

## Partner Parishes in the Diocese of Greensburg - Pennsylvania Charitable Trusts

### ST. GERTRUDE PARISH

303 Franklin Ave.  
Vandergrift, PA 15690  
sgcatholic.org



### CHRIST THE KING PARISH

125 Park Road  
Leechburg, PA 15656  
ctkleechburg.org

MARCH 3, 2024

## 3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT

Since the Passover of the Jews was near, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. He found in the temple area those who sold oxen, sheep, and doves, as well as the money changers seated there. He made a whip out of cords and drove them all out of the temple area. - Jn 2:13b-15a

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

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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.



St. Gertrude

### OFFERTORY AND CONTRIBUTIONS

As we begin this season of repentance and reflection, let us contemplate what this time means and how it can lead us to a closer relationship with God. The word Lent comes from an old English word meaning "spring," or "a new birth." This sacred time offers a unique opportunity to deepen our relationship with God, reflect on our lives, and prepare our hearts for the resurrection joy of Easter. Each of us should discern a personal plan for this special spiritual season and our continued journey with Christ. In order to be fully



Christ the King

immersed in the Lenten experience, the Church gives us three extraordinary ways to draw closer into this mystery: Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving. Prayer is conversation with God and is essential for fasting and almsgiving because prayer gives us the strength to fast, draws us into a closer relationship with God and makes us grateful for the blessings we have received. Prayer is the cornerstone of our Lenten journey and is vital to all of our actions in life. Fasting reminds us of our hunger for God. In addition to the traditional forms of fasting, try fasting from social media or gossip. Almsgiving is the sharing of our blessings with others and is a way to live out our gratitude for all that God has given us. Justice, mercy, and charity are integral elements of our baptism that call us to be disciples of Jesus. May this sacred time encourage spiritual growth, self-examination and renewal that have a profound impact for you during this Lenten season and your continued journey with Christ.

**Parish Office**

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

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

**Pastor**

The Reverend Alan N. Polczynski  
apolczynski@dioceseofgreensburg.org

**Senior Priest Active**

The Reverend Michael J. Sciberras

**Deacon**

Rev. Br. Romuald Duchene, O.S.B.

**Pastoral Assistant to the Homebound**

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srlillyaseer1984@gmail.com

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George Pecoraro (CTK)

gpecoraro@dioceseofgreensburg.org

**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

**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**

Must have a Baptism Preparation Class.  
Must be scheduled in advance.



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

**FINANCE COUNCILS****ST. GERTRUDE**

Joe Caporali  
James Kunkle  
John Kuruc  
Allan Lundburg  
Margaret Yucas

**CHRIST THE KING**

Bill Anderson  
James Favero  
Martha Frech  
Don Marco  
Anne Troya

**JOINT PARISH COUNCIL**

Amanda Biagioni  
Debbie Biagioni  
Sue Iagnemma  
Carol Rzewnicki

Dolores Lucjak  
Joseph Rice  
Margaret Stull

**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.



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



## St. Gertrude Parish

### WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday, March 4

*St. Casimir*

8:30 AM + Susan Cuffia  
*by Joyce and James Cuffia*

Wednesday, March 6

8:30 AM + Deceased Members of the  
Reilly Family  
*by Helen and Karen*

Friday, March 8

*St. John of God*

8:30 AM + Joan Stephenson  
*by James and Maryann Contino*

10:10 AM Stations of the Cross

### FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Saturday, March 9

4:00 PM + Bill Mendicino  
*by Sister, Ida*

Sunday, March 10

8:00 AM + Deceased Members of the  
Guerrera and DeMichele Families  
*by Anthony*

10:30 AM + Ted and Daniel Bartoe  
*by Catherine, Michael and Diane*

Memorial Candle

In Memory of : Robert Foreman

*by The Foreman Family*

### MINISTRY SCHEDULE

March 9 & 10	Eucharistic Minister	Lector	Altar Server
Saturday 4:00 PM	Gail Lightner	Sue Safranyos	Nick Pityk
Sunday 8:00 AM	Patty Kiebler	Christine Lamanna - Smith	Anthony
Sunday 10:30 AM	Margaret Summerville	Crystal Dellemonache	Dom

### WEEKLY COLLECTION

February 24 & February 25

Weekly Offertory	\$ 3,910.00
Loose	\$ 405.00
Restoration	\$ 41.00
Utility/Energy	\$ 144.00
Votives	\$ 115.00
Accent	\$ 105.00
Ash Wednesday	\$ 105.00
Easter	\$ 40.00
Easter Flowers	\$ 70.00
Palm Sunday	\$ 5.00
Central and Eastern Europe	\$ 15.00
Catholic Home Missions	\$ 10.00

### CDA MEETING

The next CDA meeting will be Tuesday, March 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM in the St. Gertrude Church hall. There will be a program with an EMT instructor reviewing CPR and some first aid training. All members are encouraged to attend.

### ST. VINCENT de PAUL

St Gertrude Conference will meet on Wednesday, March 6 at 6:30 PM in the Church Hall. All members are encouraged to attend.

### SPAGHETTI DINNER



The next spaghetti dinner will be held on March 21<sup>st</sup> from 4-7 PM in the church hall. Hope to see you there!





## Christ the King Parish

### WEEKLY MASS SCHEULE

Tuesday, March 5

8:30 AM + Peter Bosin  
*by Joe and Yvette*

Thursday, March 7

*Ss. Perpetua and Felicity*

8:30 AM + Eva Schachte  
*by Anonymous*

Friday, March 8

6:00 PM Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 9

*St. Frances of Rome*

8:30 AM + Mark Hartman  
*by Brian and Hollie Weiss Family*

### FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

5:30 PM + Tony Moravec  
*by Gerry McCracken*

Sunday, March 10

9:30 AM + Fr. Patrick O'Connor  
*by Joe and Yvette*

### MINISTRY SCHEDULE

March 9 & 10	Hospitality	Lector	Eucharistic Minister
Saturday 5:30 PM	Pam Pastiva	SMI	Mary Jane Gruber
Sunday 9:30 AM	Andy & Kathy Balbo	Jack Billak	Margie Stull

### LENTEN LUNCHEON

Our parish is hosting the weekly Lenten luncheon sponsored by the Leechburg Ministerium this Friday, March 8<sup>th</sup>. These luncheons are held every Friday in Lent at Crossroads Community Church. They begin at 11:45 AM with a brief message from a representative of the host church followed by a light lunch that includes a meatless option. Please join in fellowship and worship with the other members of our community during this holy season.

### WEEKLY COLLECTION

February 24 & February 25

Weekly Offertory	\$ 3,498.00
Monthly	\$ 220.00
Loose	\$ 272.00
Votives	\$ 68.00
Utilities	\$ 10.00
Cemetery	\$ 50.00
Ash Wednesday	\$ 115.00
Home Missions of the Americas	\$ 21.00

### 2024 PARISH EASTER BAKE SALE

All parishioners are invited to share their time and talent by participating in our parish bake sale.

**The schedule is as follows:**

**Saturday, March 9<sup>th</sup> at 9 AM:** Hall set-up will take place (men...we need your muscles!).

**Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM:** Measure ingredients and clean and grind nuts.

**Monday, March 11<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 AM:** Baking starts

**Nut, Poppy Seed and Apricot Rolls - \$14.00 each**



Order deadline is March 4<sup>th</sup>

**Pick-up: March 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> between NOON - 4 PM**  
**"PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN BOXES FOR PICK-UP"**  
[Orders not picked up by March 14<sup>th</sup> will be sold]

**Paska Bread (Round or Braided)**

**with raisins \$ 8.00**

**without raisins \$7.50**



Order deadline is March 11<sup>th</sup>

**Pick-up: March 20<sup>th</sup> between NOON - 4PM**

[Orders not picked up by March 20<sup>th</sup> will be sold.]

Order forms are available in the gathering space of the church and at the parish office.

**ORDERS MAY ALSO BE PLACED BY CALLING:**

**Teresia at 724-845-7588 \* Toni at 724-309-1976**

Donations of **Crisco, Gold Medal All Purpose Flour and Domino Sugar** are greatly appreciated! Donations may be dropped off at the parish office prior to the start of the bake sale, or they may be placed in the container marked "BAKE SALE", located in the gathering space of the church by the coat rack.

### FAITH FORMATION (GRADES K - 5)

Classes will be SUNDAY evenings for Kindergarten through Fifth Grades from 6:00-7:30 PM at St. Gertrude Parish Center.

*There will be NO Faith Formation on Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup>.*

### YOUTH MINISTRY (GRADES 6-12)

Grades 6-12 will meet on Wednesdays from 6:30-8:00 PM at Saint Margaret Mary Church.



#### COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICES

Monday, March 18 at 1:30 PM, Our Lady Queen of Peace, East Vandergrift

Wednesday, March 20 at 6:30 PM, Saint Margaret Mary, Lower Burrell

Saturday, March 23 at 1:00 PM, Christ the King, Leechburg

Monday, March 25 at 1:15 PM, Saint Joseph, New Kensington



### BISHOP KULICK TO LEAD DIOCESAN ST. JOSEPH PILGRIMAGE

Bishop Larry J. Kulick will lead a pilgrimage to the four St. Joseph parishes across the Diocese of Greensburg, and at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, as he dedicates the Diocese to the patronage of St. Joseph on March 18 and 19. Bishop Kulick's dedication is for the Eucharistic Revival Year of Mission in 2024, the Jubilee Year of 2025 and the 75th anniversary of the Diocese of Greensburg in 2026.

Patron of the universal Church, families, workers, immigrants and a happy death, St. Joseph nurtured the child Jesus in the first Eucharistic Adoration chapel in his home in Nazareth, responded with faith each time he was called by God and is a model to us of faithful discipleship as we live our mission as Eucharistic people.

Each site along the pilgrimage will focus on a different aspect of Joseph as a faithful disciple, helping us to strengthen and rededicate our own relationship with Jesus Christ. The faithful are encouraged to participate in the pilgrimage, which will include the following:

#### **Monday, March 18:**

- St. Joseph Parish, New Kensington, 6 p.m. – evening prayer with a special presentation on St. Joseph the worker and a reception afterward.

#### **Tuesday, March 19:**

- Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Greensburg, 11:45 a.m. – Mass for the Solemnity of St. Joseph with Bishop Kulick and promulgation of Bishop Kulick's Pastoral Letter on Dedicating the Diocese to St. Joseph.





Mass Intentions are available for **April** at both parishes.  
Please call the church office at (724) 845-8191 if you would like to schedule a Mass.



**Join Bishop Larry J. Kulick for  
Lenten Evenings  
of Reflection**

**Tuesday, February 20 - 6:00 PM**  
Saint Bartholomew Parish, Crabtree  
**Topic:** "Believe in the Gospel"

**Tuesday, February 27 - 6:00 PM**  
Holy Family Parish, West Newton  
**Topic:** "This is My Beloved Son"

**Monday, March 4 - 6:00 PM**  
Church of the Good Shepherd Parish, Kent  
**Topic:** "Stop Making My Father's House  
a Marketplace"

**Monday, March 11 - 6:00 PM**  
SS. Cyril & Methodius Parish, Fairchance  
**Topic:** "Everyone Who Believes in Him  
May Have Eternal Life"

**Wednesday, March 20 - 6:00 PM**  
Christ, Prince of Peace Parish, Ford City  
**Topic:** "We Would Like To See Jesus"

**Stations  
of the Cross**

**Friday, February 16 - 6:30 PM**  
Saint John the Evangelist Parish, Connellsville  
**Intention:** For the Homebound and Infirm



**Wednesday, February 21 - 5:15 PM**  
Saint Cecilia Parish, Whitney  
**Intention:** For Peace in the World

**Friday, March 1 - 5:30 PM**  
Blessed Sacrament Cathedral Parish, Greensburg  
**Intention:** For Vocations

**Friday, March 8 - 7:00 PM**  
Church of the Resurrection Parish,  
Hellwood Site  
**Intention:** For the Deceased

**Friday, March 15 - 2:00 PM**  
Saint Sebastian Regional Catholic School,  
Belle Vernon  
**Intention:** For the Youth

**Friday, March 22 - 8:00 PM**  
Saint Lawrence Parish, Cadogan  
**Intention:** For the Intentions of  
the Faithful

Diocese  
of  
Greensburg

**SHADOWS  
STATIONS  
OF THE  
CROSS**

**WHEN:**  
**Friday, March 22, 2024  
8:00 PM**

**WHERE:**  
**St. Lawrence Parish**  
114 Main Street, Cadogan, 16212

**COST:**  
**Free**

**Special Guest Bishop Larry J. Kulick  
Open to all Ages**


**SPONSORED BY CHRIST PRINCE OF PEACE/  
ST. LAWRENCE YOUTH MINISTRY**

**FISH  
FRY**

Prior  
from  
  
5:00-  
7:00  
PM

Come,  
visit  
with  
the  
Bishop

20<sup>TH</sup>  
Anniversary  
of  
Shadows  
Stations  
of  
the  
Cross



**Let us prepare our hearts for the  
holiest week of the year!**



### DON'T BE LATE

Next weekend begins Daylight Saving Time. Don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour when you go to bed on Saturday, March 9.

### "MARRIAGE Q&A"

Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Greensburg, is sponsoring "Marriage Q&A - Convalidations and Annulments" Tuesday, March 12, at 6:30 PM. Representatives from the Diocesan Tribunal Office, pastoral ministers and clergy members will be on hand to discuss marriage blessings and annulments.

### SUPPORT UKRAINIAN REFUGEE FUND

Support is needed for the Ukrainian Refugee Fund administered by Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Greensburg, which provides assistance to individuals and families who have been forced to leave their homelands because of war. Visit [ccharitiesgreensburg.org/donate/donate-now/](https://ccharitiesgreensburg.org/donate/donate-now/) to donate. More than 100 families are on a waiting list to resettle in Western Pennsylvania.

### BISHOP KULICK TO SPEAK TO OBLATES OF ST. BENEDICT

The Oblates of St. Benedict, Latrobe Deanery, will meet Sunday, March 17, from 3-4:15 in Brownfield Room 202 at the Saint Vincent Archabbey, Latrobe. Benedictine Brother John Fisher Helms will speak on "Saint Benedict and His Rule." Attendees may also attend vespers at 5 PM in the archabbey basilica and supper at 5:35 PM in the Eichstätt Dining Room. Those planning to have supper should call Benedictine Father Donald Raila at 724-805-2291.

### 2024 DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO NATIONAL SHRINE

Mark your calendar and plan to join in a Diocese of Greensburg pilgrimage to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, D.C., Saturday, Sept. 21, led by Bishop Larry J. Kulick. This will be the first Diocesan pilgrimage to our magnificent National Shrine since 2006, and is sure to be a very holy and special experience. Further information on the itinerary, transportation options and cost will be announced soon.

### **A Reflection on Lenten Fasting**

At the beginning of his ministry in the Gospel of Matthew, we read, "When He had fasted 40 days and 40 nights, He became hungry." Hunger is that state in which we realize our dependence on something else—when we face the ultimate question: "on what does my life depend?" Satan tempted both Adam and Christ, saying: Eat, for your hunger is proof that you depend entirely on food, that your life is in food. Adam believed and ate. Christ said, "Man does NOT live by bread alone." (Mt. 4:4; Lk. 4:4) This liberates us from total dependence on food, on matter, on the world. Thus, for the Christian, fasting is the only means by which man recovers his true spiritual nature. In order for fasting to be effective, then, the spirit must be a part of it. Christian fasting is not concerned with losing weight. It is a matter of prayer and the spirit. And because of that, because it is truly a place of the spirit, true fasting may well lead to temptation, and weakness and doubt and irritation. In other words, it will be a real fight between good and evil, and very likely we shall fail many times in these battles. But the very discovery of the Christian life as "fight" and "effort" is an essential aspect of fasting.

1. From the beginning, God commanded some fasting, and sin entered into the world because Adam and Eve broke the fast.
2. For the Christian, fasting is ultimately about fasting from sin.
3. Fasting reveals our dependence on God and not the resources of this world.
4. Fasting is an ancient way of preparing for the Eucharist—the truest of foods
5. Fasting is preparation for baptism (and all the sacraments)—for the reception of grace.
6. Fasting is a means of saving resources to give to the poor.
7. Fasting is a means of self-discipline, chastity, and the restraining of the appetites.