

Pastor's Perusings – Altar Artistry

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Altar and Rosary Society for their purchase of our new altar frontals! We were blessed to be able to get the altar frontals, also called an antependium, at a great price which allowed us to purchase them in all of the appropriate liturgical colors. Seeing new altar frontals may raise a question in your mind of "Why do we cover our altars?". Before we answer that question, it's first important that we understand what the altar actually is so that we can understand why we adorn it.

We can see from the Old Testament that the altar came to be a sign of the divine presence of God among His people. This same thought was present in the Jewish understanding of the Temple, but the core of the temple was its altar which was, by its usage, an instrument of sanctification and mediation for them. The Temple, the meeting place between God and man, was replaced by Christ Himself, the true meeting place between God and man since it was He who is "our peace" by "His own sacrifice" offered in His blood and is powerful by that sacrifice to "cleanse all who come to Him". He stands now and forever in His resurrected humanity always "making intercession for men". It is, therefore, not at all surprising that this same notion will be taken by later writings and Christian symbols in the midst of the Church that the altar as representing Christ and His spiritual sacrifice is a fact based securely on the very scriptures themselves. St. Augustine is the clearest among the Church Fathers when he writes, "We are to understand the temple and the altar as Christ Himself; the gold and the gift as the praises and sacrifices of prayer which we offer in Him and through Him; He is not given through them, rather these by Him are sanctified". Before Pope St. Paul VI suppressed what were known as the minor orders, the ordination of a sub-deacon stated the following: "The altar of Holy Church is Christ Himself, in the words of St. John, who in his apocalypse testifies that he saw the golden altar, standing before the throne, in whom and through whom the oblations of the faithful were offered to God the Father".

By seeing how clearly the altar in every Catholic Church, even our own, is another lasting symbol of Christ's continued presence among us, we then see why we perform these acts of reverence to the altar during the Mass and outside of Mass. This understanding of the altar as Christ, as the meeting place of God and man, is why we bow to the altar during Mass, it is why the priest and deacon kiss the altar in reverence at the beginning and conclusion of Mass, it is why the altar is incensed during Mass, and it is why we adorn it with the most beautiful cloths and candlesticks that we can.

I hope that you take these next few weeks to become accustomed to these new altar frontals which fully cover the altar on every side. We are fortunate that they arrived from India while we are still in Lent since this gives us the opportunity to get accustomed to a fuller covering of our Lord which should make the activities surrounding the altar during the Sacred Triduum much more pronounced and easier to see the connection between Christ and the altar within the liturgy itself.

- Father Golna



Sat 4:00 pm Cheryl Rosso+
 Sun 8:00 am People of the Parish
 Sun 10:30 am Virginia Diserio+
 Mon 8:30 am Robert & Jane Saly+
 Tue 8:30 am Viva McCaskey+
 Wed 5:30 pm Miranda Grampa Bronchik+
 Thur 8:30 am Miranda Grampa Bronchik+
 Fri 5:30 pm Jim & Pam Boyd
 Sat 4:00 pm Sperlazza/ Rockey Families+
 Sun 8:00 am People of the Parish
 Sun 10:30 am Virginia Diserio+

READINGS

Sunday: 2 Chr 36:14-16, 19-23/ 137:1-2, 3, 4-5, 6/ Eph 2:4-10/ Jn 3:14-21
Monday: Is 65:17-21/ PS 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b/ Jn 4:43-54
Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12/ Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/ Jn 5:1-16
Wednesday: Is 49:8-15/ Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18/ Jn 5:17-30
Thursday: Ex 32:7-14/ Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23/ Jn 5:31-47
Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22/ Ps 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 and 23/ Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
Saturday: Ez 37:12-14/ 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8/ Rom 8:8-11/ Jn 11:1-45
Next Sunday: Ez 37:12-14/ 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8/ Rom 8:8-11/ Jn 11:1-45



March 16, 4:00 PM
 Gre Pam & Jeanette
 Ser Avery & Liam
 Lec AJ Mitchell

March 17, 8:00 AM
 Gre Anna & Jeje
 Ser Theresa Kowcheck
 Lec Fred Casale

March 17, 10:30 AM
 Gre Mary Beth Harvey
 Ser Will, Stothard & Phil
 Lec Cheryl Bland



March 3 2024 Collection	Attendance	Amount
Weekly Envelopes	166	\$3,258
Votive Candles		\$68
Building & Maintenance		\$30
Easter Flowers		\$55
Holy Thursday		\$20
Priests' Retirement		\$613
Budget		\$2,900.00
Active Parishioners	259	

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

Today's gospel speaks of light and darkness. Often a parent is deliberately "left in the dark." Darkness can be comforting for it makes no demands on us. Light can be disturbing for it forces us to take action. Parents walk a delicate balance of when to "sit in the dark" and when to "turn on the lights."

USHERS PLEASE COUNT

THE READINGS for this weekend are in the Hymnal at 893.

SECOND COLLECTION: This Sunday, March 10th will be Easter Flowers.

COFFEE KLATCH: Will be held on Tuesday, March 12th in the parish hall at 10 a.m.

SOUP & SANDWICH: Will be held on Wednesday, March 13th in 11 a.m. until sold out in the parish hall. If you are able to donate please call the office or Susie Mullenbach.

On Friday's during Lent we will be having **STATIONS OF THE CROSS** at 5 p.m. offering **MEAGER MEALS** in the parish hall after Mass. If you would be willing to help please call the parish office.

The **FOOD PANTRY** will be open on Wednesdays from Noon to 3:00pm to assist Brooke County residents. A valid ID & proof of address required. If you would like to donate any non perishable items please leave them in the red bin located in the vestibule.

This is the last weekend to sign up for the **PARISH DIRECTORY** so don't forget to pick your time!



BIRTHDAY Blessings

Sat: James Casinelli, Raymond Shaffer

Sun: Melissa Michel, Sharon Sperlazza

Mon:

Tue: John Provenzano

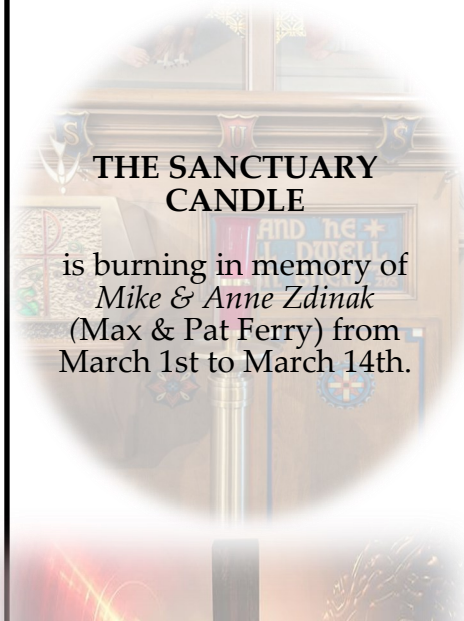
Wed: Gene Cipoletti

Thur: Stephen Marino, Theresa Kowcheck

Fri:

Sat:

Sun: Blanche Babela

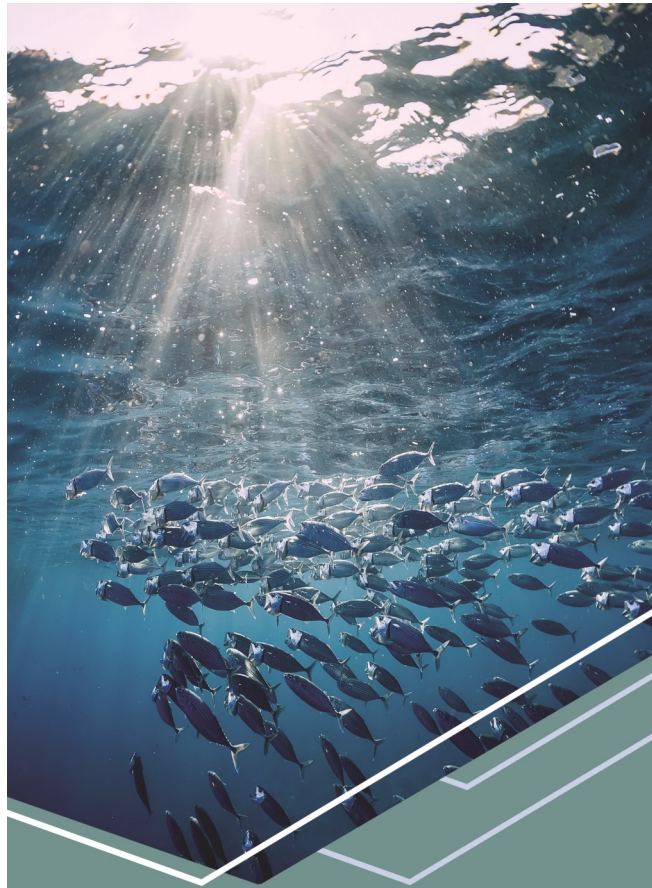


THE SANCTUARY CANDLE

is burning in memory of *Mike & Anne Zdinak* (Max & Pat Ferry) from March 1st to March 14th.

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE AND THEIR INTENTIONS IN YOUR PRAYERS:

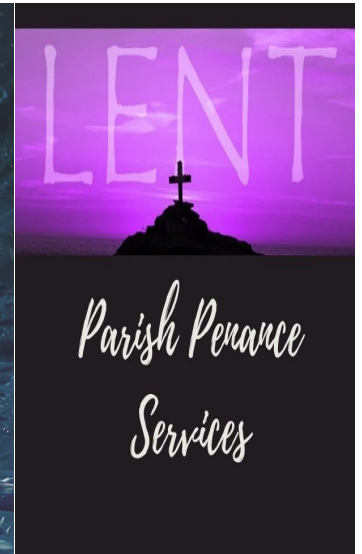
DR. SCOTT BENEFIELD AND FAMILY, KRISTIAN WHITE, DAVID WOODS BOB STUCKEY, ELLIE EVANS, PAULA HENDERSON, LAUREN PEARSON, DOMINIC CIPRIANI, MARY ROSE, DIANE BAYLESS, MARY MARGARET CIPOLETTI, HILDA TARQUINIO, JIM AND SHARON PAVLIC.



4TH SUNDAY OF LENT

For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come toward the light, so that his works might not be exposed. But whoever lives the truth comes to the light, so that his works may be clearly seen as done in God. - Jn 3:20-21

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

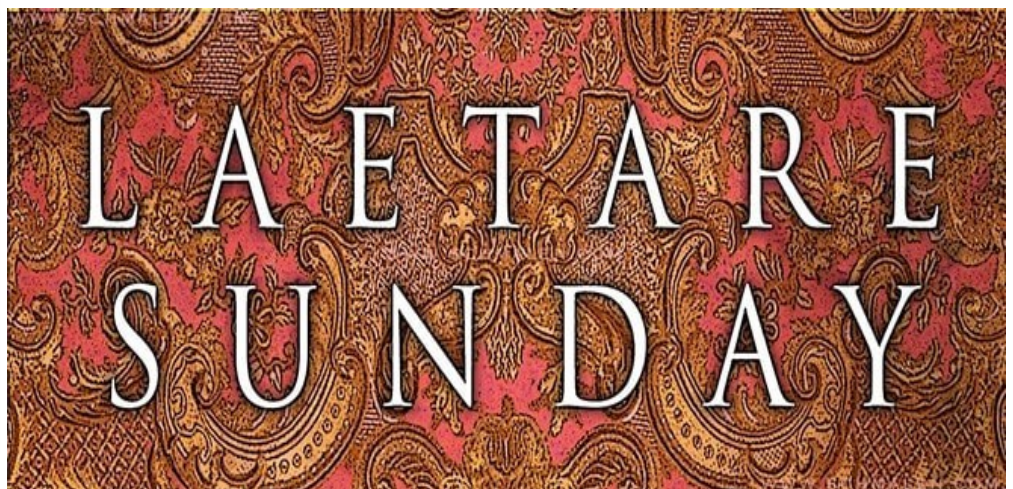


Parish Penance Services

Our **LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE** will be Monday, March 18th at 6p.m. Father Gerald will be the outside confessor.

Congratulations

To our Beloved **OFFICIAL PASTOR** Father Golna!



EASTER FLOWERS

If you would like to sponsor **EASTER FLOWERS** in memory / honor of a loved one, please put your donation in an envelope with your name and who it is in memory of and drop it in the collection basket or mail it to the church.

Please keep the parish office updated of anyone you have added to the **PRAYER LIST**. We will leave the names in for 30 days, if you would like to have anyone kept on the list please let us know.

MASS REQUESTS AND SANCTUARY CANDLE DATES are now being accepted for the entire year of 2024. Some dates are very popular so we ask that if you have a specific date in mind, please call the office as soon as possible so we can try to accommodate.

This is the last weekend to schedule appointments for the **2024 PARISH DIRECTORY** on March 14th through the 16th. Any person or family who makes an appointment will benefit the Parish. Any non-parishioners are invited to take advantage of the free 8x10 photo by making an appointment with us.

We are currently in search of pictures from all of our combined parishes for our **ALL SCHOOL REUNION** historical display on June 30th. If you have any copies you would like to lend the parish please call the office or email them to office@stwellsburgwv.com Our next meeting to sort these photos will be Sunday, April 14th at 1 p.m. in the parish hall. We will also be having the next meeting for the **CELEBRATION** during that time.

At the Parish Pastoral Council meeting we discussed the **100TH CELEBRATION OF OUR CHURCH DEDICATION, PARISH PICNIC, ALL CLASS SCHOOL REUNION, AND FLOAT** for the parade, we will need lots of help so if that is something you are able and willing to do please call the office so we can get ready. We hope you mark your calendars for June 30th and help us celebrate.

We are looking to fill the 9 a.m. Adorer spot for our **WEEKLY EUCHARISTIC ADORATION** on Wednesdays, if anyone is available please call the office, sign up or let Julie Elkinton know.

If you or anyone you know is interested in joining the Catholic Church please call the office for more information on our **RCIA** program! Classes are offered at your convenience and we are currently welcoming any person who may be inquiring about the Catholic Faith.

St. Michael Parish is hosting **THE MAN OF THE SHROUD**, a Shroud of Turin Exhibit from March 8th to the 11th, 2024. For more information please visit sprirtcatholicradio.com/shroud or call the parish office.

Upcoming Events

MARCH PARISH EVENTS LOCATED IN THE CHURCH AND PARISH HALL:

Friday the 1st: Stations of the Cross/ Adoration/ —
— Meager Meal

Sunday the 3rd: Hospitality Sunday

Wednesday, March 6th: Altar & Rosary
— Meeting

Friday the 8th: Stations of the Cross/ Meager Meal

Tuesday the 12th: Coffee Klatch 10 a.m.

Wednesday the 13th: Soup & Sandwich 11 a.m.

Thur.—Sat. 14th-16th: Parish Directory Photos (please see schedule)

Friday the 15th: Stations of the Cross 5 p.m./ Meager Meal 6 p.m.

Friday the 22nd: Stations of the Cross 5 p.m./ Meager Meal 6 p.m.

Wednesday the 27th: Men's Group 7 p.m.

Friday the 29th: Stations of the Cross 5 p.m./ Meager Meal 6 p.m.

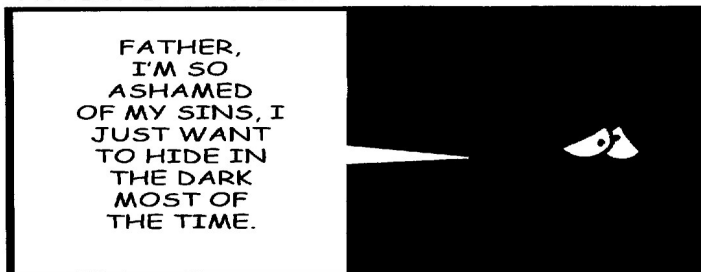
DATES TO REMEMBER:

Sunday, April 14th: Celebration Meeting
And Picture Sorting 1 p.m.

Saturday, May 11th: Confirmation 11 a.m.

Sunday, June 30th: 100th Year
Celebration 10:30 a.m.

4TH SUNDAY OF LENT



What's going on in Paradise?

100th YEAR CELEBRATION

For the 100th Year CELEBRATION we are selling SARRIS CANDY bars in addition to a MARCH MADNESS BOARD for \$50 a block with four winners drawn. If you would like to purchase a block please call Joe Mullenbach.

We are also looking to offer DOOR PRIZES at our 100th Year Celebration. If you would like to donate anything please call the parish office.

This year we will be having a catered meal and we are asking you to RSVP by calling the office 304-737-0429 or email office@stjohnwellsburg.com with a number of people attending.

MADONNA HIGH SCHOOL
SMALL SCHOOL...BIG FAMILY
OPEN HOUSE


MONDAY, MARCH 11, 2024
6:00-7:30 PM
160 Michael Way
Weirton, WV 26062
Questions: 304-723-0555 or email info@weirtonmadonna.org

Come learn more about:

- Our academics
- How the HOPE Scholarship can help make a Madonna education possible for your family.
- Our service program
- Extra-curricular activities

ST. ANTHONY ALL-SCHOOL RE-UNION will be an event of Saturday, June 22, 2024 in Follansbee, WV. A Mass of Thanksgiving will be celebrated at 4:00 p.m. in St. Anthony's Church followed by a banquet at 6:00 p.m. at St. Francis, Hooverson Heights.

St. Joseph's Retreat Center will be hosting a **WOMEN'S DISCERNMENT RETREAT** June 21- 23, 2024. Limited registration is available. For more information you can email mgomez@dwc.org or call (304) 233-

WINDSOR HEIGHTS FIRE DEPARTMENT will be having their annual Fish Fry on Fridays from 10 am to 6 pm.

The Brooke County Salvation Army Feeding Program offers **FREE TAKEOUT LUNCHES** on Thursday's from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m.

BROOKE COUNTY JUDICIAL CENTER will have it's Grand Opening & Ribbon Cutting on Tuesday, March 26th, 2024 at 12 p.m.

On May 21st Ohio Valley Business Alliance Corporation will be hosting the **PITCH CONTEST** at Brooke High School starting at 6 p.m.



We're more than a Convenience store

Mark's

Deli & Catering

304-737-0065

CARRY OUT

- Deli
- Broaster Chicken
- Catering
- Delivery
- Lent Specials



GENUINE BROASTER CHICKEN

markscarryout.com

THANK YOU TO OUR PARISH SPONSORS

THIS WEEKEND
Sunday,
March 10th, 2024



Reasner Funeral Home


Robert Morris L.I.C.

Owner and Director

ReasnerOfWellsburg.com

304-737-3251

LENTEN DISCIPLINES OF FASTING & ABSTINENCE



Catholics in good health ages 18 to 59 are required to fast and to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

Fasting consists of eating only one meal, with the possibility of two smaller snacks that do not add up to a single full meal.

Catholics age 14 and older are to abstain from meat on all Fridays in Lent.

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SCHEDULE

PENANCE SERVICE~
Monday, March 18th, 6 p.m.

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD~
Saturday, March 23rd, 4:00 p.m.
Sunday, March 24th, 8:00 a.m./
10:30 a.m. with Procession

HOLY THURSDAY ~
March 28th, 6:00 p.m. Mass of the Lord's Supper
Altar of Repose until 11 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY ~ March 29th ~
Stations of the Cross 3:00 p.m.
Veneration of the Cross 5:30 p.m.

HOLY SATURDAY ~ EASTER VIGIL MASS ~
March 30th, 8:00 p.m.

EASTER SUNDAY ~
March 31st, 10:30 a.m.

In the name of St. Patrick, the Glorious Apostle of Ireland, the members of the **ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS**, Div. 1, Wheeling, WV wish you a Happy St. Patrick's Day and Irish-American Heritage Month! Men: celebrate and be proud of your Irish-Catholic heritage all year long by joining the AOH! Info at www.aoh.com, [facebook.com/roadbowling](https://www.facebook.com/roadbowling) or Tom Connelly: 304-280-4350. Slainte!

The Human Resources Generalist as a member of Diocesan Services, is committed to advancing the mission of Jesus Christ, consistent with the core purpose and Gospel values enunciated in the Diocesan Services' Mission Statement. The Human Resources Generalist will work as part of the HR team with a focus on supporting the Catholic Schools throughout the Diocese. The generalist will also serve to drive the onboarding process within the Diocese. Qualified candidates should forward a cover letter and current resume to: Debbie Turziano, Director of Human Resources at dturziano@dwc.org.

To report an incidence of suspected child sexual abuse, please contact your local law enforcement agency, or you may confidentially contact WV Child Protective Services at 800-352-6513. In addition to civil authorities, to report suspected cases of sexual abuse by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, please contact one of the Bishop's designees at 304-233-0880 or 888-434-6237: Mr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Mr. Tim Bishop, ext. 353; Father Dennis Schuelkens, ext. 270 or call the Office of Safe Environment at 304-230-1504. Visit www.dwc.org under "Accountability" for more information.

Why do Catholics go to Confessions? Disobeying God damages our friendship with him, so we need his forgiveness to heal it. That is why Jesus initiated the Sacrament of Reconciliation (also called "Confession"). *"Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven"* (Matthew 16:19). This brings us back to God. In Confessions, we admit what we did, say that we are sorry, and resolve never to do it again. Penance helps us make up for it. When the priest conveys Christ's forgiveness to us, our friendship is restored.

Why is Mass Offered for Specific People?

The greatest prayer that we have as Christians is the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. At each Mass, Christ's Sacrifice on Calvary is re-presented and renewed. In the Mass, the graces achieved on the Cross are applied to souls for their salvation. This is why we have Masses offered for particular intentions. To have a Mass offered for a loved one, living or deceased, please contact Steph. Having intentions for a Mass is a sacrifice of \$10.00 during the week and \$20.00 on the weekend. Call the church office during regular hours if you have any questions.

Sanctuary Candle Intentions

The red Sanctuary Lamp by the Tabernacle burns to remind us of the Eucharistic presence of Jesus Christ. It is a mark of honor to remind the faithful of the Real Presence of Christ, and is a profession of their love and affection for our Lord. If you wish to have the Sanctuary Lamp burning in memory of a loved one, to honor a special occasion, or a special intention make arrangements with Steph. The cost of the candle is \$20.00. It will burn for (2) weeks. The memorial will also be published in the Bulletin.

Mass Etiquette

Remember to silence, turn off, and put away your cell phones, tablets, and gaming devices prior to the start of Mass.

Communion Fast

Keep in mind the Communion fast—we are to fast from food and drink (water and medicine excluded) one hour before receiving Holy Communion. **This includes chewing gum.** Let us prepare our body and soul to worthily receive our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.

Is the Lord calling you? Call Rev. Brian Crenwelge at the VOCATIONS OFFICE, Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston at 304-233-0880, ext. 298

