

Sacred Heart Parish

120 Jefferson Street ~ Swedesburg, Pennsylvania, 19405

(610) 275-1750



When they brought their boats to the shore, they left everything and followed him.

Luke 5:11

Rev. Peter J. DiMaria

Pastor

frdimaria@shswedesburg.org

Rev. Thomas A. Nasta

Pastor Emeritus

Linda Moser

Coordinator of Religious Education

lmoser@shswedesburg.org

FOCUS Missionaries:

Caitlyn Sechuk

csechuk@shswedesburg.org

Thomas Horlander

thorlander@shswedesburg.org

Holy Mass:

Saturday: Anticipated Mass 4:00 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am & 10:15 am

Monday through Friday at 8:00 am

Sacrament of Penance:

Sunday: 9:30 to 9:50 am

Wednesdays:

7:30 to 7:50 am & 6:30 to 7:00 pm

Saturday: 3:00 to 3:45 pm

Leo Brady

Sacristan

Valerie DiFilippo

Parish Bookkeeper/

Cemetery Manager

vdifilippo@shswedesburg.org

Joanne D'Alessandro

Parish Office Manager

jdalessandro@shswedesburg.org

Carl Gedeik

Director of

Liturgical Music

Joe & Jeff Houseal

Directors of Parish

& Cemetery Facilities

FEBRUARY 9, 2025
FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME




Spaghetti Dinner
Sunday,
February 16, 2025
3:30 - 6:00 pm

Adult: \$ 12
Child: (3-9) \$7
Under 3 Free

School Hall

Ticket sales start Jan. 18th
after Mass & at Rectory

Spaghetti &
Meatballs
Italian Bread
Caesar Salad
Italian Salad
Beverages
Desserts
BYOB





CARING FOR FRIENDS
It's time to get cooking!

Mark your calendars for **Wednesday, February 12th**, at 6:00pm and come out and join our Caring for Friends Ministry. Do God's work and at the same time make new friends from our parish.

All you need to do is make a pot of your favorite homemade soup, a hearty batch of chili, some mac and cheese or your favorite "comfort food" that can be scooped into a 16oz container. It needs to be able to be frozen so extra sauce or broth should be brought to keep it juicy!

Hope to see you Wednesday!

Your CFF Team,
Pat, Nadine, Karen and Lisa

The book club will meet on **Tuesday, February 18th** in the rectory meeting room at 1:30 pm. Discussion will be on the second half of the book, *The Little Liar*.

New members are always welcome to join.



Dear Rev. DiMaria,

On behalf of all the staff and guests of Martha's Choice Marketplace & Community Farm at Catholic Social Services of Montgomery County, we would like to thank you for your incredibly generous donation of \$4,175.00 in gift cards for Christmas 2024! We are all truly grateful.

You are our superhero, and a vital part of everything we do at Martha's.

God bless you and your parishioners! May 2025 be filled with peace, patience, love & kindness.

Blessings!

Sincerely,
Eli Wenger & Patrick Walsh, Directors
 Martha's Choice Marketplace at Catholic Social Services Montgomery County.



FRIDAY NIGHT BINGO
Friday, February 14th

Doors open 6:00 PM
Games at 7:00 PM
Parish Hall

Chance to win up to \$500.00

Sponsored by:



Could an ancient Jewish linen cloth be the actual burial shroud of Jesus? Could the **Shroud of Turin** be a document of the crucifixion? Is that even possible? Or is it nothing more than a medieval hoax?

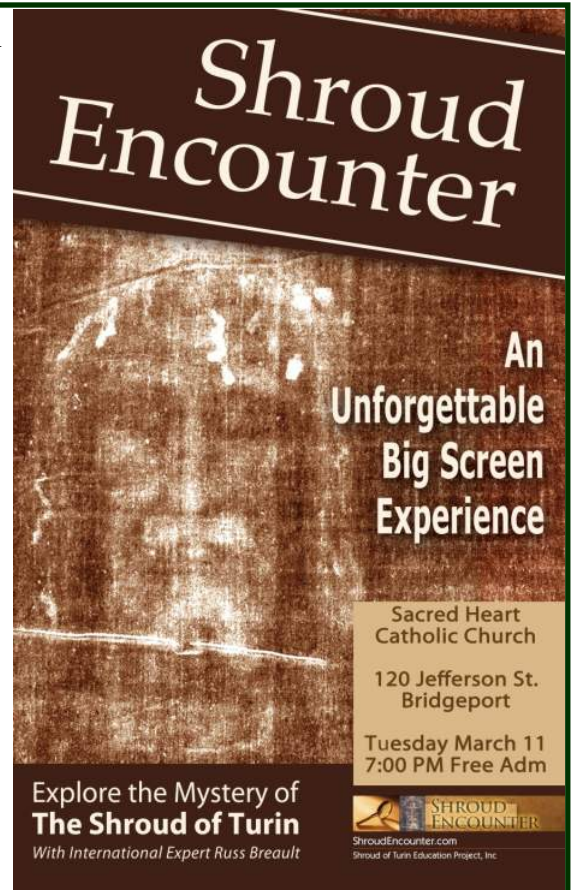
For hundreds of years this ancient linen cloth etched with the faint image of a crucified man has mystified millions. It continues to speak from centuries past challenging us to unlock its many secrets. Nearly every scientific regimen has been employed to unravel the mystery and yet it remains unsolved.

Shroud Encounter is a dramatic big-screen experience. Each clue is revealed and examined like a *CSI Investigation* leading deeper into its maze of mystery and intrigue.

Explore this profound enigma with **Russ Breault**, one of the world's leading experts captivating audiences coast to coast and seen in numerous documentaries including The History Channel, Discovery and CBS.

Don't miss **Shroud Encounter!**

A free will offering will be accepted to help defray the cost.



Shroud Encounter

An Unforgettable Big Screen Experience

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
120 Jefferson St. Bridgeport
Tuesday March 11
7:00 PM Free Adm

Explore the Mystery of **The Shroud of Turin**
With International Expert Russ Breault

SHROUD ENCOUNTER
ShroudEncounter.com
Shroud of Turin Education Project, Inc.



January's Poor Box Collection

We collected \$542.00 in the Poor Box during the month of the January. The money has been sent to **Our House**

Ministries located in in the city's Grays Ferry section. **Our House Ministries** provides recovery homes and faith-based sobriety programs for those in need.

Thank you for your continued support of our outreach efforts to the less fortunate.



SUDDENLY SENIORS

will meet on Thursday, February 20th @ the Swedesburg Firehouse

on Jefferson Street beginning at 12. Bring your own lunch. Water, coffee & tea will be provided. Anyone able to bring a dessert, this will be greatly appreciated.

Guest speakers will be Upper Merion Fire Chief James Johnson & 2 EMS paramedics to discuss emergencies and display some equipment.

Anyone who is not yet a member of 'Suddenly Seniors', please consider joining. We would love to have you join our group. Meetings are on the Third Thursday of each month.



Cereal Sunday Collection

We collected 212 boxes of breakfast cereal during the weekend of February 1 and 2.

Thanks for such a great response. The cereal has been given to Martha's Choice Market for distribution to the poor.

Remember, we always collect cereal boxes on the First Sunday of each month.

"As the mother knows the needs better than the babe, so the Blessed Mother understands our cries and worries and knows them better than we know ourselves."

~Archbishop Fulton Sheen



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, February 8

4:00pm JoAnn Prinzivalli

*Requested by Bud & Joanne D'Alessandro
& Family*

Sunday, February 9

8:00am Alice Hann

Requested by The Moser Family

**10:15am For the Intentions of Louisa Arias
& Family**

Requested by Lourdes Kalivas

Monday, February 10

8:00am Patricia Hylinski

Requested by Spike & Joan DeStefano

Tuesday, February 11

8:00am Rose Coscia

Requested by Lou Puco

Wednesday, February 12

8:00am Rita & Paul Carney, Sr.

Requested by Pat & Donna McCloskey & Family

Thursday, February 13

8:00am Dan Paciello

Requested by Barbara Roskos

Friday, February 14

8:00am Kenneth Zadroga

Requested by Brother & Family

Saturday, February 15

NB: No 8:00am Mass on Saturdays

4:00pm Martha Opielski

Requested by Wanda & Family

Sunday, February 16

8:00am For the Intentions of Virginia Dudas

Requested by Patrick Dudas

10:15am Madeline Kuras

Requested by Barbara Roskos



Let Us Serve The Lord With Gladness!

The following Ministers are scheduled for our Parish Masses.

Saturday evening, February 15:

4:00pm

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion:

Valencia Zaremba

Lector: Elisa Pagnotti

Sunday morning, February 16:

8:00am

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion:

Marjorie Pruskowski

Lector: Tony Viggiano

10:15am

Lector: Caitlyn Sechuk



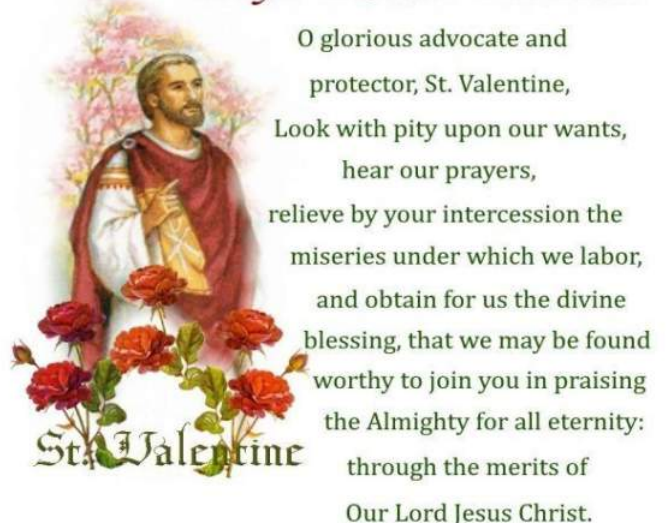
Weekly Report

February 1 - 2, 2025

\$7,852.00

Thank you for your support of Our Parish!

Prayer to Saint Valentine



Share Catholic
www.ShareCatholic.com

Amen.



We extend a warm welcome to

John DiRenzo

Sydney Skarbek

who recently registered in our Parish!



Lenten Eucharistic Adoration

During the Wednesdays of Lent, beginning on March 12th, we will have Adoration of the

Blessed Sacrament from Noon until 7:30pm. Please consider spending some time with the Eucharistic Lord. There will be a sign-up sheet available for people to commit to certain time periods to ensure that the Blessed Sacrament is not left unattended.

Come, let us adore Him!

LOVE

the Lord your God with all your **HEART**
your **SOUL**
and your
MIND
Matthew 22:37

©KrisWolting-Jesus.com

We all know people with physical or intellectual limitations: but are we aware of our spiritual limitations? What does it mean to love God with your whole heart, mind, and soul? It means, in part, that you are keenly aware of His Presence, that you converse with Him everyday and seek to do His Will in all things. What does it mean to love your neighbor as yourself? It means, in part, seeking the very best for everyone. It means praying, working, and voting for the protection of the unborn. It means extending indulgences, particularly plenary indulgences to the souls in purgatory. It means treating everyone with our hands, feet, and thoughts as if they were the hands, feet, and thoughts of Jesus. In short it is actually being Christ to others.



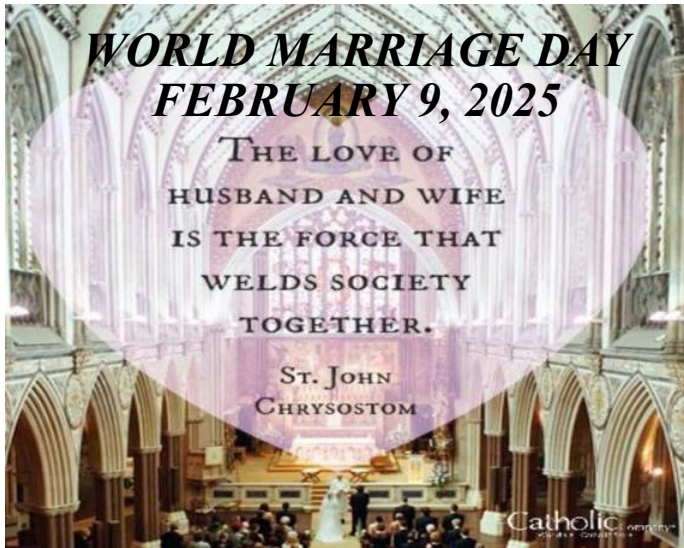
Please Pray For All Who Protect Our Country, especially...

John F. K. Benedict (Major, USAF ANG), son of Christine & Vince Benedict; **Anthony C. Brandt** (CW3 Warrant Officer, U.S. Army Reserves), son of Eileen Brandt; **Zachary T. Brandt** (Sergeant U.S. Army), grandson of Eileen Brandt; **Matthew J. Capaldo** (Commander, U.S. Navy) son of John & Connie Capaldo; **Michael DeStefano, Jr.** (Sergeant U.S. Army) grandson of Jack & Sue DeStefano; **Michael Gutkowski** (Lieutenant Commander, U.S. Navy), grandson of Pat Gutkowski; **Samuel Hoey** (LCpl, U.S.M.C), grandson of Leona Cottone; **Noel Irizarry** (Sergeant, U.S. Army), son of Patricia Epright; **Shane Jones** (Sergeant U.S. Marines), grandson of Fran Toth; **Matthew McNulty** (Chief Warrant Officer 4 U.S.M.C.), son of Irene McNulty; **Rick McVoy** (Lieutenant Commander, U.S. Navy) son of Rich McVoy; **Greg Philips** (Lieutenant Commander, U.S. Navy); **Jessica Prostack** (CW2 Warrant Officer, U.S. Army), daughter of Richard Prostack; **Jack Razin** (1st Lieutenant, U.S. Air Force), son of Rich & Julie Razin; **Luke Razin** (Captain, U.S. Air Force), son of Rich & Julie Razin; **Jeffrey Seamans** (Captain, U.S. Army), son-in-law of Dolores Burton; **Stephanie Zugay** (National Guard), granddaughter of Greg & Grace Zugay.



Piper Kaplan
Michael J. Estock
Francis Rodenbaugh III
Karen Braithwaite
Carol Katkowski
Elaine Fertal
Barbara Pruskowski
George Minnis
Al Cowling
Mary (Puzio) Stephenson
Mary Boyle
Fran Toth
Joan Birely
Martha Smoczylo
Kelly Benedict
Patricia Gaffney
Angela Desmond
Fred Zugay
Mike Piskai
Eileen Brandt

Denise Kavanagh
Tom Kavanagh
Michael Martin
Ronald Halas
Marge Leszczynski
Dolores Burton
Fran & Rob Worrall
Marion Raup
Joseph Saboe
Irene Elliott
Stanley Leszczynski
Ayden Boone
Butch Rodenbaugh
Nicholas Janicki
Michael Myers
Melissa (Myers) Sillah
George Estock
Barbara A. Burkert
John Smoczylo
Laurie Ronan

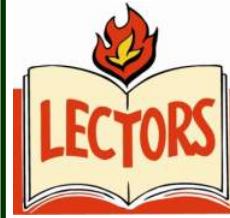


**WORLD MARRIAGE DAY
FEBRUARY 9, 2025**

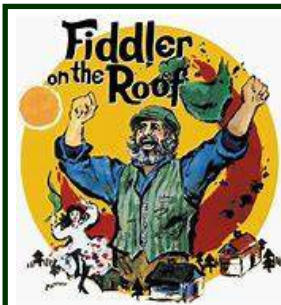
THE LOVE OF
HUSBAND AND WIFE
IS THE FORCE THAT
WELDS SOCIETY
TOGETHER.

St. JOHN
CHRYSOSTOM

Catholic Online



We are in need of a few more lectors for the weekend Masses. If you would like to proclaim the Word of God at Mass and have a confident and clear speaking voice, please contact Father DiMaria at frdimaria@shswedesburg.org.



**DINNER THEATER
BUS TRIP
LANCASTER**

WHEN: Tuesday, April 15
WHERE: Dutch Apple
Dinner Theater

SHOW: Fiddler on the Roof

COST: \$119.41 Per Person
(due upon making reservation)

TIME: Departs 9:30 AM Sacred Heart Church
parking lot promptly
Returns 4 PM (buffet lunch 11:30, show 1PM)

Checks payable to:
Sacred Heart Church

Any questions, contact June @ 610-247-4398

**Tickets are still available. Get yours
today!!**

Women of Hope (formerly known as
Dominican Women)
Retreat: **March 14-16, 2025**

Come to Malvern Retreat House to renew and strengthen your relationship with our Lord. Take time to deepen your faith, in the company of other women who seek more from their faith lives. The theme is *"The Eucharist- Food for the Journey."* Speakers include: Jeannine Peters, Sr. Shiela Galligan, IHM, and Nicky Verna. Visit and learn about the first Archdiocesan Shrine dedicated to Blessed, soon to be Saint, Carlo Acutis, the first millennial saint of the youth. Mary Bea Damico will speak about him in the shrine and a first class relic can be venerated.

Please consider the gift of this weekend retreat for yourself and other women in your lives. The cost is \$275 and a \$75 deposit minimum is requested to secure your spot. For additional information, call Sunny Dougherty @ 484-744-3920. To register, call 610 644-0400 or visit:

www.malvernretreat.com.



Eucharistic Miracles - In order to dispel doubts, God has provided many instances throughout Church history where the Consecrated Bread and Wine have become Human Flesh and Blood. These events are called **Eucharistic Miracles** and more than 150 such cases have been approved by the Vatican! Learn about some of these wondrous

occurrences at the next Patricians discussion on **Wednesday, February 19th from 6:45-8:45pm** at **St. John the Baptist Catholic Church**, 502 Ford St., Bridgeport, PA. *The Society of the Patricians is an informal group of Catholic adults who meet monthly under the direction of Fr. Sam Keyes to learn more about the Catholic Faith so that we can better share it with others. Please come, and bring a friend! The program is sponsored by the Legion of Mary. For more info: email r.edel.lukens@gmail.com or 610-256-7125.*

FEBRUARY 9, 2025

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson



If you were to research the notion of “The Peter Principle” you would find it is ultimately just a theory first recognized by a Canadian educator named Dr. Laurence J. Peter. Admittedly light in his proposal, he wrote that in any corporate structure a person tends to be promoted until he or she gets to one rung above his or her level of competence. You can be the judge of whether or not this has happened where you work. I know it happens in the Church.

What I propose is “the St. Peter Principle,” It was initiated by the lovable man who become our first pope. Christ’s choice of him put Peter where he was most competent, as leader and bulwark against heresy. Yes, he was imperfect, but he always kept intact his beautiful humility. Evidence of this we have in today’s Gospel.

With transparent frustration, Peter resists Jesus’ command to lower the nets in deep water. “We’ve been at this all night, Lord!” he says. But out of respect for the carpenter’s son, He lowers the nets. When the miracle happens, Peter immediately kneels before Jesus and urges Him to leave sinful company.

Now just freeze the moment and savor it. Note both the power and the beauty. Here a rough and ready fisherman, tired from a hard night’s work, still manages to convert to a ready penitent. Please allow me to stretch this tidy conclusion with a more elusive one. Do you recognize the fact that all Peter, can just St. Peter, can be surprised by God? He frequently supplies something positive and wonderful in our lives, and we routinely forget those when we complain to Him about the inevitable negatives. I leave it to you to name them from your life experience so far.

I prefer it if you were to list the items you acknowledge on Thanksgiving morning. Things like meeting the person you eventually fall in love with enough to bind your life with theirs. This one is most appropriate to think about on this “World Day of Marriage” in our Church calendar. Or the happy diagnosis given one by the cancer specialist. Or the unexpected raise given you by the boss. Or the return to the faith by a non-practicing family member, to name a few. But note how the “St. Peter Principle” kicks in. It is your humility showing when you compose such a list. It urges you kneel and be grateful that God does not run away from you. Listen to the great Pope Gregory the Great: “God first gathered the unlearned, afterwards philosophers, nor has he taught fishermen by orators, but has subdued orators by fishermen.”

God love you and give you His peace.

Keith J. Murphy
Supervisor
Funeral Director



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Deep within the heart of every man is a call to live with purpose and meaning; a call to lead, to protect, to serve and to defend. Will you join us?



HOLY FAMILY COUNCIL #3327

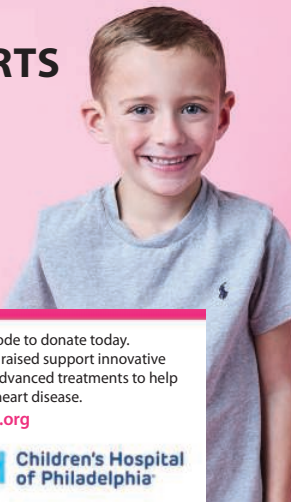
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RIDE FOR
LITTLE HEARTS

Saturday & Sunday
March 8-9, 2025

Help hearts like Luca's
Philly Spin-In Ambassador,
Luca, 6, dreams of becoming
a personal trainer - or
flying like Iron Man.



Scan this QR code to donate today.
100% of funds raised support innovative
research and advanced treatments to help
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Supervisor

Timothy J. Meyers
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