

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH APRIL 21, 2024 FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Saturday, April 20, 2024 8:00 a.m. Michael Borland (Mom) 4:30 p.m. Joseph & Marcella (Patrice) Sunday, April 21, 2024 8:00 a.m. Fontana & Gesmond Families (Family) 10:00 a.m. Mary Agnes Montag (Bob, Karen, & Sons) 11:30 a.m. Joe & Joanne Mayers (Family) Monday, April 22, 2024 7:45 a.m. Coleman & Margaret Keane (Family) Tuesday, April 23, 2024 7:45 a.m. Our Parish Family 6:30 p.m. George Mathews (Tim & Joanne) Wednesday, April 24, 2024 7:45 a.m. Anna Bach & Allison Shipley (Family) Thursday, April 25, 2024 7:45 a.m. Bonnie Arnold (Family) Friday, April 26, 2024 7:45 a.m. Patricia Drabasin (Husband) Saturday, April 27, 2024 8:00 a.m. William Brooks (Carol) 4:30 p.m. Special Intentions for Agnes **Stewart's 90th Birthday (Brophy Family)** Sunday, April 28, 2024 8:00 a.m. Carmen & Angelo DiNardo (DiNardo Family) **10:00 a.m William Gallagher (Family)** 11:30 a.m. Joanne Agnew (Jody)

PARISH STAFF CONTACTS

Rev. John Moineau, Pastor icfatherjohn@gmail.com

Rev. Louiegene Arnold Valdez, Parochial Vicar lvaldez@dioceseofgreensburg.org

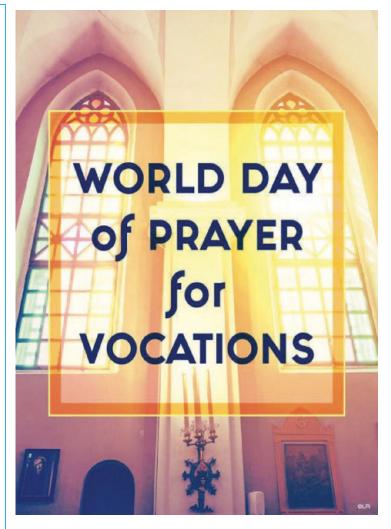
> Courtney Ruby, *Business Manager* cruby@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Sharyn Gesmond, H.R./Event Coordinator sgesmond@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Bridget Deveney, *Director of Music Ministry* bdeveney@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Susan Cheplic, *Director of Faith Formation* skcheplic@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Kris Fischerkeller, *Administrative Assistant* kfischerkeller@dioceseofgreensburg.org



Queen of Angels Catholic School Jennifer Filak, *Principal* 724-978-0144 jfilak@queenofangelssch.org www.queenofangelssch.org

Diocese of Greensburg www.dioceseofgreensburg.org

HELP LINES St. Vincent DePaul www.svdpgreensburg.org - 724-691-3711

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Greensburg 724-837-1840

Parish Office Hours - 8am to 4pm

Monday through Friday 308 Second Street - Irwin, Pa 15642 Parish Office: 724-863-9550

HAPPENINGS ON THE CORNER & AROUND THE DIOCESE

2024 Diocesan Lenten Appeal update as of April 13th We have reached our Diocesan Target of \$154,568.00 Total pledged is \$249,485.00

We are \$10,515.00 away from our

Parish target of \$105,432.00 which will be used to aid the needy of our region with a \$10,000.00 donation to the Saint Vincent de Paul Society. Our intention is remaining monies will be used towards new signage, terrazzo flooring in the church, church front doors, church outside masonry work, and upgrade information technology in the administration building.

Thank you to all who have already given a gift to the 2024 Diocesan Lenten Appeal and to those who will give a gift.

https://www.dioceseofgreensburg.org/diocesan-lentenappeal/



Burger Bash 2024

- ➢ May 11
- June 8
- \succ July 13
- August 10 \geq
- September 14 \geq
- October 12 \geq

FRENCH FRY FAMILY & HOT DOG CLUB **ARE BACK AGAIN FOR THE 2024 BURGER BASH**

As we prepare for the 2024 Burger Bash we hope to maintain our annual profits. Last year 18% of our expenses were paid for thanks to the donations from the "French Fry Family & Hot Dog Club." People often ask if they can help besides volunteering or patronizing. If you are not able to attend a burger bash consider making a monthly monetary donation to offset the cost of the burger bash expenses. You can be a member of the "French Fry Family" or "Hotdog Club". "French Fry Family" Sponsorship donations for \$49.00 & under "Hotdog Club" Sponsorship donations for \$50.00 & over. Your donations can be mailed, dropped off to the parish office, dropped in the offertory basket or placed online at: https://osvhub.com/icirwin/funds/ burger-bash. Please write attention "Burger Bash **Sponsorship**" on the envelope.

Knights of Columbus St Jude Council 9019 monthly meeting on Monday April 22, 2024, at



Resurrection Hall at St Agnes. The meeting starts at 7:15 with the Rosary. St Jude Council covers the parishes of IC, St Agnes, and St Elizabeth Ann Seton. If you are interested in joining the Knights, or would like to transfer to our Coun-

cil, please contact Al Borgony at 724-864-3487 or email a.borgony@comcast.net ,or you can check out our website: kofc.org and join online.



PLEASE NOTE: FRIDAY, APRIL 26TH & MONDAY, APRIL 29TH **ONLY!**

THE PARISH ADMIN. OFFICE WILL BE OPEN 8 AM-3 PM (NOT THE USUAL 4 PM). THANK YOU FOR YOUR **UNDERSTANDING!**

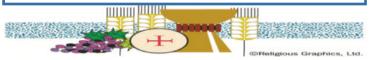


Today we celebrate Good Shepherd Sunday where we reflect on Jesus' care and love for us. The good shepherd is concerned about, cares for, and protects the sheep even to the

point of laying down his life for the sheep. Shepherding calls us to commit ourselves to good deeds, such as caring for the sick, feeding the hungry, clothing the poor, and loving others as God has loved us. These good deeds are the very "stuff" of our everyday living and loving, in our families and in our service to our neighbors in need.

At the March food bank, 45 volunteers helped distribute food for 145 families. Over \$11,000 has been distributed during the first quarter of 2024 to our neighbors in need. Calls were received on the help line for utility assistance, shut-off notifications, rent, auto repairs, temporary housing assistance, medical needs, and transportation assistance.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul thanks you for your continued support. Through your almsgiving you are indeed doing the will of God. Your gift brings Christ's love and compassion to our neighbors in need.



PASTOR'S NOTES

AMBASSADORS FOR CHRIST:

A Call to Cure the Sick

Last week, in the notes from the Pastor, I discussed our call and mission as ambassadors of Christ. We now look to how we reach the "Lost Sheep" of the flock using the "Tools of the Trade" that Jesus entrusted to His Church for the work that needs to be done in the field: cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers and drive out demons. This is the work of all of us at various levels depending on our state and position in life. This week we will deal with the call to cure the sick. Those who suffer from unexpected injuries or illness forcing them to face a change in their life or the face of death as well as the aged are on cusps of hope and despair. They find hope through the faithful who have been called to "Heal the Sick". This is the second (2) article from my 2007 five (5) part series.

Curing the Sick: A Holistic Approach

Based on Saint Paul's Theology of the body we have a responsibility to tend to needs of the sick. Since the Church is the body of Christ made up of many members the call to cure an individual of their sickness is truly a call to care for the whole. As individuals, we do not ignore an injury or an illness that affects only a part of our body with the attitude that it does not or



will not affect the overall health and good spirit of our daily lives. We tend to its care in hope of restoring ourselves fully to health. The same applies to those who are "sick" not just physically but spiritually and emotionally in a way that it detracts from their willingness and openness to hope in the promises of Christ.

This call is in direct correlation to the greatest commandment. "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength. The emotional, spiritual, mental and physical aspects of one's life is to share in the commitment to Christ. Our holistic approach encompasses sacramental, medical and communal outreach to the injured members.

In Christ's name, the Church provides the cure through a special Sacrament of the Sick. This sacrament in and of itself has a holistic approach. The laying on of hands and the anointing with oil provides the means of Ordinary Grace to physically cure the person if God so intends. The sacrament also provides for the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation, which brings spiritual peace to a wounded soul. At the end of the Rite, the "sick" person is offered the Eucharist so they can encounter the suffering servant Himself in an intimate way. This Ordinary means of "healing" has been the role of the Churche's priest as his pastoral ministry. Through this process, the priest can connect the sick person with the faith community with the assurance of their prayers at daily Mass.

The Church throughout history has always been instrumental in building and staffing hospitals throughout the world. Many Religious orders were founded on the very service to the sick and dying. Individual men and women who have accepted the vocation of medicine have also been able to reach the ailing members through their profession as well as their living faith reflected in their bed side manner which earns them the title of Ambassador for Christ.

It would be right to say that those who share in the medical and sacramental care of the sick serve them in the ordinary call to "Cure the Sick." One must believe that God works through both the physician of the body and the physician of the soul to bring healing that returns one to a "healthy state" of life in complete communion with the Church. Many days and hours can pass between the visit of the priest or the care of the doctor. In these hours, the communal outreach of the people named "Harry" dress the wounds and retie the bonds of faith and community.







PASTOR'S NOTES CONTINUED

In Comes "Harry"

We may not think of ourselves as ones who can cure the sick but our faithful outreach heals the festering wound of the soul that is more sensitive than that of the body. When one finds themselves in the throws of a sudden illness or injury that is life threatening, our faith seems to be questioned. If their faith was wavering or near non-existent it can lead to despair. Curing the sick in these cases is primarily up to the relative, neighbor or representative of the local parish. This ministry of healing is the ministry of Presence.

You can do it!

For a lonely Elderly shut-in one can stop to visit once a week for just a short period of time. Be on their schedule...they will look forward to seeing you. Connecting them to the larger parish community can be accomplished through offering them a chance to receive communion in their home. Always take a bulletin to leave with them so they can see what is place. This



connection makes them feel that they are still a vital part of the Church. These visits can become an endearing relationship that will afford you the opportunity to share in their life allowing the true cure of loneliness to subside.

The broken-hearted need the same care. Someone who lost a spouse, a child or a parent needs to be supported beyond the week of the death and the funeral. A visit, card or a call on the phone can

bring healing. If they are not coming to Church because it is difficult being alone, offer to go with them. It is the time

beyond the Formal reaching out that brings the healing. When performing these acts of compassion and charity the assurance of your prayers (which should be for them daily) is more than an appropriate sentiment...but truly a graced filled comfort.

So, answer your call as an Ambassador and go out to the sick and step up to being numbered as those who have accepted the mission.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS - FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER!

- Established in 1964 Pope Paul VI designated Good Shepherd Sunday to be World Day of Prayer for Vocations, which is the day each year that all Catholics are asked to pray to God that he send more workers into the harvest.
- Today the Church throughout the world prays for vocations. Will you make a special effort to ask the Lord for more vocations to the priesthood and religious life?
- Pray for the priests who have ministered to you throughout your life, both living and dead.
- Keep our parish priests in your prayers throughout the week.
- Encourage your children, grandchildren, or other young people to consider a vocation as a priest or religious brother or sister.
- Pray a rosary for more young men and women in our diocese to respond to God's call.



Daily Deed Ideas

Uplift your Priest

- Call/text/email your priest
- Send spiritual bouquets to him
- Drop off popcorn and snacks for movie night
- Send him drawings or paintings by children
- Pray, fast, and offer sacrifices for him
- Send him a gift card for Amazon or a restaurant
- Make a family video message/song of affirmation for him
- Create a sidewalk message in front of church/rectory
- Post pictures of your family with your priest
- Drop off or have dinner/lunch delivered
- Send financial support to the parish, if able
- Hold a "Parade of Love" for him
- Challenge and tag 3 families/individuals to pray a Rosary for him on social media

Creation Care Corner

In recognition of Earth Day, April 22nd, here are a few in-person events and an on-line resource available to demonstrate care for God's creations and support for environmental protection:



St. Teresa of Kolkata Parish's Energy Fair, April 27th (12:30 to 3:30 PM, 1909 Broadway Avenue, Beechview) Representatives from utilities, eco-friendly businesses, and organizations will be present to answer questions about whether solar power is right for your home, what rebates/ tax credits are available, how to use utilities efficiently, what are Equal Exchange products and why we use them, how to reuse, reduce, and recycle wisely, and employment opportunities in the renewable energies industry.

St. Barbara's Westmoreland Cleanways Forum, April 24th -

A representative of Westmoreland Cleanways will present and answer questions on how our efforts in reducing,

reusing, and recycling can not only help to conserve landfill space, but also our environment for generations to come.

"The Letter" (www.theletterfilm.org/a-better-future/) Pope Francis hosts environmental champions from around the world, from different faiths and worldviews, each

representing an unheard voice in conversations on our planetary crisis. These individuals are the voices of the young, the poor, the Indigenous, and wildlife.

ANGELS CORNER



Queen of Angels Catholic School - NEEDED -Recycled ink cartridges! We can recycle your ink cartridges. We accept HP and Cannon inkjet cartridges. Please drop them off in the boxes in the back on the church or at Queen of Angels School. All of these items help our school to earn CASH and FREE educational materials. Thank you for your support! Any questions, please call the office at 724 978-0144 or Mrs. Noblick at 724 331-6216. Thank you!



CHRISTIAN MOTHER'S/WOMEN'S GUILD—CARD PARTY TICKETS ARE BEING SOLD AFTER MASSES AND ARE STILL AVAILABLE IN THE PARISH OFFICE—724-863-9550. BEE HAPPY CARD PARTY



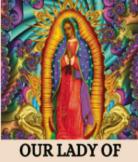
Thursday, April 25, 2024 In Our Lady's Plaza Enjoy playing cards or bring your favorite board game Food, Fun, Raffles, Door Prizes, Basket Auction & Share the Wealth Tickets must be purchased in advance. Doors open 6:00 P.M. Light Dinner 7:00 P.M. Admission\$15.00 (Recommend Tables of Four)

CHRISTIAN MOTHER'S WOMENS GUILD MOTHER/DAUGHTER LUNCHEON ALL WOMEN ARE WELCOME!

Sunday, May 5, 2024 Luncheon at Lakeview after 10 am Mass Women \$25 *Kids (3-10) \$10

Kids under 2 are Free

TICKETS FOR SALE AFTER ALL MASSES APRIL 20-21 & 27-28 & AT PARISH OFFICE



GUADALUPE

BBFGL@BAL BROTHER'S BROTHER FOUNDATION

For the month of **May**, our local **St. Vincent De Paul Conference** will be sponsoring a "Hygiene Help Donation Program" to benefit Brother's Brother Foundation of Pittsburgh. Boxes will be set up in the vestibules of both St. Elizabeth Ann Seton and Immaculate Conception churches. We are asking parishioners to purchase & donate one or more of the following items for BBF's Disaster Relief efforts locally, in the U.S. and around the world. Please note that each item should be <u>trial or travel size only</u> except for bar soap. Items needed include: hand sanitizer, deodorant, body wash, tissues, toothpaste toothbrushes, shampoo, conditioner (or both in one), bar soap lotion, Chapstick, flushable wipes, feminine hygiene tampons and pads.

Please deposit the items in the **specially marked containers** located in the vestibules of SEAS & IC. Brother's Brother Foundation will use your donated items to put together "Personal Hygiene Kits" for people suffering from war and natural disasters. BBF's most recent humanitarian aid efforts have included the war in Ukraine; flooding and tornadoes in Kentucky; the water crisis in Jackson, Mississippi and more. For more information about Brother's Brother Foundation, please visit their website: <u>www.brothersbrother.org</u>. For info about our "Hygiene Help Donation Program," please contact Carl Becker @ 412-751-5029. Thank you for helping those in need.





APRIL 21, 2024 FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

CANDLES Sanctuary Candle: In Memory of Gene Perkins By Nancy Duncan

Divine Mercy Candle: In Memory of Barb Dubosky by Linda

St. Peregrine Candle: Special Intentions for Cheryl Lavelle by Carol

Easter Flame Candle: In Memory of Ron Beatty by Carol & Angelo

St. Joseph's Candle: In Memory of Bob Gutwald by Family

Altar Candles for the Month of April: In Memory of Colleen Scholl by Family

Paschal Candle: In Memory of Barbara Dubosky by Annette



 April 21, 2024—Fourth Sunday of Easter

 Acts of the Apostles
 4:8-12

 1 John
 3:1-2

 John
 10:11-18

 April 28, 2024—Fifth Sunday of Easter

 Acts of the Apostles
 9:26-31

 1 John
 3:18-24

 John
 15:1-8



Please pray for all of our faithful departed. *Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.*

PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR THE SOULS IN PURGATORY

THE GRIEF SHARE PROGRAM—Mondays, 6:00-7:30 pm at Immaculate Conception. You are welcome to begin attending our Grief Share group at any point. Each session is "self-contained" so you do not have to attend in sequence. Please register by emailing Gerri Dornin at <u>gdornin@comcast.net</u> or by calling the Parish Office. **Group meets weekly in the Children's Liturgy Room next to the restrooms.**

SACRAMENTS

Anointing of the Sick

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

Matrimony

Couples wishing to celebrate the Sacrament of Matrimony must contact

the parish office one year in advance of the wedding.

Baptism

Families of our parish who wish to have their child baptized please email Susan Cheplic at skcheplic@dioceseofgreensburg.org to register for Baptism Preparation.

Confession

Tuesday 5:15 - 6:15 p.m. & Saturday 9-10 a.m. (except for the first Saturday of the month)

DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO ADD TO OUR WEEKLY BULLETIN?

Please email the information to:

kfischerkeller@dioceseofgreensburg.org NO LATER THAN 2 PM THE MONDAY PRIOR TO THE WEEKEND YOU ARE REQUESTING. We will do our best to try and accommodate your request if space allows! The deadline changes to an earlier time during holidays and will be in the bulletin.



ONLINE GIVING APRIL 1-7—\$6331.25



THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

Immaculate Conception Parish offers Online Giving For additional information visit our website at:



www.icirwin.org/giving/funds or scan the QR Code

If you decide to switch to online giving and would like to discontinue your envelopes please contact the parish office. Thank you!



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

Irwin, Pennsylvania

Office of Liturgical Music Ministry

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER April 21, 2024 - Order of the Mass

VOCATIONS PRAYER

Lord Jesus, raise up from our homes those called by the Father: courageous and humble men to the Priesthood, generous servants to the Permanent Diaconate, faithful people to Consecrated Life, and holy men and women to the Sacrament of Marriage. Holy Spirit, help us to live our universal vocation to holiness by listening to the Father's voice and responding with a sacrificial love. Holy Mary, Model of vocations, pray for us.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Christ is Alive!



Text: Romans 6:5-11; Brian Wren, b.1936, © 1975, 1995, Hope Publishing Company Tune: TRURO, LM; Williams' Psalmodia Evangelica, 1789



Text: ICEL, © 2010 Music: A New Mass for Congregations, Carroll T. Andrews, revised by Ronald F. Krisman © 1970, 2011, GIA Publications, Inc.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Acts 4:8-12

Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said: "Leaders of the people and elders: If we are being examined today about a good deed done to a cripple, namely, by what means he was saved, then all of you and all the people of Israel should know that it was in the name of Jesus Christ the Nazorean whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead; in his name this man stands before you healed. He is the stone rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. There is no salvation through anyone else, nor is there any other name under heaven given to the human race by which we are to be saved."

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

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 118 Hal Hopson

The stone rejected by the builder has become the cornerstone.

SECOND READING

1 John 3:1-2

Beloved:

See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God. Yet so we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed. We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

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

GOSPEL READING

Jesus said: "I am the good shepherd. A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. A hired man, who is not a shepherd and whose sheep are not his own, sees a wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away, and the wolf catches and scatters them. This is because he works for pay and has no concern for the sheep. I am the good shepherd, and I know mine and mine know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I will lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. These also I must lead, and they will hear my voice, and there will be one flock, one shepherd. This is why the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down on my own. I have power to lay it down, and power to take it up again. This command I have received from my Father."

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



John 10:11-18

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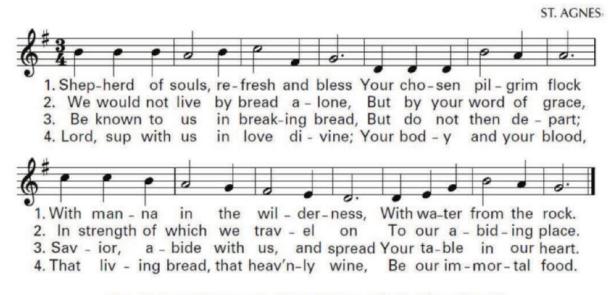
I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with 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

PREPARATION OF GIFTS

Shepherd of Souls



Text: CM; James Montgomery, 1771-1854. Music: John B. Dykes, 1823-1876.



EUCHARISTIC ACCLAMATIONS

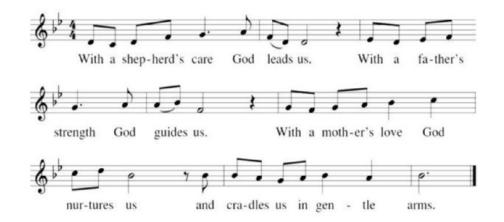
Mass for the City Richard Proulx



LAMB OF GOD



Holy Cross Mass David Clark Isele



Text: James J. Chepponis, b.1956 Tune: SHEPHERD'S CARE, 10 8 10 8 with refrain; James J. Chepponis, b.1956 © 1992, GIA Publications, Inc.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Good Shepherd, You Know Us



Text: Christopher M. Idle, b.1938, © 2001, 2002, 2005, The Jubilate Group (admin. by Hope Publishing Company) Tune: ST. DENIO, 11 11 11 11; adapt. from a Welsh ballad in John Robert's *Hymnus of the Sanctuary*, 1839

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