



# IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

308 Second Street • Irwin, PA 15642  
"A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust"

A Parish of the Diocese of Greensburg



Parish Office Hours: 8:00 am to 3:30 pm

### Anointing of the Sick

The sacrament is available during Confession hour and after each Mass per request.

### Sacrament of Matrimony

Couples wishing to celebrate the Sacrament of Matrimony must contact a priest of the parish one year in advance of the wedding. Diocesan regulations require that couples begin to work with the parish at least one year prior to a wedding.

### Sacrament of Baptism

Families of our parish who wish to have their child baptized should call the parish office to register for Baptism Prep. Please call well in advance of birth of your child.

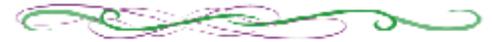
### Confessions – Anytime by appointment

Tuesdays: 5:15 pm – 6:15 pm; Saturdays: 9:00 am – 10:00 am

## February 7, 2021

## The 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

### MASS SCHEDULE



#### Sunday, February 7

- 7:00 am All People In Need Of Prayer (Garbowsky)
- 8:30 am Nancy Sullivan (Courtney)
- 10:00 am Gloria Takacs (Confer)
- 11:30 am Bob Gutwald (Barb)

#### Monday, February 8

- 7:45 am Joseph Stipanovic (Family)

#### Tuesday, February 9

- 7:45 am David Sanger (Parents)
- 6:30 pm Mary & Joseph Winzek (Family)

#### Wednesday, February 10

- 7:45 am Katheryn Brody (Dan & Betsy)
- 6:30 pm Bishop-Elect Kulick (Christian Mother's)

#### Thursday, February 11

- 7:45 am Junior Krempasky (Balcerk Family)

#### Friday, February 12

- 8:30 am Genevieve Lepidi (Family)

#### Saturday, February 13

- 8:00 am Nancy Sullivan (Brenda)
- 4:30 pm Bob Gutwald (Al & Kathy)
- 6:00 pm Our Parish Family

#### Sunday, February 14

- 7:00 am Mary Skallos (Mike & Lois)
- 8:30 am Rick Borland (Carol)
- 10:00 am Anna Smiy (Barb)
- 11:30 am Kathy Montrose (Lorraine)





**Parish Office**  
724-863-9550  
www.icirwin.org



**Parish Staff**  
**Pastor**

Fr. John Moineau  
icfatherjohn@gmail.com

**Parochial Vicar**

Rev. Roniel Bantugan Duenas  
rduenas@dioceseofgreensburg.org

**Business Consultant**

Barbara Dubosky  
bdubosky@dioceseofgreensburg.org

**Financial Manager**

Courtney Ruby  
cruby@dioceseofgreensburg.org

**Directory of Faith Formation**

Ginny McConnell  
gmccConnell@dioceseofgreensburg.org

**Regional Sr. Youth Ministry Coordinator**

Susan Cheplic  
skcheplic@dioceseofgreensburg.org

**Director of Music Ministry**

Tyler Randolph  
trandolph@dioceseofgreensburg.org

**Operation Safe Mode (OSM)**

Sunday 8:00 am Mass  
www.YouTube.com/operationsafemode

**Queen of Angels Catholic School**

Jennifer Filak, Principal  
One Main Street  
North Huntingdon PA  
724-978-0144  
jfilak@queenofangelsch.org  
www.queenofangelsch.org

**Diocese of Greensburg**

www.dioceseofgreensburg.org

**Catholic Charities**

724-837-1840

**St. Vincent DePaul**

724-691-3711

## NOTES FROM THE PASTOR

### CAUTION!

**“Stop judging that you may not be judged. For as you judge so will you be judged, and the measure with which you measure will be measured out to you.”**



Before we get to the beam and the splinter parable of our “focus” we need to first understand what it means to “judge” another in light of moral truth and Christian conscience vs. judging a person’s character or the nature of their heart. We cannot know the level of culpability as determined by their circumstances and by their level of moral or religious instruction. Jesus revealed to Saint Faustina: “Stop judging the hearts of others for my Mercy is greater than any sin.”

This is a reminder that sin has incredible consequences that affect both relationships and our eternal soul. The greatest pain of a sinner is that they damage the “Body of Christ” (the Church) both personally and universally. The goal of pointing out any sin – helping to form another’s conscience- is to make right the whole (body) by healing its parts... one soul at a time! Jesus’ desire of Mercy is a loving approach to justice so that love may heal not scorn or ostracize any soul.

So the question to keep in mind as we move forward is to ask: How do you want to be judged? By others? By Christ? I would imagine that our answer would be universally with Justice and Love! Patient, healing love.... Gentle love instruction and forgiveness!!



### Matthew 7: 3-5

*Why do you notice the splinter in your brother’s eye, but do not perceive the wooden beam in your own eye? How can you say to your brother, ‘Let me remove that splinter from your eye’ while the wooden beam is in your eye? You hypocrite, remove the wooden beam from your eye first; then you will see clearly to remove the splinter from your brother’s eye.*

Curtis Mitch and Edward Sri, in their book on the “*Gospel of Matthew*” comment on this passage: “*In these verses, Jesus adds a comical parable about the need for self-examination. Perhaps its basis lies in the personal experience of the teller. A carpenter by trade, Jesus probably knew what it was like to get a splinter or small wood chip in the eye. In any case, the imagery has been greatly exaggerated for rhetorical effect – something Jewish rabbis frequently did in order to make their teaching “stick” in the minds of their listeners. In this case, the picture of someone having a wooden beam stuck in his eye is downright laughable. The thrust of the parable, however, is more serious than humorous. It cautions the faultfinder, in all of us, against the tendency to overlook our own shortcomings. Many of us think we have 20/20 vision when it comes to seeing the mistakes of others;*



*the splinter in our brother’s eye seems too obvious. Yet we can be oblivious to the giant plank of lumber jetting out from our own eye.*

### Watching over with a Critical Eye!!

This axiom is often misinterpreted as a fault finding mission to point out mistakes, inabilities and careless attention to detail. But to watch over with a critical eye really is the desire to make all things perfect! That has a different end in mind. Judging the process toward perfection comes through instruction not harsh words. The road to perfection is to mend and redirect the process towards the ultimate product and results. A “morally” critical eye must, as well, have the concept of perfection in mind not the casting away or demeaning the character and heart of the individual.

**NOTE:** Remember God made us in His image and likeness! Original holiness (before the fall of man) is having one mind, heart, soul and will the same as God’s!



**REMEMBER:** Jesus’ critical eye is the one that looks down from the cross and utters, with His last Breath: “You will be with me in paradise” and “Forgive them Father for they not know what they do.” Jesus has no need to be reminded that the character and heart of mankind is damaged by sin and the solution and healing of such brokenness comes through His cross and our Baptism into His Mercy!!!

**First Me then You** – Often it is true that we should put others before ourselves. Their needs, concerns and wellbeing before our own. That is the selfless way of a mother as she tends to her children and the reason why a fire-fighter runs into a burning building to pull all living souls to safety. But to truly serve another we must be trained and have a clear vision of the pitfalls, dangers and procedures of being the “mother” of a child and a truly successful First Responder. A hero is usually pitted as one with reckless abandon, who puts his/her life on the line in the face of danger. But those who are trained with clear vision see it as a “service” not a heroic act. So let’s not be heroic in showing others their faults until we have clear vision, the proper skill set, to be the critical overseer of another’s road to perfection.

### “GET THE LOG OUT” – FIVE STEPS TO CLEARER CRITICALVISION

1. Take the time to ask the Lord to search your heart ([Psalm 139:23](#) ). Pray and ask the Lord where there is unconfessed sin in your life. Get specific. Confessing our sin is something we should be doing on a daily basis as well as the use of the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
2. On a sheet of paper make two columns side-by-side. On the first column write, **“My Sinful Ways.”** On the second column write, **“What God Wants Me to Do About Them.”** Look at the virtues and the gifts of the Holy Spirit that can address each of the sinful areas you're struggling with and how to erase them from your critical eye.
3. Develop a practice of awareness for each sin that blurs your vision. Each day address a different sin with the intent to practice the virtue that gives clearer vision. Use the gifts of Wisdom, knowledge and courage to persevere in overcoming that narrow way to see the world and become more merciful to yourself and others.
4. Give loving instruction (of God’s merciful love and moral direction) to others who struggle and share your narrow blurry vision of self and the world. Share with them your path (steps 1-3) as a challenge to do the same.
5. Repeat 1-4 as often as it is necessary to become a minister of Mercy to yourself as well as a neighbor.

**Surgical Precision Takes Clear Vision** – With 2021 vision (a more perfect vision) we can act with surgical precision in leading our neighbor to recognize that a splinter is the beginning of blindness that forms as a wooden beam. One take of Jesus’ parable is to think of the beam in your eye as a well rooted tree trunk!!! It grew there over the years! Then your neighbor’s splinter is seen as a seedling that needs to be uprooted before blindness occurs. Conversion stories (the story of the removal of the beam from one’s eye) are most affective because it shows human sinfulness overcome by Mercy, love and realignment to a life in Christ that can be a warning for those who are just dabbling in the same seeds of habitual sin and carelessness. Let’s become concerned with our neighbor’s splinter as a reflection of the tree trunk (through God’s Mercy) that has been removed from our eye...our life!!



**Sanctuary Candle:**

In Memory of Bernard & Marion Arendas by family

**Easter Flame Candle:**

In Memory of Helen Smith

**Divine Mercy Candle:**

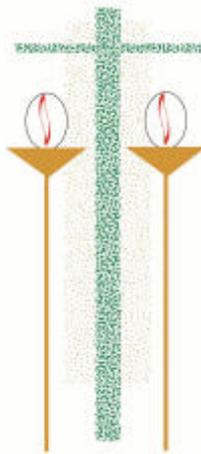
Intentions of Driscoll Family

**St. Peregrine Candle:**

In Memory of Dorothy Johnston

**Altar Candles for the Month of**

**February:** In memory of Anthony Delaney by Family



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**PARISH NEWS**

**IN OUR AREA**

**For the intentions of Bishop Elect Kulick the Christian Mother's Women's Guild** would like to invite you to join us for the Rosary, celebrate Mass followed by the Divine Mercy Chaplet on Wednesday, February 10th starting at 6:00 pm at Immaculate Conception. Masks and Social Distancing policies are in place.

**The 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Job	7:1-4, 6-7
1 Corinthians	9:16-19, 22-23
Mark	1:29-39

**The 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

Leviticus	13:1-2, 44-46
1 Corinthians	10:31-11:1
Mark	1:40-45

**Prayers and Sympathy**

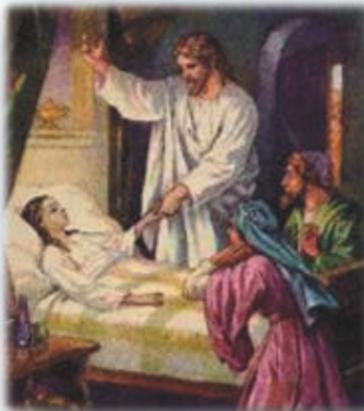
Please pray for Clara Veltre on the death of her husband Joseph Veltre who died recently and for the family of Richard Moorey. May they rest in peace.

**Eucharistic Adoration** is held every Tuesday starting after 7:45 am Mass and continuing all day until 6:15 pm; confessions (5:15-6:15 pm), and Mass (6:30 pm). There are special prayer booklets available containing Prayers for Vocations during adoration. If you need to leave and there is no one else in the church during Adoration, please call the church office at 724-863-9550 and someone will come over. Thank you

**Join us for the Divine Mercy Chaplet every Tuesday** at 12:00 noon.

**Servants of Divine Mercy Outreach** - The Servants of Divine Mercy pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet for the sick & dying. To request this beautiful Chaplet to be prayed for a specific person call 724-600-5007 or email [kstynchula@msn.com](mailto:kstynchula@msn.com)

**Stewardship Corner:**



Our Time, Talent and Treasures are the gifts that we share:

Sunday Offertory January 24, 2021 .....\$16,863.00

*Sunday Mass is aired @ 8:00 am on the "Operation Safe Mode with Father John" YouTube channel.*

*Reminder that the church is open for private prayer Daily. Come and spend some quiet time with the Lord.*



**The Comfort Blanket Ministry** has blankets available for anyone in need of comfort and prayer. As the pandemic continues, many are isolated. If any of your friends, relatives or neighbors are facing this isolation, please consider giving them a comfort blanket. They are available in the

church office. If you have any special requests or questions, call Mary Ann Rodman at 724-515-7645.



**Immaculate Conception \$\$ SPRING "CASH" POT \$\$ RAFFLE** tickets will be sold between Masses the weekends during the month of February (500 tickets to be sold). Winner will receive one sealed package of \$20.00,



\$10.00 and \$5.00 PA Lottery Scratch Off Tickets AND \$1000. CASH. Tickets are \$10.00 with two 3digit numbers. Winning number will be taken from the First PA Lotter Pick 3 evening number on March 6, 2021. You can also purchase tickets during the week at the parish office (724-863-9550). Proceeds benefits Immaculate Conception Church.



**Food donations needed:** The St. Vincent DePaul Society (SVDP) is in need of restocking their pantry shelves as local food drives were not held due to COVID-19.

- Particularly helpful items that are needed include:
- Breakfast cereal**
  - Canned Pasta & soup**
  - Pasta & spaghetti**
  - Baby wipes & diapers**
  - Soaps**
  - Canned fruits & vegetables**
  - Canned tuna & chicken**
  - peanut butter & jelly**
  - toothpaste**
  - juice**

Donations may be brought to the Parish Center at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton during regular business hours Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri (9:00 am—1:00 pm). Thank you for your generosity.



## Angel's Corner

is once again selling Sarris Candy for Easter. All orders and payment are due to the school office before Friday, February 19th. Please support our local school by ordering sweets for the holidays. Candy makes great gifts for all, including teachers, co-workers, babysitters,

and clergy. If you are interested in ordering, please complete your order form (forms can be found on the tables in the church) along with payment (checks payable to Queen of Angels Catholic School) and return to the school office in an enveloped marked, "Sarris Candy Order". Pick up is scheduled for Thursday, March 18th at the Queen of Angels gym.

Any questions, please contact Ruth Ann Noblick in the school office at (724) 978-0144. Thank you for your patronage, we appreciate your support!



## Around the Diocese

### Modifications made for Ash Wednesday

The distribution of ashes will take place in a different fashion this year. To reduce the risk of transmitting the coronavirus, it is not permitted this year to sign the faithful with ashes in the customary fashion. Rather, on Ash Wednesday (Feb. 17), the tradition of being marked with ashes will take place in a different fashion, through a sprinkling with ashes.

The minister, using a thumb and index finger, secures a pinch of ashes from the vessel containing the ashes. Without using words, the minister then sprinkles the ashes on the heads of the recipients. Please remember that the reception of ashes on Ash Wednesday is not required. Whether participating in this ritual or not, all of the faithful are urged to undertake penitential practices during these Lenten days.

**Bishop-elect Kulick Installation and Ordination Mass to be celebrated Feb. 11** The Ordination and Installation Mass for Bishop-elect Larry J. Kulick, J.C.L., as the Sixth Bishop of the Diocese of Greensburg will be celebrated Thursday, Feb. 11, at 2 p.m. at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral. In an abundance of caution and in order to prioritize the health and safety of the faith community, attendance will be extremely limited and by invitation only. However, the entire diocesan community is invited to participate in the celebration, which will be available for viewing on the diocesan website, [DioceseofGreensburg.org](http://DioceseofGreensburg.org), our diocesan Facebook page and YouTube Channel. The Mass will also be broadcast on EWTN (Eternal Word Television Network) live at 2 p.m. EST. Diocesan coverage of this much-anticipated event will begin at 1 p.m. with special coverage by The Catholic Accent.

**St. Agnes Outdoor Mass - We are continuing to offer our Parking Lot Outdoor Mass on Sundays at 4:30pm.** Monsignor and Deacon Bill are inside the Narthex for the Mass while you stay in your car and connect with audio through 87.9FM. Holy Communion will be distributed outside under the portico or brought to your car if needed.



### ST. AGNES 2021 DRIVE-THRU FISH FRY -

New this year! **Six Fridays** starting February 19 to March 26, from 2:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Drive-Thru Only! Tell your friends and family! Come enjoy our delicious Chef-seasoned Panko hand-breaded fried cod or our Parmesan-crust baked cod. Also available are our homemade soups of the week and much more!  
**Orders CANNOT be called in ahead.**

### World Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life - February 2, 2021 (Celebrated in Parishes February 6-7)



In 1997, Pope Saint John Paul II instituted a day of prayer for women and men in consecrated life. This celebration is attached to the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord on February 2nd. This Feast is also known as Candlemas Day; the day on which candles are blessed symbolizing Christ who is the light of the world. So too, those in consecrated life are called to reflect the light of Jesus Christ to all peoples. The celebration of Word Day for consecrated Life is transferred to the following Sunday in order to

highlight the gift of consecrated persons for the whole Church.

**Monthly Grief Support Prayer Gathering held the second Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm.** Meetings occur either through zoom video conferencing or if permitted, in Resurrection Hall. Contact the main office at 724-863-2626 or Sandy Monier for a zoom conference link or further information, [smonier@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:smonier@dioceseofgreensburg.org) Come and encounter the Lord through the scripture and find healing through the Word of God. \*One-on-One Grief Support is available upon request.

**THE WELL Men's Conference virtual conference set for March 20** The Diocese of Greensburg men's conference, THE WELL, will have a virtual conference from 9-11:30 a.m. March 20. The seminar is free to anyone who wishes to attend and will be available on the Diocese of Greensburg website and Facebook page. The theme of the event is "Jesus is Knocking, Open the Door!" Two dynamic speakers will be featured: Mike Aquilina of Bridgeville, an award-winning author of more than 50 books on Catholic history, and Father Boniface Hicks, O.S.B., director of spiritual formation at St. Vincent Seminary in Latrobe.

Interested men are asked to register for this free event so they are able to receive detailed information. Registration can be found at [www.dioceseofgreensburg.org/THEWELL](http://www.dioceseofgreensburg.org/THEWELL). Those who have paid and registered for the in-person conference, scheduled for Sept. 25 at Christ Our Shepherd Center, 2900 Seminary Drive, Greensburg, are registered for this event.

**Catholic Charities offers virtual counseling.** Social distancing can take a toll. So can waiting in line to get into a grocery or hardware store. It's not unusual to feel angry, or frustrated, or confused. For some people, the pandemic restrictions can magnify feelings of anxiety, depression, interpersonal conflict, grief and a wide variety of other issues. Catholic Charities provides virtual counseling to help address those issues and more. Taking care of your own emotional well-being is very important to you and the people you love. You don't need to face these feelings alone. Call Catholic Charities at 724-837-1840 or email [counseling@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:counseling@dioceseofgreensburg.org)



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH  
Irwin, Pennsylvania  
Office of Liturgical Music Ministry

## THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

February 7, 2021 - Order of the Mass

PRELUDE

Improvisation on a Traditional Scottish Tune  
Tyler Randolph

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

We Cannot Measure How You Heal

We can - not meas - ure how you heal, Or  
So some have come who need your help, And  
an - swer ev - 'ry suf - f'rer's prayer, Yet  
some have come to make a - mends, As  
we be - lieve your grace re - sponds Where faith and  
hands which shaped and saved the world Are pres - ent  
doubt u - nite to care. Your hands, though blood - ied  
in the touch of friends. Lord, let your Spir - it  
on the cross. Sur - vive to hold and heal and  
meet us here To mend the bod - y, mind, and  
warn, To car - ry all through death to  
soul, To dis - en - tan - gle peace from  
life And cra - dle chil - dren yet un - born.  
pain, And make your bro - ken peo - ple whole.

## GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless, you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

### FIRST READING

Job 7:1-4, 6-7

Job spoke, saying:

Is not man's life on earth a drudgery? Are not his days those of hirelings?  
He is a slave who longs for the shade, a hireling who waits for his wages.  
So I have been assigned months of misery, and troubled nights have been allotted to me.  
If in bed I say, "When shall I arise?" then the night drags on;  
I am filled with restlessness until the dawn.  
My days are swifter than a weaver's shuttle; they come to an end without hope.  
Remember that my life is like the wind; I shall not see happiness again.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 147  
Owen Alstott



### SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23

Brothers and sisters:

If I preach the gospel, this is no reason for me to boast,  
for an obligation has been imposed on me, and woe to me if I do not preach it!  
If I do so willingly, I have a recompense,  
but if unwillingly, then I have been entrusted with a stewardship.  
What then is my recompense?  
That, when I preach, I offer the gospel free of charge  
so as not to make full use of my right in the gospel.  
Although I am free in regard to all,  
I have made myself a slave to all so as to win over as many as possible.  
To the weak I became weak, to win over the weak.  
I have become all things to all, to save at least some.  
All this I do for the sake of the gospel, so that I too may have a share in it.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

On leaving the synagogue  
 Jesus entered the house of Simon and Andrew with James and John.  
 Simon's mother-in-law lay sick with a fever. They immediately told him about her.  
 He approached, grasped her hand, and helped her up.  
 Then the fever left her and she waited on them.  
 When it was evening, after sunset,  
 they brought to him all who were ill or possessed by demons.  
 The whole town was gathered at the door.  
 He cured many who were sick with various diseases, and he drove out many demons,  
 not permitting them to speak because they knew him.  
 Rising very early before dawn, he left  
 and went off to a deserted place, where he prayed.  
 Simon and those who were with him pursued him  
 and on finding him said, "Everyone is looking for you."  
 He told them, "Let us go on to the nearby villages that I may preach there also.  
 For this purpose have I come."  
 So he went into their synagogues,  
 preaching and driving out demons throughout the whole of Galilee.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

## HOMILY

## 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 life of the world to come. Amen.

## PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

# THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

EUCHARISTIC ACCLAMATIONS

Heritage Mass

Owen Alstott

We pro - claim your Death, O Lord, and pro - fess your  
Res - ur - rec - tion un - til you come, un - til you come a - gain.

We pro - claim your Death, O Lord, and pro - fess your  
Res - ur - rec - tion un - til you come, un - til you come a - gain.

A - men, a - men, a - men.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the  
world, have mer - cy on us. world, grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN

Praise to You, O Christ, Our Savior

Refrain

Praise to you, O Christ, our Sav-ior, Word of the Fa-ther, call-ing us to life;  
 Son of God who leads us to free-dom: glo-ry to you, Lord Je-sus Christ!

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RECESSIONAL HYMN

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

1. I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come  
 2. I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be -  
 un - to me and rest; Lay down, O wea - ry  
 hold, I free - ly give The liv - ing wa - ter;  
 one, lay down Your head up - on my breast." I  
 thirst - y one, Stoop down and drink and live." I  
 came to Je - sus as I was, So  
 came to Je - sus, and I drank Of  
 wea - ry, worn, and sad; I found in him a  
 that life - giv - ing stream; My thirst was quenched, my  
 rest - ing place, And he has made me glad.  
 soul re - vived, And now I live in him.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808-1889  
 Tune: KINGSFOLD, CMD, English melody; harm. by Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958

POSTLUDE

Fughetta  
 Antonin Dvorák



**Bishop-elect Kulick Ordination and Installation Mass to be celebrated Feb. 11, 2021, at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral at 2:00 p.m.; attendance limited and by invitation only; livestreaming by the Diocese begins at 1:00 p.m.**

GREENSBURG — The Ordination and Installation Mass for Bishop-elect Larry J. Kulick, J.C.L., as the Sixth Bishop of the Diocese of Greensburg will be celebrated Thursday, Feb. 11, at 2:00 p.m. at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral. In an abundance of caution and in order to prioritize the health and safety of the faith community, attendance will be extremely limited and by invitation only. However, the entire diocesan community is invited to participate in the celebration, which will be available for viewing on the diocesan website, [DioceseofGreensburg.org](http://DioceseofGreensburg.org), our Diocesan Facebook page and YouTube Channel. The Mass will also be broadcast by EWTN (Eternal Word Television Network) live at 2 p.m. EST.

Diocesan coverage of this much-anticipated event will begin at 1:00 p.m. with special coverage by The Catholic Accent; a video biography of Bishop-elect Kulick including a visit to his hometown of Leechburg and his alma mater, St. Joseph High School, Natrona Heights. Messages from his former parishioners; well-wishes from youth ministry groups, Catholic Schools and two of the previous Bishops of the Diocese of Greensburg; an in-depth look at his Slovak roots; and stories about his selection of a coat of arms, miter, crosier and pectoral cross will be included.

His Excellency, The Most Reverend Nelson Jesus Pérez, D.D., Metropolitan Archbishop of Philadelphia, will be the Principal Consecrator. His Excellency, The Most Reverend Edward Charles Malesic, J.C.L., Bishop of Cleveland and His Excellency, The Most Reverend Lawrence Eugene Brandt, J.C.D., Ph.D., Bishop Emeritus of Greensburg, will serve as Co-consecrators.

The celebration will be in the presence of His Excellency, The Most Reverend Archbishop Christophe Pierre, Titular Archbishop of Gunela, Apostolic Nuncio to the United States. He will present the Papal Bull from his Holiness, Pope Francis announcing the appointment of Bishop-elect Kulick.

Unlike an Episcopal Ordination without COVID-19 safety concerns, attendance at this Mass will be limited to Bishop-elect Kulick's immediate family and a small number of clergy and members of the Diocesan leadership team.

The diocese will also livestream Evening Prayer on the Vigil of the Mass of Episcopal Ordination and Installation of Bishop Kulick, Wednesday, February 10, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral. The homilist will be The Most Reverend Lawrence T. Persico, J.C.L., a native of Monessen, former priest of the Diocese of Greensburg and Tenth Bishop of Erie.

That ceremony will also be available for viewing on the diocesan website, [DioceseofGreensburg.org](http://DioceseofGreensburg.org), Facebook page and YouTube Channel.

Bishop-elect Kulick is a native of Leechburg and is the first native son and priest of the diocese to be appointed Bishop for the Diocese of Greensburg.

Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, appointed him Bishop on Dec. 18, 2020. Prior to his appointment as Bishop-elect, he served as Diocesan Administrator after his predecessor, Bishop Malesic, was installed as Bishop of the Diocese of Cleveland in September of 2020.

"I would like to express my gratitude to the Holy Father for his confidence and trust in appointing me as Bishop of the Diocese of Greensburg. Western Pa. has always been my home. I feel honored to be able to serve as bishop in the Diocese where I was born, raised, educated, ordained and have served my entire life," said Bishop-elect Kulick.

"Two things that define the people of Western Pa., which were also crucial in my upbringing and formation, are a strong faith and a strong work ethic. As I begin my episcopal ministry, I know we have a great deal of work to do in caring for our community of faith in a post-pandemic world. Working with each other, I believe the Church and its people can continue to be of great assistance to those who are in spiritual and physical need," he continued.

Bishop-elect Kulick, a canon lawyer, acknowledges that the COVID-19 pandemic has greatly impacted every form of stewardship. Believing transparent communication with parishioners is imperative, last fall he directed each parish in the Diocese of Greensburg to publish an annual fiscal report simultaneously, for the first time in diocesan history. These reports, issued last month, detailed the impact of COVID-19 on each parish, but also illustrated the outreach efforts made by those same parishes to people in need during the pandemic.

**For more information please visit [www.dioceseofgreensburg.org](http://www.dioceseofgreensburg.org)**

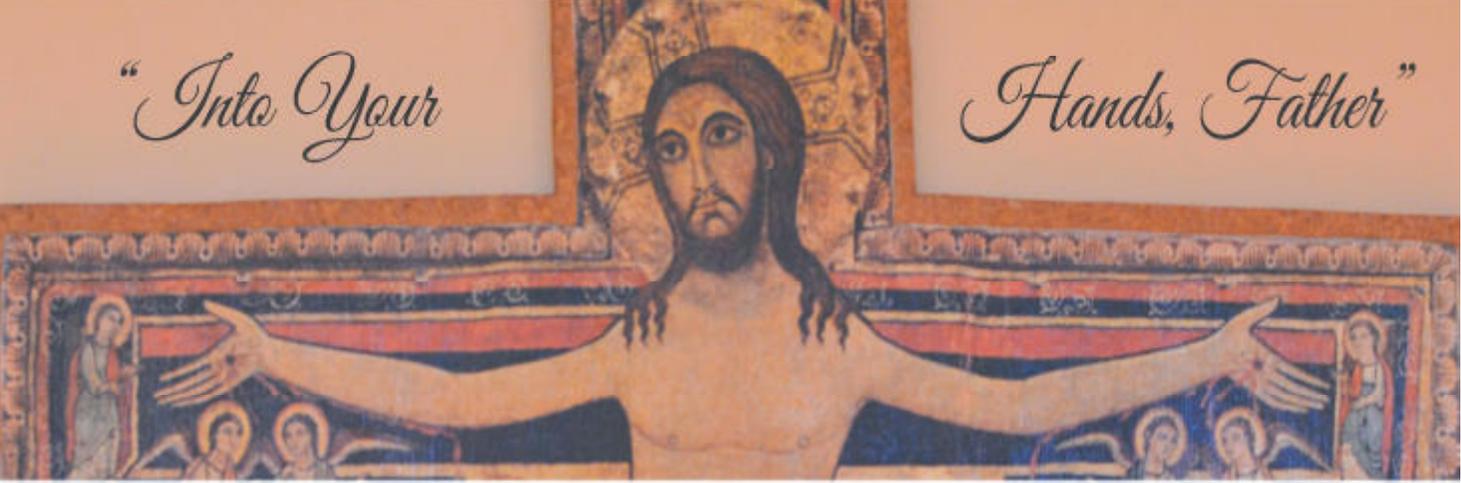
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 FOR MORE INFORMATION

## Franciscan Sisters, TOR Lenten Retreat 2021

The Franciscan Sisters, TOR are excited to invite you to our annual Lenten Retreat, held virtually on Saturday, March 27th. Our theme is **Into Your Hands, Father**, focusing on trust and abandonment to our Heavenly Father, seen in the life of Jesus and our own lives! The retreat will offer talks, testimonies, music, meditations, and optional small groups led by a sister.

Our sisters will also share short video reflections during Lent, leading up to the retreat, on our Facebook page and Youtube channel, and offer weekly share groups. If you'd like to participate, register on our website by Sunday, February 14.

More information about the Lenten Retreat can be found on our webpage [www.franciscansisterstor.org](http://www.franciscansisterstor.org), under Events. Registration for both the small groups and the retreat itself will also be found at that link. There is no fee to register, but registration is required by Wednesday, March 24th for the retreat itself. If you are a part of a parish group, Bible study group, or prayer group, and would like your group to participate, contact Sr. Anna Rose at (740) 544-5542 x135. Individuals and groups of family and friends are also welcome!



## What to Do When a Friend is Considering Abortion

*More women and girls consider abortion than we may realize. They are our relatives and friends, our babysitters, teammates, people who work with us or for us, married or unmarried. Even if someone identifies as being pro-life, the shock of an unexpected pregnancy, the devastation of a difficult prenatal diagnosis, shame, pressures, or fears may influence her to consider abortion. If someone shared with you she was pregnant and hadn't ruled out having an abortion, would you know how to respond? The answer can be summed up in an old adage: We have two ears and one mouth, and should use them in that proportion.*

Although the first instinct may be to convince her that abortion ends a baby's life, hearing facts is not the first thing she needs. Research shows that many women in a pregnancy crisis think, "This is the end of my life as I know it." To face the challenges before her, your friend needs to know you care about her for her own sake and she is not alone.

First listening to your friend will help build trust and facilitate openness. Eventually, when she knows you truly care about her and she trusts you, you can share the truth in love. You can share facts about abortion, her own intrinsic worth, and the practical help and support available so she can choose life for herself and her baby.

A truly loving approach reflects St. Paul's description of love in his first letter to the Corinthians: "If I speak in human and angelic tongues, but do not have love, I am a resounding gong or a clashing cymbal. ... Love is patient, love is kind" (1 Cor. 13:1,4).

When a woman is facing a difficult pregnancy, the reaction of the first person she tells tends to set the tone for her decision-making. How do we respond to our friend in a loving way that is life-affirming for both her and her baby?

Consider the four steps of the LOVE Approach™: Listen and Learn, Open Options, Vision and Value, and Extend and Empower.

### **L** LISTEN AND LEARN .....

First, prioritize listening over speaking. You don't have to worry about whether you may say something "wrong," and you don't need to have all the answers. Start by listening to her story.

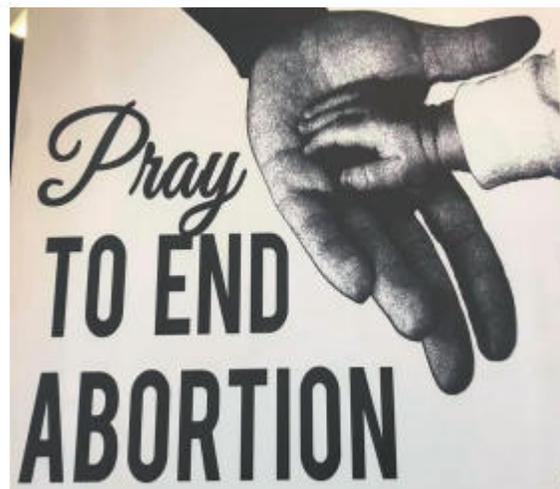
Ask her about her feelings, thoughts, values, beliefs, and wants. Do not interrupt, except to ask her to expound, when appropriate. For example: How did you feel when you first found out? Did you feel abandoned when he said that? What are your feelings now? What did you think about that? What do you think your parents will say or do? What value does that have for you? How does this relate to your religious beliefs? How important is that for you? In your heart of hearts, what do you really want to do?

Ask open-ended questions and statements like, "Tell me more..."

Interpret and confirm what you think you are hearing: "Did I hear you say..."

Pay close attention to her body language. She may show from gestures of discomfort or a lack of eye contact that what she is saying does not actually reflect her innermost feelings, values, or wants.

Listen for clues to her needs so you can later bring up helpful ways to address those needs. Listen for her strengths and resources so you can later reflect them back to her, building up her confidence and courage.



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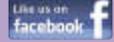
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