

ST. THERESE OF THE CHILD JESUS

THE CHURCH OF THE FRANCISCANS
BERNARD KARMANOCKY, OFM, PASTOR
FR. FRANCIS BALESTINO, IN RESIDENCE

CHURCH/RECTORY

536 Decker Avenue
Johnstown, PA 15906

OFFICE HOURS WEEKLY

Monday – Friday
9:00AM---2:00PM

Website: StThereseJohnstown.com

Email: stthereseofm@atlanticbbn.net



CONVENT

702 Saybrook Place
Johnstown, PA 15906

SOCIAL HALL: 535-8805

CHURCH HALL: 536-2287

CONVENT: 536-2287

RECTORY: 539-7633

First Sunday of Lent

February 18, 2024

FIRST READING: I will set my bow in the clouds to serve as a sign of the covenant between me and the earth (Genesis 9:8-15).

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant (Psalm 25).

SECOND READING — The water of the flood prefigured baptism, which saves you now (1 Peter 3:18-22).

GOSPEL -- Jesus was tempted by Satan, and the angels ministered to him (Mark 1:12-15).

LITURGICAL REFLECTION REPENT AND BELIEVE IN THE GOSPEL

Lent is the time of year we devote to scrutinizing our lives in the light of our baptism into the death and resurrection of Jesus. Today's readings are a nice shorthand catechism of what our baptized lives mean. As Noah passed through the waters of the flood to a covenant with God, so did we enter into a covenant, a promised relationship with God through our baptism.

Peter's letter gives an explicit explanation of what our baptism means: it is an appeal we make to God for a clear conscience. How do we obtain this clear conscience? The words proclaimed by Jesus immediately following his temptation show us the way: "Repent, and believe in the gospel" (Mark 1:15). It might be a good spiritual exercise to keep these readings before us throughout the entire season of Lent, a means to help us return to a life lived by our baptismal promises.

WEEKLY PARISH EVENTS CALENDAR

MON	2/19		
TUES	2/20	8:00AM	.... Peel Potatoes for Piroghi Project
WED	2/21		
THURS	2/22	8:00AM	.... Piroghi Project
FRI	2/23		
SAT	2/24	3:00PM	.... Confession
Next Sun	2/25		

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK: (Feb 19th – Feb 25th)

MON	2/19	7:30AM	.... + (A) Josh Shank – (Family)
TUES	2/20	7:50AM	.... + Teresa Lill– (Sister, Patricia Henley)
WED	2/21	7:50AM	.... + James Marshall - (Ron & Linda Maurer)
THUR	2/22	7:50AM	.... + (A) Pauline Pappas – (Sons)
FRI	2/23	7:50AM	.... + Nancy Schultz – (Andrea & Ray Vargo)
SAT	2/24	4:00PM	.... + Living & Deceased Members Gentile/ David Families – (Family)
SUN	2/25	7:30AM	.... + (B) Dawn Mamula – (M/M Joseph Stroz)
		10:30AM	.... + (B) Zach Bretz – (Family)



Sunday Feb 18, 2024

Stewardship Reflections: As we celebrate our first Sunday of Lent, our readings today remind us why we partake in this 40-day Lenten journey - to prepare our hearts for the resurrection of Christ on the glorious Easter morning.

Just like Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert where He was tempted by Satan, we too are called to 'the desert' - tempted by Satan to turn away from God. We should strive to fully participate in this Lenten season by mirroring Jesus, the model steward by Whom we are called to imitate. Through our time in 'the desert', we will confront evil by weeding out the roots of sin in our lives through fasting. And we will be sustained and nourished in the desert by prayer. If we willingly choose to spend this Lent like Jesus, we will be ready to receive the glorious gift of Himself and partake in the riches that pour forth from that Gift.

Let us strive to purify our hearts for the remainder of these 40 days so that we might be ready to receive all that God plans to bless us with on Easter.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS (Feb 10th & Feb 11th, 2024)

Weekly	.....	\$ 4,961.25
Building Fund	.....	\$ 174.00
Fuel	.....	\$ 75.00

Thank you and May God Bless you for your continued support of St. Therese Church.



Lenten Folders - are available in the vestibule for anyone wishing to use them. Lenten envelopes are also available in your boxes.

Lenten Reading Material -- is available in the vestibule. Please help yourselves. These booklets will assist you in making the most of your Lenten journey

CRS Rice Bowl - Our CCD students as well as our Parishioners will be participating in CRS Rice Bowl Catholic Relief Services Lenten program once again. Please take one home and use this fun and easy resource to deepen your family's Lenten experience and make a difference in the lives of the poor.



Stations of the Cross - will be held every Friday during Lent at 4PM followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament



Lenten Piroghi Project - continues each week through March 21st (6 weeks)

Piroghi will not be made during Holy Week. Donations of Robin Hood flour (regular), butter, eggs, potatoes, and monetary gifts are always appreciated.

A sign up sheet will be in the vestibule this weekend **February 17th & 18th** or you can phone the office Monday Feb 19th between **9-11AM**. **No orders will be taken after 11.**



If you have any spare time and would like to help with the Piroghi Project, please feel free to stop over. **No Experience necessary!!!**
New volunteers are always welcomed!!!

Blessed Candles - for your home are available in the back of the church. They are \$3 for a box of two.



There will be a **Faculty Meeting** on **TODAY Sunday February 18th** at 6PM in the Church Hall.

Families and the Gospel - (Mark 1: 12-15) Jesus went into the desert to put his life in perspective. This lent, take a fresh look at a difficult relationship in your life. Concentrate on the positive things that person does, not just the negatives. Try to understand why their behaviors 'bug' you. Can you honestly share your feelings with them without attacking them? Make Lent a time to MEND and FORGIVE!



OLD PALMS - You can drop off your old palms in the box in the back of the church.

Community News & Events



St Benedict Church Fish Fry

Feb 23rd, Mar 1st, 8th, 15th & 22nd

Eat in or Take -out 3:30PM -7PM

Phone 266-9718 X206 from 3PM - 6:30PM

Online orders www.stbenedictchurch.org/fishfry

and place your credit card order for 7AM to 6PM the day of the dinner. All major credit/debit cards will be accepted.

New Germany Grove Hall, Summerhill

will hold a **Fish Fry every Friday during Lent** starting on Feb 16th and ending on Good Friday, March 29th, from 4PM -6:30PM. Cost is \$15 per meal, children 6-11 \$7.50. Dine-In or Take-out is available and is also \$15

Annual Fish Fry:

Visitation Parish will hold their annual Fish Fry every Friday during Lent (except on Good Friday) from 11:00 AM until 6:00 PM. **The cost is \$13 dollars.** The menu includes an 8 oz. Fish Sandwich with coleslaw and with a choice of macaroni and cheese, French fries, or sweet Potato fries.

FISH FRY: ... TAKE OUT ONLY!

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church - Windber

First Fish Fry is Friday, Feb. 16th. This year you may place an order by phone. Orders placed by phone will be given a pickup time and an order # as in the past years. When ordering by phone please be patient and listen to the entire prompt. Please be patient if you hear a busy signal and try again. Phones will be answered beginning at 9:00 am on Fish Fry Fridays. Calling early will enable you to pick a convenient time for your order. Pick-up will be at the (big brown doors) at the 7th street entrance to the church hall. Please be on time when ordering by phone. Call 814-467-7191 X 4.

ANNUAL GREAT MCCORT AUCTION CASH GIVEAWAY TICKET SALES

Students from the Bishop McCort Catholic High School will be selling Cash Giveaway tickets after mass for the NEXT 2 weekends to benefit the Great McCort Auction. Tickets are \$10 each and prizes total \$5,000. Funds raised through this event provide much needed funding for extra-curricular activities. Your support is greatly appreciated.



Military Share Food Distributions

In partnership with Veterans Leadership Program and the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank

All veterans in need of food are welcome

Johnstown Military Share 12PM

Feb 29th, March 29th,

April 29th, May 31st, and June 24th

727 Goucher St. Johnstown

MEN'S CONFERENCE --Register today for

the 2024 Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown STRENGTH IN CHRIST men's conference on March 3 from 11:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Mount Aloysius College in Cresson. The theme is J2J: *Journey to Jesus*. Nationally recognized speaker and musician Cooper Ray will be the keynote presenter. Father Michael Pleva and Father Brian Norris will also share their incredible faith journeys. Also, a great panel discussion with six Catholic men from throughout the diocese sure to inspire guys on their faith journey. The day includes lunch and Mass at 5 PM. with Bishop Mark. **There is no cost.** Seating is limited, so register before **February 23** online at dioceseaj.org or pick up a hard copy registration form at any parish



Lower Yoder Volunteer Fire Dept.

Bingo 1st & 3rd Wednesday

Doors open at 5:30PM a first game called at 6:30 No entrance packets will be sold after the 1st number is called.

The \$20 entrance fee includes a 6face 20 paper packet. Extra entrance packets and daubers will be available for purchase. We run 4 -special games throughout. Each Special is a single card for \$1. Hope to see you there!



"Babies are bits of stardust, blown down from the hand of God"

ABORTION - "A baby fills a place in your heart that you never knew was empty"