURDAY

9:00 am

5:00 pm

SUNDAY

9:00 am

11:00 am

SAINT GREGORY CHURCH

2 West Beaver Street Zelienople, PA 16063

MONDAY - THURSDAY 8:00 am

FRIDAY

9:00 am

SATURDAY 5:00 pm

> SUNDAY 8:00 am

10:00 am

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY



April 27 is Divine Mercy Sunday, established by Saint John Paul II in 2000 when he canonized Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska. The Divine Mercy of Jesus was revealed to her by Christ Himself.

All three of our churches have Divine Mercy Prayer Groups that promote and lead the Divine Mercy Novena, as well as for special prayer services on Good Friday and Divine Mercy Sunday.

"Saint Faustina was a contemporary saint," said **Polly McConahy**, who helps lead one of the groups. "Seeking divine mercy and forgiveness today is very important." Fellow leader **Mary Samsa** adds, "Our Lord wants us to turn to Him. We change as we are immersed in His mercy."

"Trusting in the Divine Mercy of Jesus is essential," said leader **Vickie Koach**. "When my grandmother was in the hospital and was agitated, praying the Chaplet calmed her," said **Pam Baker**.

On Sunday the 27th at 3:00 pm, you are invited to Saint Gregory or Holy Redeemer churches for a Divine Mercy prayer service including the Chaplet and completion of the Novena. (First Holy Communion will be held at that time at Saint Ferdinand church.)

Faith, Family and Fellowship

Tom Streicher was born in the Roaring Twenties, fought in the Battle of the Bulge, was married 61 years, helped raise three children, and retired nearly four decades ago. At 99, his outlook is simple: "I give all thanks to God."

Raised Catholic, Tom attended Holy Rosary School in Pittsburgh and graduated from Central Catholic. He followed his father to a job on the Pennsylvania Railroad but with World War II raging, Tom soon enlisted.

He was assigned to the 78th Infantry Division. More than 81,000 Allied soldiers died in the dense forests between Belgium and Luxembourg in the biggest battle fought by the U.S. Army

in WW II. Two months later, Private First Class Streicher was wounded and received the Purple Heart, Bronze Star and Combat Infantry Badge.

After the war, Tom returned home to his railroad job, went to business school, and met his future wife **Gladys** on a blind date. They married in 1949, and soon, **Tommy**, **Raymond** and **Jean** were born. Tom retired in 1988, and today is the grandfather of four, and great-grandpap of six. Gladys passed in 2010.

Throughout all the challenges and changes, his trust in Jesus never wavered. "My Catholic faith means everything," says Tom, who joined Saint Ferdinand in 1993. "It's the reason I'm here today."

What's his key to longevity? "Staying connected and active," he says. "I'm a money counter, in the Knights of Columbus, Men's Club, and the VFW." He also looks forward to his weekly card game with Bob and Linda, Karen and Larry, Donna, and Jack and Peggy. "They're the best."

Faith, family and fellowship—nearly a century of love and laughter.

STORIES OF FAITH



Tom and his friends celebrate his recent birthday.

PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

This Week at Saint Ferdinand

Monday, April 28

9:30 am

9:15 am Flame of Love

Children's Liturgy

Women Gathered
Holy Family Room

10:00 am God's Precious Preemies

Upper Room

6:00 pm LifeTeen

Youth Room

7:00 pm St. Peregrine Service

Church

7:30 pm Women Gathered

Holy Family Room

Tuesday, April 29

9:30 am Contemplative Prayer

Holy Family Room

10:00 am Bible Study

Upper Room

7:00 pm Folk Choir

Church

7:00 pm Bible Study

Upper Room

Wednesday, April 30

9:00 am Comfort Blankets

McAndrew-Biller Hall

6:30 pm Praise Band

Oldenski Hall

7:00 pm Bereavement Support

Group

Holy Family Room

Thursday, May 1

2:00 pm Women's Club

McAndrew-Biller Hall

7:15 pm Prayer Group

Holy Family Room

Friday, May 2

9:30 am ABC Moms

McAndrew-Biller Hall

St. Ferdinand Office Hours Monday - Friday (9:00 am - 5:00 pm) 724-776-2888 ext. 1101 Fax: 724-776-2378

Annual Parish Appeal

We are off to a good start in support of the **Annual Parish Appeal**.

The appeal funds formation, outreach and pastoral care of God's people. Additional support last year helped parish youth and young adult ministries, growing enrollment in religious education, and vital property maintenance.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration of the 2025 Parish Appeal. https://bit.ly/4h5LNvW.

Farewell Concert

You are warmly invited to an evening of music with our Sacred Music Minister **Jon Zellhart** and friends as he presents his farewell concert. Jon has accepted a position in Frisco, TX.

Join us for a special performance on **Sunday, May 25** at 7:00 pm in Saint Ferdinand Church.

This concert offers a wonderful opportunity to appreciate the beautiful music in our liturgies and to wish Jon well.

We hope you will join us for this memorable occasion.

St. Peregrine Prayer Service



St. Peregrine is the patron saint of cancer patients and all illnesses. He is one of many saints we can turn to in times of need. Despite his pain, suffering and the difficulties he endured, he turned to the Lord for healing and grace.

You are invited to join others to pray to St. Peregrine to intercede on your behalf. May our Lord in heaven bring His healing grace to you or your loved ones who may be suffering from cancer or a traumatic illness.

We will meet on **Mon., April 28** at 7:00 pm in Saint Ferdinand Church.

Saint Anthony Novena



The Saint Anthony Novena continues on **Tues., April 29**, at Holy Redeemer Church. Mass will begin at 7:00 pm, with Father Kim Schreck presiding, followed by the novena.

Join us for prayer, reflection, and community fellowship. Everyone is welcome to participate in this spiritual journey.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Scan QR Code for schedule or visit

https://bit.ly/4iQXRDd



PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

This Week at Holy Redeemer

Monday, April 28

6:00 pm Christian Mothers

Catholic Center

Wednesday, April 30

10:30 am Mystical Rose Society

School Classroom

6:30 pm Seasons of Hope

Catholic Center

Lunchroom

7:30 pm Bible Study

(Gospel of Mark)

Rectory

Friday, May 2

7:00 pm Bingo

Catholic Center

Sunday, May 4

1:00 pm Knotted with Love

Catholic Center Lunchroom

Holy Redeemer Office Hours

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

Closed for Lunch

(12:30 pm - 1:00 pm)

724-758-7587 ext. 3002 Fax: 724-752-1466

CHRISTIAN MOTHERS MEETING

The Confraternity of Christian Mothers and Ladies Guild will meet on **Mon., April 28**, in the Holy Redeemer Catholic Center.

Recitation of the Divine
Mercy Chaplet begins at
6:00 pm with a meeting to
follow. Those planning to
attend the Mon., June 2
Initiation of New Members
Banquet are asked to bring
a \$25 check for dinner. All
adult women are invited.

Questions?

Call Jackie: 724-333-5947 or Mary: 724-758-6006

Scholarship Opportunities

Novosel Scholarship

Applications are being accepted for the 2025 Tommy Novosel **Scholarship** to assist students attending full-time at an accredited university/college, trade school or technical school. Applicants must be graduating seniors at Lincoln High School or Riverside High School in Ellwood City, and active members of Divine Grace Parish/ Holy Redeemer Church, Two \$1,200 scholarships will be awarded. Applications are due Sat., May 3 and must include an official letter of enrollment from the school you will be attending. Pick up forms at the Holy Redeemer office.

Mogielksi Scholarship

Applications for the **Rachel A. Mogielski Scholarship** are now available. This \$2,000 federal and state-recognized scholarship is open to all graduating high school seniors.

Applications are due by **Monday, June 2**. Please pick up an
application in the narthex of all
three churches or on Facebook:
Rachel A. Mogielski Fund.

Ann Venezie Memorial Scholarship

Any graduating high school senior from Lincoln High School or Riverside High School in Ellwood City, who is a member in good standing of Divine Grace Parish, is eligible to apply for the \$1,500 **Ann Venezie**Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship is being offered by the family of Ann Venezie with the assistance of the Holy Redeemer Christian Mothers/Ladies Guild, of which Mrs. Venezie was a former president.

The scholarship will be awarded based on the eligibility requirements and selection criteria. Interested seniors should complete an application through their high school guidance office, the Holy Redeemer Church office, or by contacting **Jackie Dimeo**, President, Holy Redeemer Christian Mothers/Ladies Guild at jackiedimeoll@gmail.com or 724-758-5888.

The deadline for receipt of this application is **Friday**, **May 2**.

Social Club Scholarship

The **Divine Grace Social Club** awards \$1,000 college scholarships to three graduating high school seniors who are members of Divine Grace Parish--one from each of our churches. Candidates must have volunteered for at least one parish activity during 9th-12th grade, and write an essay on why they believe they are deserving of the scholarship. Applications can be picked up at any church office or call **John** at 724-752-3751. The deadline to apply is **Sun., May 25**.

PARISH NEWS & EVENTS

This Week at Saint Gregory

Tuesday, April 29

7:00 pm Men's Group School Library

Wednesday, April 30

9:00 am Bible Study

Church Cry Room

Saturday, May 3

8:00 am Catholic Men's

Fellowship School Library

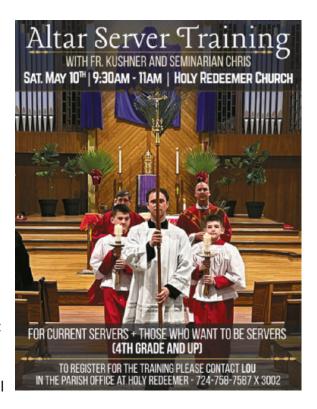
St. Gregory Office Hours Mondays (8:30 am - 12:00 pm)

Closed on Tuesday - Friday 724-776-2888 ext. 1101 Fax: 724-452-4064

Scripture Study with Father John

Join Father John Gallagher on Monday, May 5 at 7:00 pm. He will be leading us in an online scripture study on the Sunday Gospel. This is an excellent opportunity to discover the beauty of the scripture and grow in your relationship with Christ. All are welcome no matter where you are in your faith journey and regardless of any previous scripture study experience.

Please register by **Wed., Apr. 30**: akucan@divinegracepgh.org
Include your name and preferred email address. You will receive a link to join the Zoom session. If you have registered for previous studies you do not need to sign up.



MyCatholicWill

Help pass on the faith to your loved ones.

MyCatholicWill provides an easy way to complete your will and ensure that the most sacred part of your life is protected.

Divine Grace Parish is making this available at no charge to registered parishioners. Visit https://divinegracepgh.org/mycatholicwill to sign up.



Sacred Heart of Jesus

There will be a Sacred Heart of Jesus prayer service on **Tuesday, May 6** at 7:00 pm in Saint Gregory Church. The service will feature an icon depicting Jesus, which is on loan from the Knights of Columbus. This reproduction of the 1767 painting by Pompeo Batoni bears the blessing of Pope Francis and is one of about 300 icons being displayed around the world. All are welcome to attend the prayer service.

PARISH/COMMUNITY NEWS



SPIRITUAL ADOPTION



BIRTHDAY PARTY

Thank you for participating in our Spiritual Adoption Program this year! To celebrate the 'birth' of our Spiritual Babies, we are inviting you to a BIRTHDAY PARTY with cupcakes and children's games!



SUNDAY, May 18th 1:00 pm-2:30 pm

McAndrew-Biller Hall, St. Ferdinand Church

PLEASE BRING A BABY GIFT

To help us create baby bundles for our local community pregnancy centers.

- Diapers—any brand/size
- Wipes
- · Small toys or teethers
- Pacifiers
- Baby Books

- Bibs
- Burp Cloths
- Baby Bottles
- Baby Shampoo/Body Wash
- Baby Bath Towels

RSVP
walkingwithmoms@divinegracepgh.org
by May 13th

Walking with omain Need

'Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb a reward.' - Psalm 127:3

Local Events set for Cranberry Twp., Harmony

The Cranberry Council of Churches will hold a prayer service on **Thursday, May 1**, beginning at noon at the Cranberry Township Municipal Center, 2525 Rochester Road, in support of the **National Day of Prayer**. Participants may visit seven prayer stations.

Grace Church of Harmony, 538 Main St, Harmony, 16037, will host a community prayer breakfast on May 1 at 7:30 am. Call 724-452-7270 for reservations.



FAITH FORMATION



JASON GAWALDO
Evangelization &
Catechetical Ministries

"This man God raised [on] the third day and granted that he be visible, not to all the people, but to us, the witnesses chosen by God in advance, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead."

Acts 10:40-41

Save the Dates

Immaculee Ilibagiza

Tues., Sept. 9 at Holy Redeemer

Chris Stefanick

Wed., Sept. 10 at St. Ferdinand

Hallow Pre-Advent Mission

November 17-19 at St. Ferdinand

Parish Advent Mission with Fr. Anthony Federico

December 9 - 10 at Holy Redeemer

Sign up at divinegracepgh.org/talks

Unpacking the Word

Acts 5:12-16

Very early on in their ministry, the Apostles were attracting people with the Gospel. Sure, they were performing "many signs and wonders," but primarily they were preaching a very simple message that Jesus rose from the dead and that people who turn away from their sins and believe in him. As a result, "great numbers of men and women" and "large crowds" responded. It can be that way today, too.

The power is in the message, not in the messenger. Even the great St. Paul admitted that he was not a great public speaker (see 1 Corinthians 2:1-4), and some of his Corinthian critics claimed, "his bodily presence is weak, and his speech contemptible" (2 Corinthians 10:10). And yet this man was arguably the greatest evangelist in history! The power is still in the message today, even when the messenger feels inadequate. You and I need not hide behind the illusion that we cannot talk to others about Jesus because we might not say it right, or we might not be convincing, or we might not know how to answer a question in response. You and I have been given this powerful message and then we have been placed into families and neighborhoods and workplaces and schools and yoga classes and coffee shops where we are expected to find some way to share that power even if we do it in an imperfect way. The power is in the message, not necessarily in the messenger.

When we are willing, in our own feeble way, to share that message with our kids, our spouses, our neighbors, coworkers, cashiers, and anyone else the Lord puts in our path, a few things will happen. We will remind ourselves of the content of this powerful message: that our Creator loves us and died for us and rose to bring us new life. We also just might see the Lord work in a way that looks like something out of the Bible. People do convert every day. People do change every day. People do respond to that basic Gospel message every day. If we don't see it, it might be because we keep the message to ourselves too much. This week, the Spirit is encouraging each one of us to find a way to remind someone else, or perhaps to tell them for the first time, that Jesus makes a difference and that he wants to make a difference in their life.

FORMED



The Boy from Milan | Trailer

You may have heard of him, the sneaker-wearing, computer-loving "gamer saint" of our time. But beyond the headlines and hashtags, the real story of Carlo is something deeper, something the world desperately needs to hear. Known for his deep love of God, devotion to the Eucharist, and quiet acts of charity, Carlo's life was a testament to everyday holiness.



The Wild Goose | Trailer

In this Easter season, join Fr. Dave Pivonka in the Wild Goose, a 14-part series on living a life inspired by and with the Holy Spirit.



Divine Mercy | Trailer

Renowned speaker and author Fr. Michael Gaitley tells the dramatic history of God's love and mercy as interwoven through the transformative message of St. Faustina, the miraculous appearance of Mary at Fatima, the witness of Maximilian Kolbe, and the world-changing papacy of Pope St. John Paul II.

Our parish has a Formed subscription.

Visit formed.org/signup and select our parish.

Scan the QR code to download the Formed app to your phone.



BAPTISM PREP CLASS

Are you preparing to have a baby baptized? Our next Baptism Prep Class is on **Wed., May 14**, from 6:30-8:00 pm in the Upper Room at St. Ferdinand. Register for this class at <u>divinegracepgh.org/baptism</u> or by calling 724-776-2888.

Here's what some parents shared:

"This class led to great discussions with our family in preparation for our daughter's baptism and life with God. Thank you!" -Bryan & Rachel

"Fantastic class! My husband and I had some great conversations during the talking points." -Alex & Amy

Happy Hunting!

Great turnout, a great time had by all at the Easter Egg Hunt on Holy Saturday at Saint Ferdinand!



PRAY FOR OUR FIRST COMMUNICANTS

Over the next few weeks, over 120 of our students will receive Jesus Christ, risen and alive, in Holy Communion for the very first time. Please pray for them to receive the Lord with joyful reverence, that the experience will draw their families closer to the Lord, and that this will be the first of many, many more Communions to come.

Upcoming Events for Families and Kids

Mother Daughter Tea – Saturday, May 10, 10:30 am – 1:00 pm at Saint Ferdinand. Register at <u>divinegracepgh.org/tea</u>

Family Field Day – Saturday, May 10, 5:00-7:00 pm at Saint Ferdinand. Register at divinegracepgh.org/familyfieldday

True North VBS – June 16-20 at Saint Ferdinand. Register at <u>divinegracepgh.org/vbs</u>

YOUTH MINISTRY/YOUNG ADULT



COORDINATOR OF YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS

What is Life Teen?

The goal of Life Teen is to provide a safe and fun place for youth grades 7-12 to find a solid Catholic community, get answers to questions, and, most importantly, strengthen their relationship with Christ!!

We get together for weekly meetings, fun outings, service opportunities, retreats, and more. All in grades 7-12 are welcome to attend!

Our regular meetings are held every Monday from 6:00 pm-8:00 pm in the Youth Room at Saint Ferdinand with a meal provided!

Upcoming Schedule

Located at Saint Ferdinand Youth Room

Life Teen - April 28th Life Teen - May 5th Life Teen - May 12th

Life Teen Open Gyms

Located at the Catholic Center (Holy Redeemer)

May 7th: 6:30-8:00 pm May 21st: 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

CATHOLIC HEART WORK CAMP

Calling all students currently in grades 7-12 to join us for an unforgettable Catholic Mission Trip this summer.

Catholic Heart Work Camp Mission:

To share the love of Christ as we serve the neglected, brokenhearted and the marginalized in any way needed. Equally, to inspire participants to live as disciples of Christ, serving others as a way of life, and to foster the Catholic faith of each participant through the sacraments, prayer and involvement in social service.

When: June 22-28 Where: Drexel Hill, PA

Pricing: \$125 (Financial aid is available)

Contact Michael Assaf at <u>MAssaf@divinegracepgh.org</u> for more information.





BRINGING EASTER JOY TO OTHERS



Easter Care Baskets were assembled and donated by the **St. Gregory Girl Scout Troop**, led by **Jessica Jarusinski** and **Candace Sanders**.

These special baskets were given out during the Lenten season to those going through cancer treatment. The girls took pride in arranging each basket and with much love and care created greeting cards to go with the baskets. This was a beautiful act of charity, and they hope it brightened someone's day.

LEARNING ABOUT HOLY WEEK

Resurrection Rolls and Gardens kept our preschool classes busy before their breaks, as they learned about the true meaning of Easter.

Our 3-year-old children used a marshmallow peep as Jesus and wrapped it in bread dough to represent the tomb.

The marshmallow disappeared as it baked and the children saw an empty "tomb" symbolizing the rising of Jesus Christ.

Our 4-year-old class assembled their gardens with the three crosses from Calvary, some plants and a tomb. This helped explain the Passion of Christ, His death on the Cross, and the Resurrection.





24TH ANNUAL SOCIAL & AUCTION

Join us **Sat., May 10,** 6:00 pm in the Bergman Events Center for St. Gregory School's biggest fundraiser of 2025. Silent, Live and Purse Auctions, Raffles. Shop for Mom! Tickets \$50 in advance at school office or in the St. Gregory Church narthex, \$60 at the door. Age 21+.

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!

We want to again thank everyone who supported our Lenten dinners. We had amazing turnouts and great reviews.

Special thanks to **Andy Harmer** for once again organizing these dinners and to all our volunteers. It was nice to see all the St. Gregory alumni returning to help.

HOAGIE/PIZZA SALE

If you purchased items from our Marianna's fundraiser you may pick them up this coming **Thursday, May 1** from 2:30 until 5:00 pm in front of the church.

There will be additional hoagies for sale if you would still like to purchase any. Thank you.

CONFESSION SCHEDULE

Wednesday: 6:00 pm to 6:45 pm Holy Redeemer Church

Thursday: 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm Saint Gregory Church

Saturday: 9:30 am to 10:30 am Holy Redeemer Church

10:00 am to 11:00 am Saint Ferdinand Church

10:00 am to 11:00 am Saint Gregory Church

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Monday 8:00 am Holy Redeemer Church

Wednesday 9:00 am - 6:30 pm Saint Ferdinand Church 9:30 am - 7:00 pm Holy Redeemer Church

> Thursday 8:00 am Holy Redeemer

1:00 pm - 6:00 pm Saint Gregory Church

Friday 8:00 am Holy Redeemer Church 9:00 am -10:00 am Saint Ferdinand Church

Sunday 12:15 pm - 5:00 pm Holy Redeemer Church

THANKS FOR THE HELP!

Special thanks to all who supported our Parish and School **Fish Fries** and Parish **Pizza Sale**.

Many dozen dedicated volunteers worked long hours during Lent to prepare, serve and sell food at Saint Ferdinand's Oldenski Hall, Saint Gregory School, and Holy Redeemer Church.

They were greeted by a strong and steady showing of parishioners and community members who enjoyed lipsmacking lunches and delicious dinners, all in support of parish ministries. We appreciate you!

SHARING THE GOSPEL WITH CHILDREN

Consider volunteering for our **Children's Liturgy of the Word** at Saint Gregory or Saint Ferdinand churches. Share your love of the Gospel with the children at the 10:00 am Masses. All materials are provided. You can volunteer weekly or based on availability. Contact Susan at 724-816-3403 skburnet@gmail.com for Saint Ferdinand or Jennifer at 724-776-2888 ext. 1210 jlivorse@divinegracepgh.org for Saint Gregory. Clearances are required.

Canonization postponed

Blessed Carlo Acutis



The canonization for Carlo Acutis has been postponed due to the death of Pope Francis.

The Vatican announced that the canonization will be held next **Sunday, May 4,** in Saint Peter's Square. It was originally scheduled to take place on April 27.

Acutis, who died in 2006 at age 15, is known for his devotion to the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE AS REQUESTED BY PARISHIONERS

Diana Shallenberg

Mickey Piecuch

John DiLeonardo

Patty Morabito

Katie Bauer

Alli Rader

Doreen Tomon

Julie Tomon

Susan Racke

Jim Hackett

Jimmy Hackett

Joyce Hackett

Sr. Patricia Dunham

Paula Maochi Laird

Mallory Walmsley

Nancy Hawthorne

Anthony Yannachione

Frank Appugliese

Jessica

Kelly

Lisa Porco

Jessie Williams

Michael Fulmer & Family

James Windfield

Randy

BJ Biondi

Phyllis Fusco

Carol Fletcher

Bob Flecher

Mary Hayes

Mike Buzzeli

Joe Hayes

Phyllis Dudash

Glen McDonald

Patricia Pegher-Miller

Lori Grim

Tommy & Nicole Miler

Joyce Heusey

John Humensky

Kelly Hickey

Kayla Hickey

Johnny Hickey

Beth Amos

Taylor Lagydin

Steven Lagydin

Jessie Williams

Antionette Pansera

Rose Nuzzo

LuAnn Santillo

Audrey Patterson

SANCTUARY FLOWERS



Easter Flowers

Thank you to all who donated to the Easter Flower collection. Your intentions are prayerfully being remembered during our Easter Vigil Masses. A basket of flowers will be placed at the foot of the altar to honor all those for whom intentions were offered.

SANCTUARY CANDLE

lit this week

Saint Ferdinand

Rosemary Andreoletti

from Chuck & Joan Spirk



PRAYER GARDEN CANDLES

A candle will be lit this week for



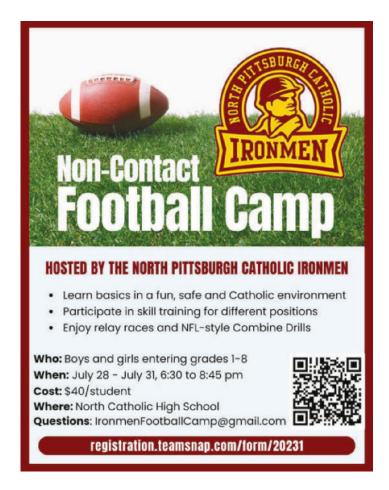
Theresa Mogielski from Family

Helen Verona from John & Rita Verona

Carol Smicki from Sandy Thompson

For all Prayer, Flower and Candle Requests, please call 724-776-2888

Community Corner





The **Carpenter's Project** is accepting requests from homeowners in need of assistance with repairs. To be eligible, applicants must live in the Ellwood City or Riverside school districts, own their home, and live in it.

Projects include painting, small exterior maintenance/repair/carpentry jobs, power washing, shrub trimming, building wheelchair ramps, etc. We cannot accept large repair requests. Priority is given to those who have not been helped in the past five years unless a safety issue is involved. There are no financial requirements.

Donations are gratefully accepted to help us help more people. Homeowners may call **Steven Miller** at 724-201-0295.

If you would like to volunteer with The Carpenter's Project from **July 14 - 18**, forms and clearances are due **Fri., June 20**. Contact Steven for more information.

Carpenter's Project



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