

Sacred Heart Parish

120 Jefferson Street ~ Swedesburg, Pennsylvania, 19405

(610) 275-1750



Rev. Peter J. DiMaria

Pastor

frdimaria@shswedesburg.org

Rev. Thomas A. Nasta

Pastor Emeritus

Rev. James J. Shea, Sch. P.

Weekend Assistant

Sr. MaryAnne Bolger, IHM

Parish Services Director

srmaryanne@shswedesburg.org

Linda Moser

Coordinator of Religious Education

lmoser@shswedesburg.org

Leo Brady

Sacristan

Sacramental Schedule

Holy Mass:

Saturday: Anticipated Mass 4:00 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am & 10:15 am

Monday through Saturday at 8:00 am

Sacrament of Penance:

Each Saturday: 3:00 to 3:45 pm

Wednesdays:

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

or by request

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*

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15, 2023
SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



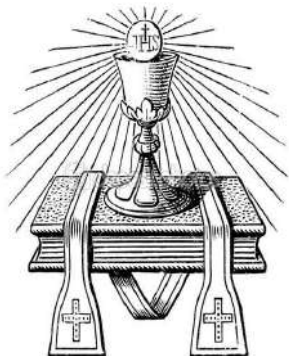
Pastor Emeritus Father Nasta

The ordained priesthood is by Christ's design meant to be a life of prayer and service from which a priest does not retire in the usual sense. Although a priest may retire from administrative duties and from the demands of a full-time assignment, such as a parish pastor or administrator, he continues the lifelong priestly ministry to which he dedicated himself at ordination.

It has long been the custom of the Church to bestow the title of Pastor Emeritus on priests who served as pastors but who retired from their administrative responsibilities. In June of 2021 Father Nasta ceased being the pastor of this parish and was granted senior priest status. However, due to a diocesan administrative oversight, the honorific title of Pastor Emeritus was only recently bestowed upon Father Nasta.

Emeritus is an honorary title bestowed upon a priest who has retired from his pastorate, and it is meant as a way of honoring the priest's service. Emeritus comes from the Latin word *emereri*, which means to earn one's discharge by service. Bestowing the title "Pastor Emeritus" upon a retiring pastor is a way for the Bishop to honor the priest's service to the church.

Father Nasta happily continues to minister as a senior priest at Our Lady of Grace Church in Pennel. As is the custom in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, Father's name will now appear on our church bulletin cover as the Pastor Emeritus.



Welcome, Carl!

It is with great pleasure that I announce that Carl J. Gedeik has accepted the parish's Music Director and Organist position.

He will immediately commence playing for the 4 p.m. Mass each Saturday and will begin playing for the two Sunday Masses on March 5, 2023.

Carl is a graduate of LaSalle University where he pursued a triple major in Economics, Music History, and English literature. For several years he pursued private organ study under the direction of Gerard Stief and John Tuttle. Over the years, Carl has served as organist and choirmaster in various parishes in the Archdiocese and most notably for the last forty years has served as Principal Organist at the Miraculous Medal Shrine in Germantown, Philadelphia for their Monday novena devotions.

Several years ago, I met Carl at the Miraculous Medal Shrine and we soon discovered that we were both taught, albeit many years apart, by Sister M. Letitia, SSJ who was a skilled musician and who had a great love for liturgical music.

At my invitation Carl agreed to help us with Saturday night Masses last year when Mary Breithaupt announced her retirement and while we were in search for a new Music Director. Carl has also assisted us with funeral liturgies and other devotions throughout the past year.

I am thrilled to have Carl on staff and know that our liturgical worship will be enhanced by his considerable musical abilities.

Father DiMaria



Super Seniors Meeting - Thursday,
January 19th at the Swedesburg Firehouse

Estate Planning Overview - Joe Baldassari

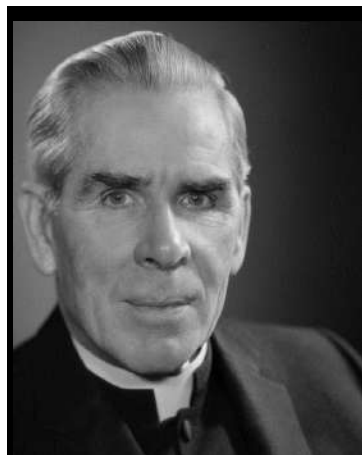
This talk will talk about the proper use of Wills, Powers of Attorney, Health Care Powers of Attorney and Living Wills. Also being discussed will be benefits, or lack thereof, of Living Trusts.

Time for questions will be given.

Please mark your calendars for attending this very informative meeting.

Please call the Rectory, or email Sister MaryAnne to let us know if you will be attending, as we need a number in order to plan well.

Thank you!
Sister MaryAnne



Ven. Fulton J. Sheen.

When a person is not right on the inside, there can be nothing right in his outside activities, he will project his own discontent to others.

**SAVE
THE
DATE!**



SPAGHETTI DINNER

**FEATURING PASTA FROM
P & S RAVIOLI COMPANY**

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26

PARISH HALL - 3:00 PM

**MORE DETAILS TO
FOLLOW!**

December Poor Box Offering

A total of \$411.00 was collected in our poor box during the month of December. The offering will be given to the Padre Pio Prayer Center situated in the former St. Joachim Church property in the Frankford section of Philadelphia. Several years ago, the Capuchin Franciscan Friars obtained this property in order to reach out to the residents of this impoverished neighborhood. They describe their mission in this fashion:



Our mission is to rebuild the local Church by witnessing to the Gospel in the footsteps of St. Francis of Assisi.



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 14

4:00pm Daniel DiRado

Requested by Joe & Netta

Sunday, January 15

8:00am For the People of Our Parish

10:15am Patricia Zaremba

Requested by Sister, Valencia

Monday, January 16

**8:00am For the Deceased Sisters of the
Immaculate Heart of Mary**

Requested by IHM Sisters of Sacred Heart

Tuesday, January 17

8:00am Anna Saso

Requested by Chester Kowalski

Wednesday, January 18

8:00am Monica Aquilante

Requested by Barbara Pupek & Family

Thursday, January 19

8:00am Frank Korom

Requested by Peter & Linda Korpel

Friday, January 20

8:00am Robert Murphy

Requested by Mr. & Mrs. Francis Coscia

Saturday, January 21

8:00am Francis X. Kelly

(Birthday Remembrance, Jan. 23rd)

Requested by Sandra Pietrafitta

4:00pm Benito Cornacchio

Requested by Wife, Christel

Sunday, January 22

8:00am For the People of Our Parish

10:15am William E. Weber

Requested by Elisa Pagnotti



LITURGICAL MINISTRIES



Let Us Serve The Lord With Gladness!

The following Ministers are scheduled for our Parish Masses.

Saturday evening, January 21:

4:00pm

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion:

Barbara JanFrancisco

Lector: Walt Fromm, Jr.

Sunday morning, January 22:

8:00am

Lector: Connie Capaldo

10:15am

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion:

Andy Moletzky

Lector: Danielle Cantando

Celebrant's Mass Schedule

Saturday evening, January 21:

4:00pm - Father DiMaria

Sunday morning, January 22:

8:00am - Father Shea

10:15am—Father DiMaria



Weekly Report

December 31, 2022 & January 1, 2023

\$5,836.00

January 7 & 8, 2023

\$5,594.00

Thank you for your support of Our Parish!

Sacred Heart Pro Life Holy Hour



*All are welcome to join us at
12:00 pm noon each Wednesday to gather
in prayer to ask for God's help on issues
affecting our nation and families.*



This week the bread and wine for the celebration of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass as well as the Sanctuary Lamp in the Church burns in loving memory of



Philomena Kurcık
1st Anniversary Remembrance,
January 18th
at the Request of Her Son, John
Daughter-in-law, Judy
Daughter, Mary Ann

The flowers on each side of the Tabernacle, this week are in loving memory of

Philomena Kurcık
1st Anniversary Remembrance,
January 18th

At the Request of Her Son, John
Daughter-in-law, Judy
Daughter, Mary Ann



**Pray For Our
 Military Personnel**

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

Matthew D. Baxter (*Staff Sergeant, U.S. Air Force*), grandson of Peg Palmer; **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 & Nesbur Brandt; **Zachary T. Brandt** (*Sergeant U.S. Army*), grandson of Eileen & Nesbur Brandt; **LCDR Matthew J. Capaldo** (*U.S. Navy*) son of John & Connie Capaldo; **Michael DeStefano, Jr.** (*Sergeant U.S. Army*) grandson of Jack & Sue DeStefano; **Darius A. Garey** (*E3, U.S. Navy*), great-grandson of Peg Palmer; **Michael Gutkowski** (*Lieutenant, U.S. Navy*), grandson of Pat Gutkowski; **Noel Irizarry** (*Lance Corporal, U.S. Marine Corps*), son of Patricia Epright; **Shane Jones** (*Sergeant US Marines*), grandson of Fran Toth; **Gregory Kantz** (*Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Air Force*), grandson of Rose Kantz; **Stephen Kantz** (*Commander, U.S. Navy*), grandson of Rose Kantz; **Matthew McNulty** (*Chief Warrant Officer 3 U.S.M.C.*), son of Irene McNulty; **Michael McSweeney** (*Commander, U.S. Navy*); **Rick McVoy** (*Lieutenant Commander, U.S. Navy*) son of Rich McVoy; **Jonathan D. Palmer** (*Sergeant, U.S. National Guard*), grandson of Peg Palmer; **Greg Philips** (*Lieutenant Commander, U.S. Navy*); **Jessica Prostack** (*CW2 Warrant Officer, U.S. Army*), daughter of Richard Prostack; **Jeffrey Seamans** (*Captain, U.S. Army*), son-in-law of Dolores Burton.

***In Your Charity, Please Pray
 For Our Sick***



Baby, Bruce Vogelei, Jr.; Betty Lilick (*Sister of Eileen Bralski*); Ronald S. Smith; Margaret Halas, Ronald Halas, Michael Martin (*Friend of Ronald & Margaret Halas*); Marge Leszczynski; Michael Dulaney (*Brother-in-law of John Puzio, Jr.*); Dolores Burton; Fran & Rob Worrall (*Sister & Brother-in-law of Joe Murphy*); Rose Coscia; Francis Coscia; Jeff Simmons (*Son of John & Fran Simmons*); Joan Coscia (*Sister-in-law of Francis & Rose Coscia*); Marion Raup; Joseph Saboe; Margie Martin (*Friend of Lee Ann Kinckner*); Irene Elliott; Stanley Leszczynski; Ayden Boone (*Great Great-Grandson of Armando Delmoro*); Butch Rodenbaugh; Nicholas Janicki; Catherine Bankowski; Michael Myers and Melissa (Myers) Sillah (*Grandchildren of Dora & Armando Delmoro*); George Estock; Helen Bednar; Barbara A. Burkert (*Daughter of Dora & Armando Delmoro*); Melonie Mitchell; John Smoczylo; Teddy Swede (*Brother of Gloria Swede*); Laurie Ronan (*Niece of Gloria Swede*); Edward Keszczyk.





“The Communion of Saints”

This phrase is spoken each time we pray the Apostles Creed. Do we fully understand the belief we proclaim when we say these words? Come to Patricians to learn more!

The next Patricians Discussion will take place on Wednesday, January 18th

6:45 – 8:45 p.m.

**in the coffee hour room (enter hall from Ford Street lot)
St. John the Baptist Catholic Church
502 Ford St., Bridgeport, PA**

(No Commitment – Meetings are Monthly – Come When You Can!)
The Society of Patricians is sponsored by the Legion of Mary.

More info: r.edel.lukens@gmail.com or 610-256-7125

The society of the Patricians is an informal group of adult Catholics who meet monthly under the direction of Fr. Bill Cantrell to learn more about the Catholic Faith so that they can better share it with others.

Please come, and bring a friend!

Refreshments will be served and free literature will be available.



RETROUVAILLE: REDISCOVER THE LOVE IN YOUR MARRIAGE Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriages through Retrouvaille (pronounced Retro-vy). If you know anyone who could

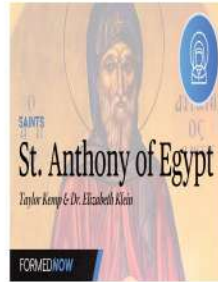
benefit from this program, please pass this on. Couples learn to build communication skills and to increase intimacy. It provides help for marriage problems, difficulties or crises. The next program begins the weekend of February 10 - 12, 2023 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. For more information, or to register, visit www.HelpOurMarriage.org or call 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230. All inquiries are strictly confidential.

High School Seniors and College Students - St. Mary Polish American Society is accepting applications for the inaugural Felicia Jemionek Rzeznik Memorial Scholarship, a \$1,500 scholarship to a qualified student of Polish ancestry residing within the Archdiocese of Philadelphia pursuing full-time undergraduate studies at an accredited college or university in the United States. All applications are due by 11:59 pm on March 1, 2023. Full information about the scholarship is included in the QR code. For any questions, please call Dorothy Swedkowski at 610-630-0861.



THIS WEEK ON FORMED

Week of January 15, 2023



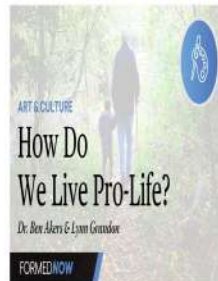
Saint Anthony of Egypt

St. Anthony was a saint whose heroic life of humility and prayer inspired many other great Saints, including St. Athanasius and St. Augustine. Sit down with Taylor Kemp and Dr. Elizabeth Klein as they explore the life of this great saint.



Respect Life: The Augustine Institute Show

Dr. Tim Gray welcomes Lynn Grandon on to his show to discuss what it means to respect life. You will leave this conversation with great ideas for how you can get involved in the pro-life movement.



How Do We Live Pro-Life?

The Catholic Church is committed to being pro-life. What does this mean and how are we called to live this out? Join Dr. Ben Akers and Lynn Grandon as they discuss what it means to live pro-life.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription. Visit signup.formed.org and select our parish name.

An offering from the AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE and ignatius press

JANUARY 15, 2023 - SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

Whether by accident or overuse, the Toys of Christmas may be broken now or forgotten by children moving on to other distractions. But the Joys of Christmas remain for us as God's children. Yes, we must move on liturgically and spiritually to begin our gospel journey in earnest with Christ and His adult ministry as it enfolds in a new calendar year.



To start, we come to what is now known also as the "First Mystery of Light" of the Holy Rosary as designated by Pope Saint John Paul II, namely "The Baptism of Jesus." What a marvelous event it is on many levels of perception!

First of all, we have the changeless and supreme Second Person of the Blessed Trinity, now en-fleshed as a mature Man, submitting Himself to a ceremony of cleansing that least applies to Him as divine. But He accepts this as one of the ways He can identify Himself with us. As saintly writers have described the effects, it was not the Jordan water that made Him holy, but He who made the water holy.

Secondly, we have this evidence that God's decision to create us involves His unique and deep love, with His concomitant desire to support us in our adventure of earthly life. Yes, God will reward the just and punish the unjust, but here at His baptism He definitely teaches that He will be involved in our struggles. He will not be an aloof Person dwelling among the pristine beauty of the stars. He will step into the soft river bottom of the Jordan and let His worthy cousin John the Baptist immerse Him in the water to begin His mission.

But there is for me an intriguing comment the Baptist makes about his observation of this scene. He says to the presumed crowd assembled on the riverbank that day: "I saw the Spirit come down like a dove from heaven and remain upon Him." Remain. That is, to abide. To "take root." To enable one to act according to the accepted rules. For Jesus, already a member of the Blessed Trinity, such abiding is of His nature.

But what does it mean—to abide—for us who are also baptized in the Holy Spirit? For one thing, it means that we have a given relationship with God's wisdom. His insight. His "take" on what exists around us. We have an internal "guidance system", if you will, that comes to us long before there was Google.

Above all, the One who abides is a Person, capable of love, so that we can trust the directions He gives us to be the very best, the straightest line between the two points of earthly life and eternal life. "To abide" implies permanence, so that the only way such goodness would be gone from us would be some reckless decision on our part to sin. The Bible has spoken. It is dangerously unhealthy to "toy around" with evil and lose the joy of knowing we are in partnership with our God.

Wilson Johnson, the founder of Holiday Inn motels, once said, "When I was forty years old I worked in a sawmill. One morning the boss told me I was fired. Depressed and discouraged, I felt like the world had caved in. When I told my wife what had happened, she asked me what I was going to do. I replied, 'I'm going to mortgage our little home and go into the building business.' My first venture was the construction of two small buildings. Within five years I was a multimillionaire! At the time it happened, I didn't understand why I was fired. Later, I saw that it was God's unerring and wondrous plan to get me into the way of His choosing."