

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

Fifth Sunday of Lent

March 17, 2024

FIRST READING: I will make a new covenant; I will write my law upon their hearts (Jeremiah 31:31-34).

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: -- Create a clean heart in me, O God (Psalm 51).

SECOND READING — Christ learned obedience and became the source of eternal salvation (Hebrews 5:7-9).

GOSPEL - If a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it produces much fruit (John 12:20-33).

LITURGICAL REFLECTION THE NEW COVENANT

Today's first reading is an enormously important passage, not only in the history of the Jewish people, but also for us as disciples of Jesus, who see in it a foreshadowing of the Christian dispensation. The prophet announces that God has chosen to forgive the people, and that as a sign of divine forgiveness a new covenant will be established. Contrasting the new covenant with the one made with Moses on Mount Sinai, Jeremiah says that the new covenant will be written on the people's hearts rather than on tablets of stone. No longer will the community's tradition be the sole bearer of the covenant; henceforth, God will speak directly and personally to each individual, forgiving sin and calling for a return to God in faithfulness. No longer will mere outward compliance with the dictates of the Law suffice; henceforth, God asks for an obedience that springs from the depths of one's heart. Precisely that kind of obedience is highlighted in today's second reading, where the author of the Letter to the Hebrews describes Jesus as the mediator of the new covenant whose obedience has made him the source of salvation for all who, in turn, obey him. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

WEEKLY PARISH EVENTS CALENDAR

MON	3/18		
TUES	3/19	8:00AM	.... Peel Potatoes for Piroghi Project
WED	3/20		
THURS	3/21	8:00AM	.... Piroghi Project
FRI	3/22	10-12PM	.... Piroghi Pick-up
SAT	3/23	3:00PM	.... Confession
Next Sun	3/24		.... Palm Sunday

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK: (March 18th – March 24th)

MON	3/18	7:30AM	+ Julie Skala – (Husband, Casey)
TUES	3/19	7:50AM	+ Joseph & Kathleen Stibich– (Family)
WED	3/20	7:50AM	+ (B) MaryAnn Baldwin – (Brother, Joe)
THUR	3/21	7:50AM	+ (B) Sophie Mulvehill – (Son, Patrick & Terri Mulvehill)
FRI	3/22	7:50AM	+ Jim Golias – (Sister, Bea & Family)
SAT	3/23	4:00PM	+ (B) Bernie Forgas – (Daughter Terri & Patrick Mulvehill)
SUN	3/24	7:30AM	+ (A) Nancy Schultz – (Allyson Schultz & Family)
		10:30AM	+ Joan Loncar – (Marlene & Don Kott)



Sunday, March 17, 2024

Stewardship Reflections: As we are nearing the end of our Lenten journey, our readings today remind us of the goodness that our God has to offer us.

Jesus states in the Gospel, "whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will preserve it for eternal life." God should have our entire heart, not just a portion of it. When we regularly practice the discipline of detachment by offering small, daily sacrifices to the Lord, we are also better preparing our hearts for the ultimate happiness in eternal life.

As our Lenten journey soon concludes, let us strive to more faithfully live out our covenant with God by actively living as disciples of Christ. And may we consider the ways in which we might continue the practice of self-denial by offering small, daily sacrifices to the Lord.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS (March 9th & March 10th, 2024)

Weekly	.....	\$ 3,299.00
Building Fund	.....	\$ 74.00
Fuel	.....	\$ 25.00
Easter Flowers	.....	\$ 55.00
Easter	.....	\$ 1,195.00

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



Congratulations and God's Blessings for **Mr. & Mrs. Craig & Marcella Ploucher** who were united in the Sacrament of Matrimony this past Friday. May God grant them a long and happy life together.



There is a meeting scheduled for **TODAY Sunday, March 17th at 6PM** in the church basement to discuss the "Summer Bash" & Basket Party fundraiser in July. All are welcome to attend!



**Last Chance for a
EASTER MONEY TREE worth
\$250.00** Chances are \$1 for one -6
for \$5.00 **Drawing will be held
TODAY Sunday, March 17 after the 10:30
Mass. Tree not included**

Stations of the Cross will be held every Friday during Lent at 4PM.

Lenten Piroghi Project - concludes this coming week

Piroghi will not be made during Holy Week.

A sign up sheet will be in the vestibule this weekend **March 16th & 17th** or you can phone the office **Monday March 18th between 9-11AM**. **No orders will be taken after 11.** Pick-up is **Friday, March 22nd from 10-12.**

VOLUNTEER

All that's missing is U!

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!!



Children's Easter Breakfast and Party

The children's Easter breakfast and party will be held on **Saturday, March 23rd at 10:00 AM**, sponsored by the KOC Council #10409, the St Therese Card Party, and the Christian Mothers, for children 12 and under. (Parents & siblings are welcomed to come and eat.) Please complete the registration form found in the back of church and return no later than **March 17th**
See you there!

Catholic Ministries Drive Encountering Christ.

During this time of our Eucharist revival, Encountering Christ through our Catholic Ministries Drive is an invitation to grow your relationship with Christ and to open your heart to serve Him through serving our brothers and sisters.

Please reflect on Bishop Mark's invitation which arrived last week in your mail and prayerfully consider supporting our Diocesan ministries. You may return your pledge card and donation through the mail, make your payment online, or return your pledge card and donation to your parish through the offertory.

Our target goal for the Catholic Ministries Drive for 2024 for **St Therese is \$24,902.00**

AREA PENANCE SERVICES

During the season of Lent, Catholics are encouraged to seek God's healing and forgiveness through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The following is a schedule of Communal Penance Services.

Our Mother of Sorrows	Monday, March 18 th , and Tuesday March 19 th at 6PM
St Michael < St Michael	Monday, March 18 th at 6PM
Visitation	Tuesday, March 19 th at 5:30PM
St Elizabeth Ann Seton	Tuesday March 19 th at 6PM
St Benedict	Monday, March 25 th at 5PM
St Patrick	Wednesday, March 27 th at 6PM

Community News & Events

CASH BASH



Brian & Eve will be selling tickets for Lower Yoder Fire Dept's CASH BASH next weekend, **March 23rd & 24th** in the Vestibule. Tickets are **\$20** includes food & Beverages. Held at St Therese Social Hall **April 27th** Please help support our local Volunteer Fire Dept. If you would like to purchase a ticket, please call Brian at 814-418-4570 and he will make arrangements with you.

Tenebrae Service:

A Tenebrae Cantata entitled "In the Shadow of the Cross" will be held at **7:00pm Good Friday March 29** at **St John Gualbert Cathedral** 117 Clinton Street Johnstown, Pa. The Greater Johnstown Diocesan Festival Choir along with the Festival Chamber Orchestra will recount poignantly in song and scripture the last moments of the Christ's earthly struggle. A free-will offering will be taken.

St Benedict Church Fish Fry

March 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.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton will be having a Lenten Fish Fry, every Friday of Lent, now until March 22, from 11am-6pm or until sold out. They are taking orders by phone (467-7191, ext 4) or order in the Church Hall. This will be take-out only. You must use the 7th Street entrance only when picking up your order. The fish is wild caught in Alaskan Waters and frozen at sea (not a product of China or Russia). All food is made fresh.

St. Nicholas Serbian Orthodox Church

FISH FRY St. Nicholas Serbian Orthodox Church (Top of St. Clair Road) - Westmont

TODAY 3:00 pm - 6:30 pm Eat In or Take Out
No Phone Orders



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

March 29th, April 29th, May 31st, and June 24th
727 Goucher St. Johnstown



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!



Mom's House, Inc of Johnstown invites you to **Trivia Night, Wednesday, March 20th** at the Blvd. Grill.

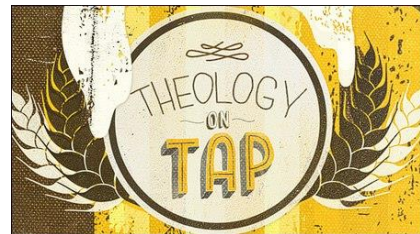
Doors open at 5PM- First question is at 6PM. Admission includes food, drinks, and dessert.

Teams of up to 8 people- \$25 per person. Prizes for the top 3 teams. Call Allegra or Rose at 814-535-4848 for team registration or information.



ACRP is hosting their 17th Annual Beach Party Fundraiser on March 23rd at Ace's in Johnstown.

The Suns of Beaches Band will be performing classic hits from Jimmy Buffett, Kenney Chesney, The Eagles, and more! We also have Basket Raffles, Hula Hoop & Limbo Contests, Best Dressed Tourist & Best Decorated Table contests, and other fun surprises! This fundraiser greatly benefits the programs & services we offer in the community to children, adolescents & families, especially our services & Play Center/Splash Park located in the Cambria City section of Johnstown! If you would like to purchase tickets or reserve a table, contact Julianna at (814) 535-2277 ext. 3004 or jwright@acrpkids.org. Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door.



Young Adult Group (18-39): Our February Theology on Tap was our largest yet with 40+ coming to hear Fr. Ananias O.S.B. We also volunteered with our member's special needs group on Saint Patrick's Day. Over our first year we have grown to over 85 young adults strong with new members joining monthly. Fr. Curtis Kiddy C.P. (Passionist Priest and Retreat Director at Saint Paul of the Cross Retreat Center in Pittsburgh) is our **March 27th** speaker on "The Passion of Jesus in Lent and Life" at the Boulevard Grill from 6-8pm. All faiths aged 18-39 are welcome to join us for faith and fellowship! We take monthly freewill offerings but are seeking sponsors to defer our excess buffet and speaker costs to avoid charging a set fee. For more information contact Geoffrey Stumpo at (814) 659-7415 or geoffstumpo@gmail.com.

Families and the Gospel - (John: 12:20-23) Relationships come with a price tag. We must be willing to entrust ourselves to another, to let go of our autonomy and die to our independence. It is in dying to our independence that we find interdependence with others