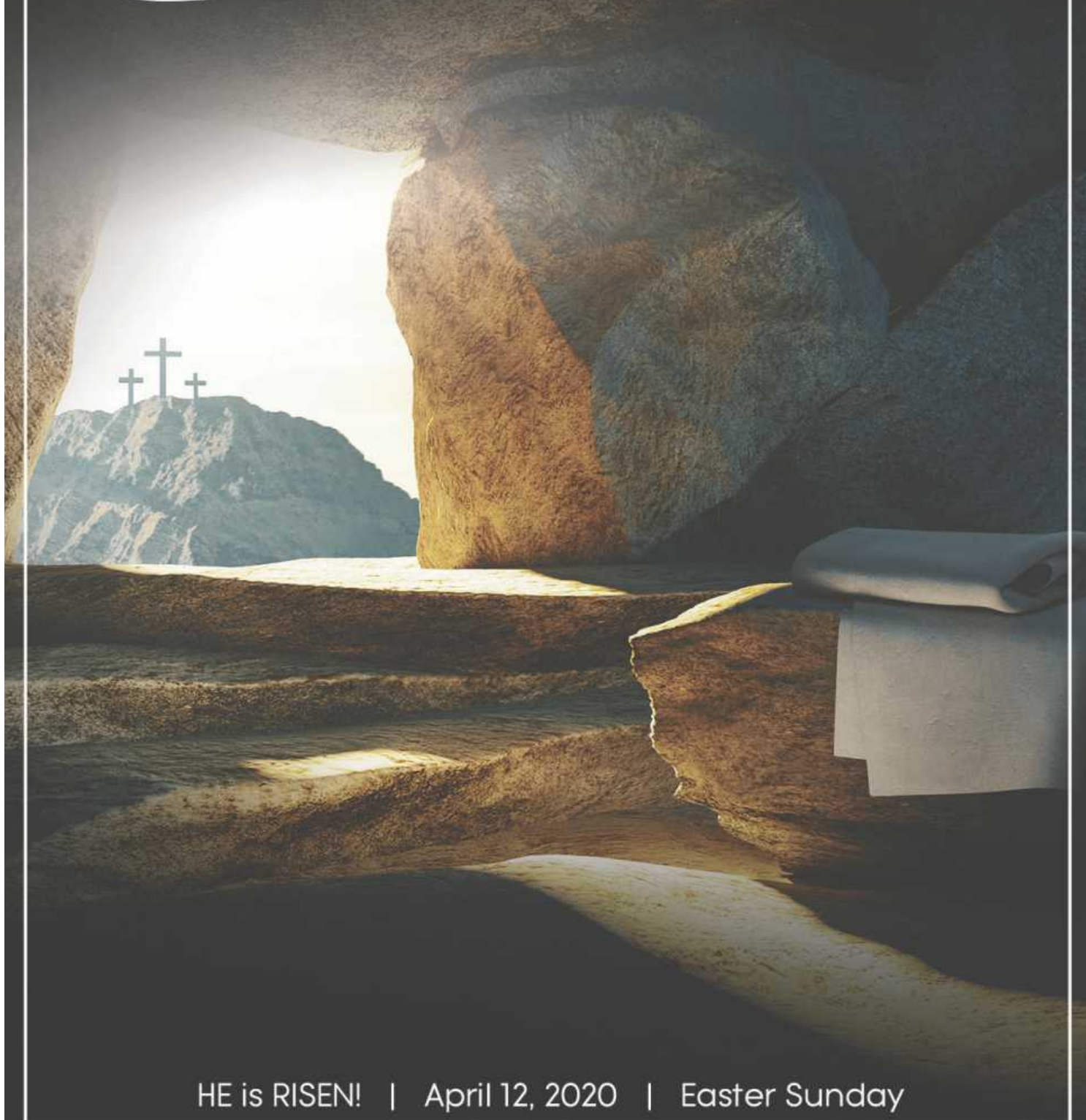


GOOD SAMARITAN | OUR LADY OF PEACE | SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST | SAINTS JOHN & PAUL

GREAT PARISH GROUPING + BEAVER VALLEY EDITION

# Evangelion

(E-van-JEL-yon, Greek, "the good news")



HE is RISEN! | April 12, 2020 | Easter Sunday

# EASTER SUNDAY + APRIL 12, 2020

## **FIRST READING—Acts 10:34A, 37-43**

Peter proceeded to speak and said: "You know what has happened all over Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached, how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power. He went about doing good and healing all those oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree. 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. He commissioned us to preach to the people and testify that he is the one appointed by God as judge of the living and the dead. To him all the prophets bear witness, that everyone who believes in him will receive forgiveness of sins through his name."

## **RESPONSORIAL—Psalm 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23**

**Response: This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.**

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his mercy endures forever. Let the house of Israel say, "His mercy endures forever." (R)

"The right hand of the LORD has struck with power; the right hand of the LORD is exalted. I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the LORD." (R)

The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone. By the LORD has this been done; it is wonderful in our eyes. (R)

## **SECOND READING—I Corinthians 5:6B-8**

Brothers and sisters:

Do you not know that a little yeast leavens all the dough? Clear out the old yeast, so that you may become a fresh batch of dough, inasmuch as you are unleavened. For our paschal lamb, Christ, has been sacrificed. Therefore, let us celebrate the feast, not with the old yeast, the yeast of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

## **GOSPEL—John 20:1-9**

On the first day of the week, Mary of Magdala came to the tomb early in the morning, while it was still dark, and saw the stone removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and told them, "They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don't know where they put him." So Peter and the other disciple went out and came to the tomb. They both ran, but the other disciple ran faster than Peter and arrived at the tomb first; he bent down and saw the burial cloths there, but did not go in. When Simon Peter arrived after him, he went into the tomb and saw the burial cloths there, and the cloth that had covered his head, not with the burial cloths but rolled up in a separate place. Then the other disciple also went in, the one who had arrived at the tomb first, and he saw and believed. For they did not yet understand the Scripture that he had to rise from the dead.







First came ashes. Then came Fish Fries. Then Lenten liturgies...Then came *Corona Time*!

Even Easter—the greatest day of the history of the world and of our Church—is apparently affected by *Corona Time*. Is it possible to celebrate Easter without the big family brunches, without the typical flowers and yes, without bunches of kids finding bundles of chocolate eggs?

Well, the First Easter was a lot like this Easter! The first followers of Christ were sheltering-in, locked up seemingly like us, only able to go out (as I imagine Doubting Thomas did) for the bare necessities. The feeling of being locked up is the feeling of humanity without Jesus' Resurrection... Loneliness coupled with hopelessness settles in when despair is accepted, as the disciples did without the Savior's Resurrection... The darkness of a deadly virus that kills in suffocating ways is like our souls without the life of Christ's Resurrection.

COVID-19 supplies us a metaphor for the devil's tactics like Darth Vader supplies the breath of the Dark Side in *Star Wars*. We are at war against a virus, but more importantly the devil is at war with us. Imagine if we continued to proceed and ignore the Coronavirus: Gather in groupings like always; show up to our crowded schools; attend populated events. The dark side of the devil works best when we doubt his presence. Perhaps he deceives us so he can manipulate us into thinking it's all right to fall into a type of COVID-666 way of sin.

The Church presents Peter preaching his first homily weeks after the Resurrection: "Jesus went about doing good and healing all those oppressed by the devil...They put (Jesus) to death by hanging him on a tree. 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. He commissioned us to preach to the people and testify that he is the one appointed by God as judge of the living and the dead."

# SAVOR THE DIVINE LOVE

A MESSAGE FROM FATHER JAY

Christ was not visible to all, but he cured those sick with the mortal disease of devilish sin. Christ was not seen by all but he conquered death by his resurrection. Christ was witnessed by the chosen who ate and drank with him so that the chosen would witness to the world. Nearly everyone this year will not be able to see, taste, touch, feel and hear the sounds of a Resurrection Mass except through a digital platform. But can God be limited by a virus? Can Jesus' Resurrection be diluted by a COVID-19? Can the unleashing of the very source of life have to obey the suppression laws of the Coronavirus?

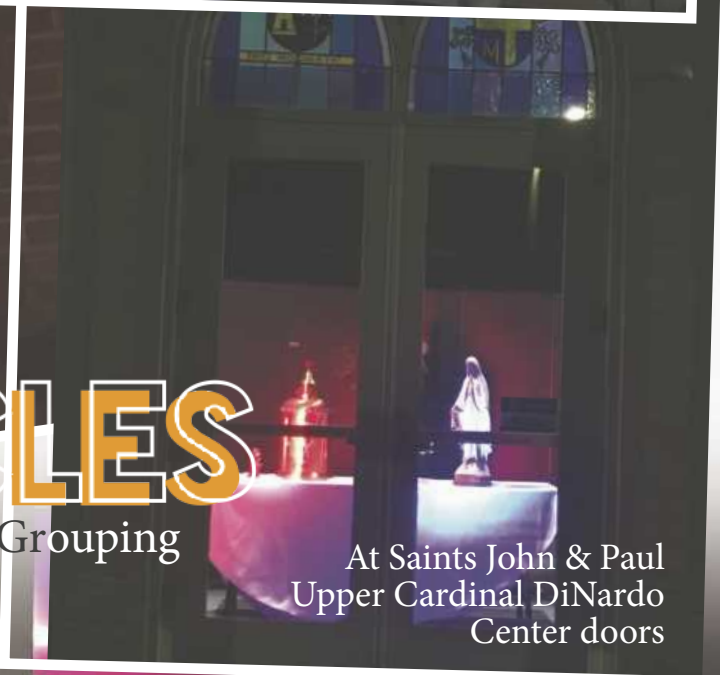
Easter can be celebrated and is celebrated and should be celebrated because the greatest cure for humanity, the most powerful source of joy and the most fruitful human activity is receiving the Resurrected Lord into our hearts this Easter! **Open your eyes and visualize Him! Clear out your ears and listen to his voice! Breathe in and smell the aroma of Christ! Feel the embrace of Jesus! And savor the divine love of Christ!** We can do all of this just like the first Apostles did locked up in a room.

On behalf of our Padres, Deacons, Staff and Leadership Councils Happy Easter. We pray for you and will continue to do all we can to adore our Lord! For He is truly Here in our Great Parish Grouping churches, and yes, our homes. Never will we forget 2020 Easter for the extraordinary world-wide crisis. But also let us allow Jesus to rise in the dark corners of our crisis and unleash the light of his Easter-hope that this virus will not have the final word because this reality story ends happily and holier ever after in Heaven. AMEN!

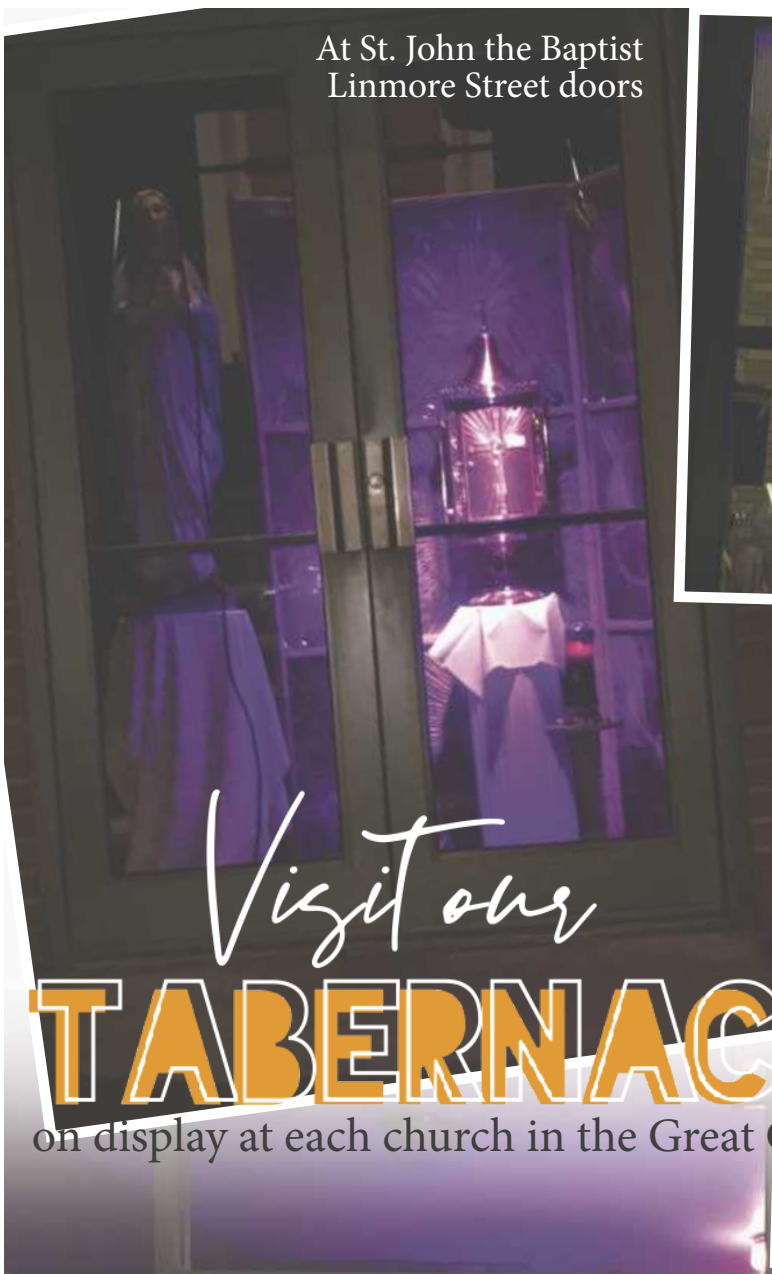
At St. John the Baptist  
Linmore Street doors



At Our Lady of Peace  
3rd Avenue doors



At Saints John & Paul  
Upper Cardinal DiNardo  
Center doors



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on display at each church in the Great Grouping



At Good Samaritan  
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TO SCHEDULE A PICKUP TIME**

**W**e are all in shock over the present unexpected situation. None of us could ever have dreamed that attending Holy Mass and receiving Holy Communion would become DANGEROUS overnight. And yet, here we are watching another Sunday Mass on television or online.

This isn't the first time in history that Catholics were unable to safely attend Holy Mass. From his isolated cabin in the middle of the forest, hiding from the Gestapo during World War II, Blessed Michael Sopoćko, (Sr. Faustina's spiritual director) wrote the following words, which are quite relevant to us today:

"At present, many people are deprived of Holy Communion [...] Still, they can enjoy the blissful effects [of Sacramental Communion] by receiving Spiritual Communion. Spiritual Communion is an ardent desire to receive the Lord Jesus which stems from the love filling one's heart. This Communion of desire is extremely beneficial for the soul, because it inspires an attraction to the things of God and to living a more perfect life; it gives strength for practicing virtue; and sometimes it even brings more benefits than a Sacramental Communion received with less love. It has another advantage: it can be received even several times a day and at any time of the day or night, in any place, not only in a church or chapel, but also at home during chores, but particularly during visits to the Blessed Sacrament."

Let's take heart, then, remembering that when we take seriously the practice of Spiritual Communion, so does Our Lord! He can't wait for us to invite Him in! Let us do so often and with great love. May Spiritual Communion become a significant part of our daily prayer routine as we try to draw close to the Lord as often as possible.

# SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

**SISTER ROSE WALATKA, ZSJM**

Adult Evangelization and Discipleship  
srrose@greatgrouping.org

*ACCORDING TO BLESSED MICHAEL SOPOĆKO, WE CAN RECEIVE SPIRITUAL COMMUNION AS FOLLOWS:*

- 1) In the given moment we focus on/place ourselves spiritually before a tabernacle or monstrance containing the Blessed Sacrament.
- 2) We raise up to God acts of faith, hope, love, contrition, worship and desire.
- 3) We imagine that a priest is giving us the Blessed Sacrament.
- 4) We receive spiritually with great humility and reverence and with a trustful love, and afterward we spend time in thanksgiving—the same as after a Sacramental Communion.





# STEWARDSHIP

**I**'ve often heard people who leave the Catholic Church rave about this great practice they discovered at another church: *tithing*. I think it's funny, perhaps in a tragic way, because we have the same spiritual practice in the Catholic Church. We call it *stewardship*. Unfortunately everyone—me included—gets uncomfortable when we hear it's time for the stewardship campaign. That's probably part of why we miss out on this great practice.

I love supporting my parish. I don't just do it because I'm supposed to. I do it because I want to support the Church's efforts to bring Jesus Christ to my community. Even if my parish doesn't do everything perfectly, my parish is the primary place where I meet God. Even now, when we don't have public Mass or sacraments, I am blessed by my parish's efforts to help us all get through this pandemic. That's why I give.

I also support my parish because I want to be a generous person. My life is better than I deserve, but I'm often not grateful enough for what I do have. Giving is an expression of gratitude, and gratitude leads to greater love. I want to love the Lord more. That's why I give.

Lastly, I give to my parish to set an example for my kids. I want them to value the Church and to be generous. Giving is a way to show my kids what is important to our family. We put our money where our mouth is. That's why I give.

We're all worried about our job security right now. So am I. But I hope we all can still see the value in supporting our parish in whatever way we can and in whatever amount we are able. Let's support our parish. Let's be generous. Let's put our money where our mouth is. All for the love of the Lord.

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**Questions?  
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Finance Director  
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[ekarshin@  
greatgrouping.org](mailto:ekarshin@greatgrouping.org)



## READINGS

### MONDAY, APRIL 13

ACTS 2:14, 22-33/MT 28:8-15

### TUESDAY, APRIL 14

ACTS 2:36-41/JN 20:11-18

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15

ACTS 3:1-10/LK 24:13-35

### THURSDAY, APRIL 16

ACTS 3:11-26/LK 24:35-48

### FRIDAY, APRIL 17

ACTS 4:1-12/JN 21:1-14

### SATURDAY, APRIL 18

ACTS 4:13-21/MK 16:9-15

### SUNDAY, APRIL 19

#### DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

ACTS 2:42-47, 37-43/1 PT 1:3-9/JN 20:19-31

## MASS INTENTIONS

Our clergy team will be celebrating a private Mass daily and will include all scheduled Mass Intentions at their private Masses.

*Barb Sulkowski (Grandchildren)*

*Derochis Family (John Derochis)*

*Barb Sulkowski (David Prusick)*

*Dolores Brockett (Karen & Chuck Malone)*

*Joseph & Josephine Gorgacz (Mary  
Kunsman)*

*Tille & Ed Neville 64th Wedding Anniversary  
(Neville Family)*

*Bernard Grzegorek (Wife & Daughters)*

*In Honor of St. John Paul II (George Rozman)*

*Jean O'Connor (Patty)*

*Mike Farah (Kasper Family)*

*Michael Kubek (John Wargo)*

## THIS WEEK WE REMEMBER

### BREAD AND WINE

(GS) In Memory of Gene Harrison  
by Wife, Judy & Family

### BLESSED MOTHER SHRINE CANDLE

(GS) In Memory of Angelina & Leo Genovese  
by Jean DiMarzio

### SANCTUARY CANDLE

(GS) In Memory of Gene Harrison  
by Wife, Judy & Family

(SJ) In Memory of Stephen Zalenski  
by Wife, Rita

## MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

In Memory of Catherine "Kay" Aloï  
by Samuel Georgiana

## OUR GIFTS TO GOD

For the weekend of March 29

### GOOD SAMARITAN

Weekly Offering—\$4,092  
Online Giving—\$1,618  
Parish Share to Date—  
\$39,707

### ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

Weekly Offering—\$1,224  
Parish Share to Date—  
\$27,134

### OUR LADY OF PEACE

Weekly Offertory—\$2,352  
Online Giving—\$723  
Parish Share to Date—  
\$57,374

### SAINTS JOHN & PAUL

Weekly Offertory—\$6,340  
CCHD—\$855  
Parish Share—\$495

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## CAREGIVER SUPPORT PROGRAM FOCUS ON THE CAREGIVER

For Caregivers of older adults & Grandparents raising grandchildren

Complete an assessment, financial verification, and a care manager will create a care plan that may include benefits counseling, caregiver training and emotional support.

**Beaver County Office on Aging**  
Call Teresa 724-847-2262 [CSP@bcoa.us](mailto:CSP@bcoa.us)

### Reimbursement for:

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- Home modification or assistive devices
- Child enrichment programs
- Referral to Support Groups


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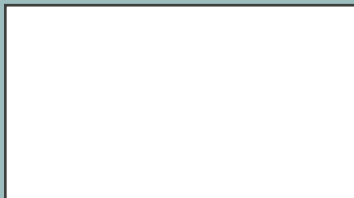
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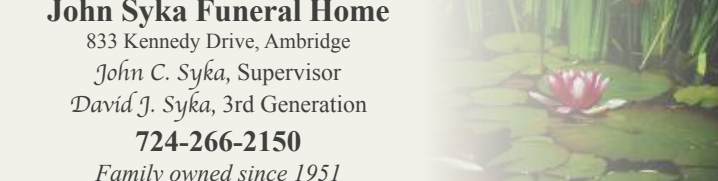

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### THE WEEK AHEAD

## ALL SCHEDULED EVENTS HAVE BEEN POSTPONED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

ALL CHURCHES ARE LOCKED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE, BUT PLEASE KNOW THAT ALL FOUR CHURCHES OF THE GREAT GROUPING WILL CONTINUE TO HAVE THE TABERNACLE WITH JESUS INSIDE. PLEASE STOP BY AND VISIT FROM OUTSIDE, AND PRAY FOR AN END TO THE CORONAVIRUS.

#### Tabernacle will be visible:

Saints John & Paul—Upper doors of  
Cardinal DiNardo Center

Good Samaritan—7th & Glenwood doors

St. John the Baptist—Linmore St. doors

Our Lady of Peace—3rd Ave. doors

 Evangelion

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Father John Batykefer, Sr. Parochial Vicar—(724) 470-6689 | [frjib317@gmail.com](mailto:frjib317@gmail.com)  
Father Michael Roche, Parochial Vicar—[fatherroche@gmail.com](mailto:fatherroche@gmail.com)  
Father Joe Carr, Parish Chaplain—(412) 867-8673 | [frjoecarr@me.com](mailto:frjoecarr@me.com)  
Father Antoine Kairouz, Maronite Priest-in-residence  
Deacon Anthony Giordano, Deacon James Olson, Deacon Tom Boucek

### REGULAR MASS & CONFESSION TIMES

**M**

9:00 AM Good Samaritan  
9:00 AM Saints John & Paul (Grotto)

**T**

7:00 AM Saints John & Paul (Grotto)  
5:30 PM CONFESSION at Good Samaritan  
6:30 PM Good Samaritan

**W**

9:00 AM Saint John the Baptist  
9:00 AM Saints John & Paul (Grotto)

**Th**

7:00 AM Saints John & Paul (Grotto)  
9:00 AM Our Lady of Peace  
6:00 PM CONFESSION at Saints John & Paul (Grotto)

**F**

9:00 AM St. John the Baptist  
9:00 AM Saints John & Paul (Grotto)  
1st Friday 6:30 PM Saints John & Paul (Grotto)

**S**

9:00 AM Our Lady of Peace  
3:00 PM CONFESSION at Our Lady of Peace  
4:00 PM Vigil Mass at Our Lady of Peace  
4:00 PM CONFESSION at Good Samaritan  
5:00 PM Vigil Mass at Good Samaritan  
4:00 PM CONFESSION at Saints John & Paul (Church)  
5:00 PM Vigil Mass at Saints John & Paul (Church)

**Su**

7:30 AM Saints John & Paul (Church)  
8:00 AM St. John the Baptist  
9:00 AM CONFESSION at St. John the Baptist  
9:00 AM Our Lady of Peace  
9:00 AM Saints John & Paul (Church)  
10:00 AM Saint John the Baptist  
11:00 AM Good Samaritan  
11:00 AM Saints John & Paul (Church)  
6:00 PM 1st Sunday Spanish Mass at Saints John & Paul (Grotto)

For Maronite Mass times, check [greatgrouping.org](http://greatgrouping.org)  
For Holy Day & Holiday times, please see Week Ahead

**PUBLIC MASS  
& ADORATION  
ARE  
SUSPENDED  
UNTIL  
FURTHER  
NOTICE**

### EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

As Catholics, we believe that Christ becomes truly present within the Blessed Sacrament. As promised by Him, His Presence is abiding, not something that vanishes at the conclusion of Mass. During Eucharistic Adoration, we can sit silently in His Presence and open ourselves to His Graces.

**MONDAY–FRIDAY from 8:00 AM–8:00 PM at Our Lady of Peace  
PERPETUALLY at Saints John & Paul, in the Grotto Chapel  
Please see Week Ahead Calendar for Holiday Schedule.**

