

Partner Parishes in the Diocese of Greensburg - A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust

ST. GERTRUDE PARISH

303 Franklin Ave.
Vandergrift, PA 15690
sgcatholic.org



CHRIST THE KING PARISH

125 Park Road
Leechburg, PA 15656
ctkleechburg.org

And behold,
the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them,
until it came and stopped over the place where the child was.

MATTHEW 2:9

The Epiphany of the Lord

JANUARY 8, 2023

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Alan Lundburg
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John Kuruc
Margaret Yucas

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CHRIST THE KING

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Fran Milie
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Parish Council Mission Statement ~ We, the partnered parish communities of St. Gertrude and Christ the King, are faith-filled Catholics who have been called by our Baptism and empowered by the Good News of Jesus Christ to be Church for all. Although made up of multicultural faith communities we are ever united by our common faith.

We are committed to "building up the Body of Christ" through Word, Worship, Evangelization, Leadership, Service, Stewardship, and Fellowship. Dedicated to deepening our love of Christ and one another, together we strive to become a living reflection of Christ for our region.

We willingly accept our obligation to be the "Light of the World" for others and in that spirit we promise to use our resources to practice gospel justice, to heal divisive wounds among God's people and to join with all people of good will in addressing the spiritual and physical needs of all.

Parish Office

125 Park Road
 Leechburg, PA, 15656
 (724) 845-8191

Monday to Friday.....9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Pastor

Father James Loew O.S.B.
 jloew@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Senior Priest Active

Rev. Michael Sciberras

Deacon

Brother Celestine Xu O.S.B.

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George Pecoraro (CTK)
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Cemetery Contact

St. Catherine Cemetery and St. Gertrude Cemetery
 ctkstgcm@gmail.com

Mass Times**Monday**

8:30 AM.....St. Gertrude

Tuesday

8:30AM.....Christ the King

Wednesday

8:30 AM.....St. Gertrude

Thursday

8:30 AM.....Christ the King
 Second Thursday of the month (Anointing Mass)
 12:10 PM.....Christ the King

Friday

8:30 AM.....St. Gertrude
 9:00 AM – 10: 00AM (Holy Hour)

Saturday

8:30 AM.....Christ the King
 9:00 AM – 10: 00AM (Holy Hour)
 4:00 PM.....St. Gertrude
 5:30 PM.....Christ the King

Sunday

8:00 AM.....St. Gertrude
 9:30 AM.....Christ the King
 10:30 AM.....St. Gertrude

CONFESSION / RECONCILIATION

Saturday, 3:15 PM-3:45 PM.....St. Gertrude
 Saturday, 9:00 AM.....Christ the King
 (or by appointment)

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Arrangements must be made at least six months in advance of the anticipated date.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Baptism Preparation Class
 Second Saturday of the month at 11:00 AM at Christ the King. Must be scheduled in advance.



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All bulletin submissions must be and turned into the parish office by Monday, 12:00 noon.



PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND SHUT-INS OF OUR PARISHES.

**MATTERS OF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT INFORMATION**

If you have any suspicion about the sexual abuse (or any other type of abuse) of a minor child by anyone — please contact PA ChildLine immediately at 1-800-932-0313. If the alleged abuser is functioning in a parish, school or diocesan position as clergy, religious, paid staff or volunteer you are also requested to contact the Bishop's Delegate for Matters of Sexual Misconduct after you have called the ChildLine number and made the report. The Bishop's Delegate may be reached at 724-837-0901, ext. 1221.

St. Gertrude Parish

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Monday, January 9

8:30 AM Yvonne Gabborini
by Kathleen Tedeski

Wednesday, January 11

8:30 AM Richard Tedeski

Friday, January 13
St. Hilary

8:30 AM Mary and Perry Pinto

THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Saturday, January 14

4:00 PM Eugene Iagnemma
by Family

Sunday, January 15

8:00 AM For the Parish

10:30 AM Patricia Moliterno
*by Ronald, Robert, and Richard
Majeran*



Memorial Candle: Week of January 8

In Memory Of: Francis "Fran" Magee
by The Foreman Family

ANGEL TREE THANK YOU

Thank you for helping to brighten Christmas for local adults and children. Your kindness and generosity has allowed St. Gertrude's Angel Tree to provide 75 gifts to the Alle-Kiski Hope Center, West-N-Arms and Kiski Valley Opportunities Unlimited. All of you are true "angels." Thank you!



*Please pray for the soul of the recently deceased
Rose Marie Jewert
May the consolation of the Lord be with her family.*

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

January 14 & 15	(EM)	(L)	(AS)
Saturday 4:00 PM	Nick Pityk	Sue Iagnemma	Maria Safranyos
Sunday 8:00 AM	Stephanie Enciso	Fran Milie	Anthony Guerrera
Sunday 10:30 AM	Geri Michela	Crystal Dellemonache	Dom Dellemonache

MEN'S CLUB

The St. Gertrude Men's Club will meet this Monday, January 9th at 6:00 PM in the church hall.

JUST A REMINDER

Next weekend after the masses will be our monthly pizza and coffee and donut socials. Stop in and wish everyone a Happy New Year.

ATTENTION BAKERS

Cookies are needed for the January 22 reception following the Bishop's consecration our new altar. Please let Carol (724-568-4032) or Fran (412-780-0164) know if you can bake; cookies should be brought to the church hall between Noon and 2 pm on Saturday, January 21.

BLESSING OF THE ALTAR SAVE THE DATE!

Bishop Larry J. Kulick, J.C.L. will be here to celebrate the 10:30 AM Mass and bless the new altar on Sunday, January 22, 2023. Following the mass, there will be a reception in the church social hall.

WEEKLY COLLECTION

December 24 & December 25

Weekly Offertory	\$ 7,594.00
Loose	\$ 559.00
Restoration	\$ 45.00
Utilities	\$ 5.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 25.00
Flowers	\$ 30.00
Christmas	\$ 3,990.00
Uplift Our Faith	\$ 100.00
Children/Family Services	\$ 932.00
Votives	\$ 233.00

December 31 & January 1

Weekly Offertory	\$ 4,536.00
Loose	\$ 393.00
Restoration	\$ 300.00
Utilities	\$ 8.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$ 1,342.00
Christmas	\$ 1,630.00
Children/Family Services	\$ 70.00
Votives	\$ 255.00

Christ the King Parish

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday, January 10

8:30 AM Al Aiello
by Flo

Thursday, January 12 *Anointing Mass*

12:10 PM Patricia Grantz
by Lucien Bove

Saturday, January 14

8:30 AM For the Parish

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:30 PM William Mason
by Ron & Sylvia Ravotti

Sunday, January 15

9:30 AM Steve Sherden
by Virginia and Kim

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

January 14 & 15	GREETERS	LECTOR	EUCCHARISTIC MINSTER
Saturday 5:30 PM	Pam Pastiva	Margie Stull	Chris Vigna
Sunday 9:30 AM	John Lucjak	Kathleen Uncapher	Kathy Daugherty

PJ THANK YOU

The Leechburg Rotary would like to thank all who donated Pajamas, Books, Hats, Mittens and baby quilts to our Christmas Project. We received over 200 pair of PJs, 40 children's books, knitwear and Baby Quilts. Children, Family and Youth Services, Haven, The Salvation Army, Life Choices and the Veterans' Center were most grateful for these wonderful donations along with \$120.00 worth of food certificates for needy families. Bless You all for your generosity!

WEEKLY COLLECTION

December 24 & December 25

Weekly Offertory	\$ 4,497.00
Monthly	\$ 365.00
Loose	\$ 633.00
Utilities	\$ 20.00
Votives	\$ 49.00
Uplift Our Faith	\$ 1,200.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 25.00
Christmas	\$ 5,775.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$ 20.00
Flowers	\$ 130.00
Cemetery	\$ 95.00
World Mission	\$ 20.00
Children/Family Services	\$ 875.00

December 31 & January 1

Weekly Offertory	\$ 3,386.00
Monthly	\$ 200.00
Loose	\$ 178.00
Utilities	\$ 45.00
Votives	\$91.00
Uplift Our Faith	\$ 625.00
Immaculate Conception	\$ 20.00
Christmas	\$ 825.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$ 880.00
Flowers	\$ 10.00
Cemetery	\$ 75.00
Children/Family Services	\$ 238.00

A very special thank you to all of you who contributed to the Uplift Our Faith Community (increased offertory) Appeal. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

ALL SHARE IN THE PROMISE

Picture a nativity scene in your mind's eye. The scene likely includes figures arriving on camels, some elaborately dressed, with jeweled boxes containing precious gifts. These magi arrived from distant lands to pay homage to the Christ Child. We know little about the magi, but we do know that these visitors were not Jews. They represent people of all nations who will be drawn to the Lord. "Nations shall walk by your light, and kings by your shining radiance." The Good News of Jesus cannot be limited to one people; all share in the promise of God's mercy through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Spring Faith Formation Calendar CTK/SG

(Please note that more events will be added to the calendar.)

January—15th, 29th

February—5th, 19th

March—5th, 19th

April—2nd (Palm Sunday combined event with Christ Prince of Peace/St. Lawrence), 16th, 30th

Youth Ministry

(6th-8th and 9th-12th grades)

Meets every week from January 15th-May 7th except for Easter Sunday, April 9th.

May 7th—Youth Ministry only (last session) combined with Christ Prince of Peace/St. Lawrence

In Memoriam

POPE EMERITUS BENEDICT XVI

April 16, 1927 – December 31, 2022

Papacy:

April 19, 2005 – February 28, 2013



Joseph Alois Ratzinger was born in Marktl am Inn, Bavaria, on April 16, 1927—Holy Saturday—and baptized that same day—the first person baptized in the new Easter water. It was a sign of blessing, he wrote in a memoir, that his life from the beginning was thus immersed in the Easter mystery. He entered the minor seminary in 1939 at the age of twelve, but his studies were interrupted by World War II, when the seminary was closed and Joseph, along with most of his class, was drafted into the army at the age of sixteen.

After the war he resumed his education in philosophy and theology, and together with his brother, Georg, was ordained a priest in 1951. During the course of a twenty-year career as a professor of dogma and theology at several German universities, he earned a reputation as a gifted lecturer and learned scholar, and was present as a *peritus*, or theological advisor, at all four sessions of the Second Vatican Council.

He was ordained an archbishop in May of 1977 and elevated to the College of Cardinals a month later. He settled in Rome in 1981 and went on to become one of the most influential men in the Roman curia. Of the many offices he held, he was best known as the Prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, an authoritative advisor on doctrinal issues during his predecessor's pontificate. When he was elected the 265th successor of Peter in 2005 at the age of seventy-eight, he became the first German pope since Victor II in the eleventh century. A central theme of his papacy was the staunch defense of core Christian values against what he saw as moral decline across much of Europe. At the same time, he sought to improve relations with other religions, trying to determine if a “cultural synthesis” was possible without losing the identity of the faith while engaged in discourse with the Lutheran World Federation, Judaism, Islam, the Anglican Communion, and Christian Orthodox Churches. He also spoke out against human rights abuses and ongoing political conflicts and warfare, and advocated better protection of the environment. He called for a radical rethinking of the global economy, criticizing the growing divide between rich and poor, and pressed for a “true world political authority” to oversee the economy and work for the common good.

Ever true to his episcopal motto, “Fellow Worker in the Truth,” Pope Benedict XVI's teaching and prolific writings always defended traditional Catholic doctrine and values.

On February 11, 2013, Pope Benedict XVI announced that on February 28, 2013, he would resign as supreme pontiff due to his advanced age and deteriorating health and that a conclave would be convened shortly thereafter to elect a new pope. He returned to Rome and remained there as Pope Emeritus after Jorge Bergoglio succeeded him as Bishop of Rome.

Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him.

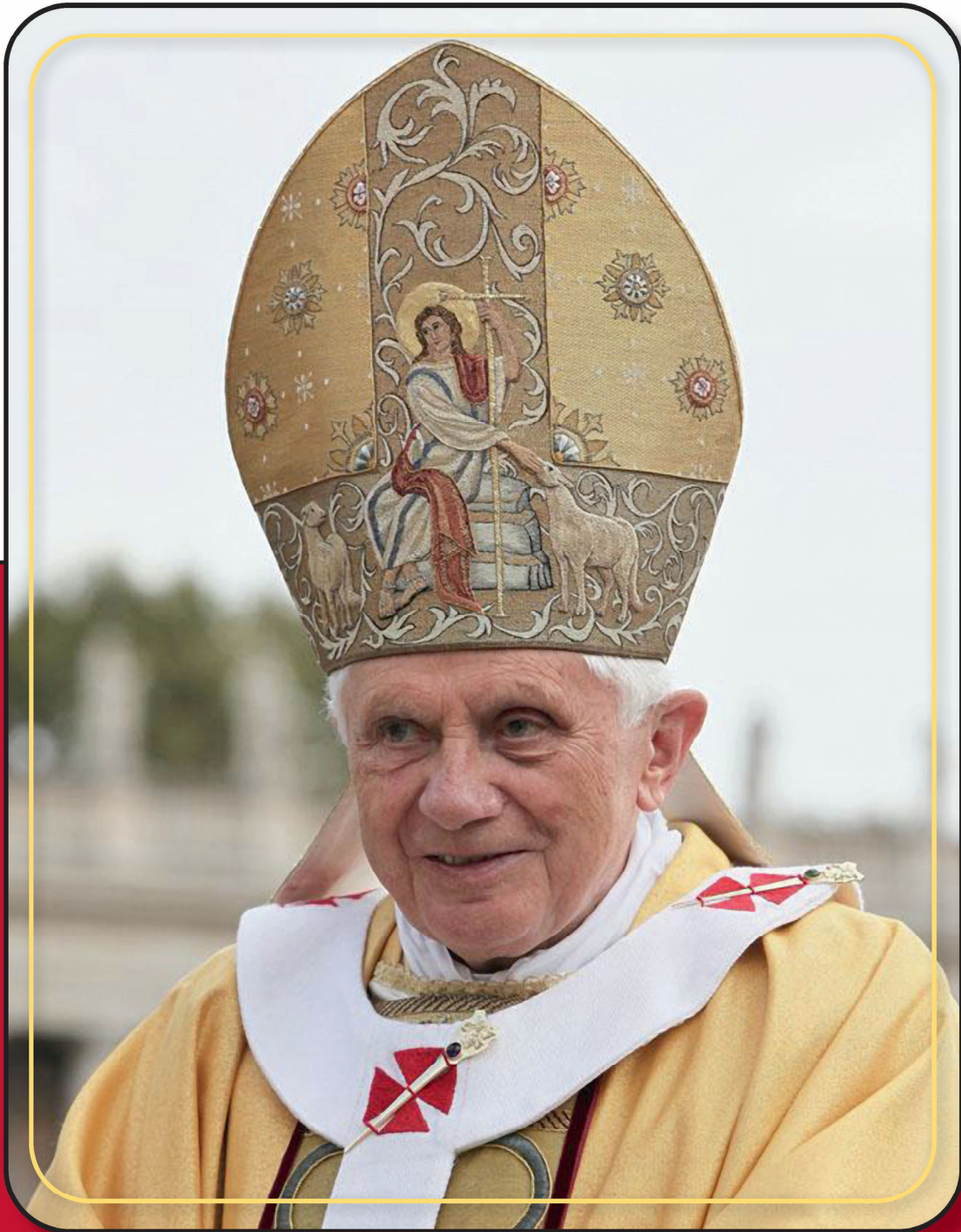


Photo from the Archive of the Chancellery of the President of the Republic of Poland

POPE EMERITUS BENEDICT XVI

APRIL 16, 1927 – DECEMBER 31, 2022

—◆—
IN MEMORIAM



Then they opened their treasures and offered him

GIFTS OF GOLD, FRANKINCENSE, AND MYRRH.

Matthew 2:11

January 8, 2023 • The Epiphany of the Lord

SPREAD THE GOOD NEWS

Epiphany is a day when popular customs mostly overshadow scriptural accuracy. Matthew's Gospel never refers to kings coming to see Christ, nor to their number (only the gifts are enumerated), nor to their names. Matthew tells us only that some "magi" came with gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Magos referred to members of the Persian priestly class; later it had the connotation of magicians and astrologers. Matthew's magi report that they have seen a star rising; its light was visible to them far beyond the boundaries of Israel, an early and significant symbol for Jesus, the Light of the World. At the end of Matthew's Gospel (chapter 28), the followers of Jesus worship him, an act foretold in the actions of the Magi today. The eleven are told to make disciples of "all nations," nations symbolized by the Magi. Today we hear our own mission: to worship Jesus Christ, and to spread his Good News everywhere, every day.

STAR OF WONDER

In our day-to-day lives, we can experience epiphanies: new perceptions, unexpected insights, sudden changes in direction. In the liturgical year, Epiphany celebrates the appearance of a star in the heavens, a remarkable star followed by the Magi to Jesus, Mary and Joseph. They are not so different, our daily epiphanies and the Epiphany celebrated today. The arrival of the Magi certainly changed Mary and Joseph's perceptions of the world, the same way a helpless, tiny baby likely altered the Magi's insights as to what a star in the heavens would reveal. The story of the Magi—and the story of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph—is filled with unexpected changes in direction, as God's plan continues to vary when it encounters people who cooperate with it, and others who attempt to thwart it. A deep and long reflection on this day we call Epiphany will uncover numerous epiphanies.

STAR OF LOVE

Like all of the Christmas season, Epiphany celebrates God's eternal and infinite love. In a special way, this day shows how God's love is truly all-inclusive. The magi were not Jews, not part of the Chosen People who expected that the Messiah was coming to save only them. Early on in his Gospel, Matthew tells us that God's love will not be limited by our human presumptions or boundaries. We still struggle with the fact that God is constantly epiphan-izing us to grow beyond the limits of our experience or expectations, to move beyond the boundaries of the world around us. Let us pray that we might be given epiphanies to help us find grace where we didn't believe it existed, to aid us in understanding that God's love is most often shown by who is included, not who is excluded. May we open our eyes and hearts to know that the Christ-light shines everywhere.

TODAY'S READINGS

Isaiah 60:1–6

Psalms 72:1–2, 7–8, 10–11, 12–13

Ephesians 3:2–3a, 5–6

Matthew 2:1–12

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