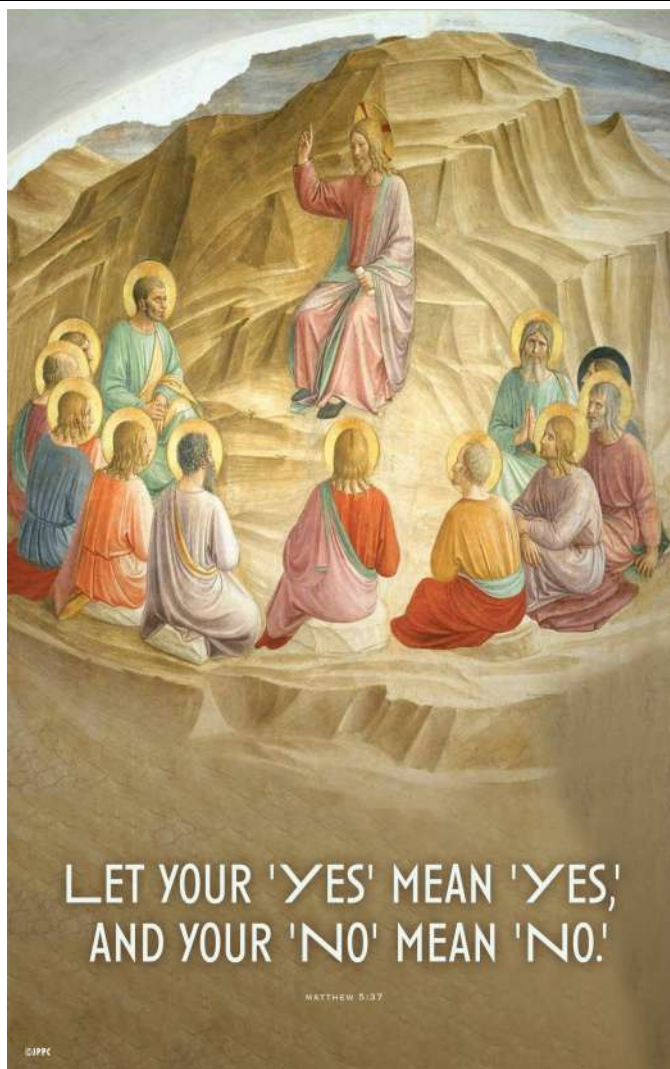


Sacred Heart Parish

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, FEBRUARY 12, 2023
SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Cereal Sunday Success!

Last week during our first ever “Cereal Sunday” we collected 144 boxes of breakfast cereal which was given to Martha’s Choice Market, a food pantry operated by Catholic Charities. Thanks for your generous response. Going forward we will continue to collect cereal on the first Sunday of each month to assist the needy.

Geese Peace at St. Augustine Cemetery

We have contracted with Geese Peace to begin their geese control program at the cemetery beginning in March. We thank our parishioners and cemetery patrons who have already made monetary contributions toward this program. We are still accepting donations for this effort. All checks should be made payable to St. Augustine Cemetery. Please fill out the form below and place it with your donation.

Yes, I would like to contribute toward the geese control program at the cemetery.

Enclosed please find my contribution of \$_____.

Name _____



Ash Wednesday

Lent begins on February 22nd with the observance of Ash Wednesday.

Holy Mass and the distribution of ashes will occur at 8:00 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Liturgy of the Word and distribution of ashes will take place at 12:05 p.m.

Eucharistic Wednesdays of Lent

During the holy season of Lent exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will occur each of the six Wednesdays of Lent beginning on March 1st. Immediately following the 8 am Mass the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed in the monstrance for adoration and personal prayer. Exposition will end at 7 p.m. on each of those nights. A sign-up sheet for adoration will be in the back of the church each week. Please consider spending some time with our Eucharistic Savior.

Stations of the Cross and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament

Beginning on Wednesday, March 1st, Stations of the Cross and Benediction will be held each of the six Wednesdays of Lent beginning at 2 p.m.

***We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You,
because by Your Holy Cross You have
redeemed the world!***

PRINCIPLES OF THE SPIRITUAL LIFE

Love is Lord of Heaven & Earth

Sacred Heart Parish Mission

February 27 - March 2, 2023

Monday through Thursday

Daily Mass

Contact Information:

Evening Conference 7:00 - 8:00

8:00 a.m.

610-275-1750

Light refreshments will be offered Thursday
after the last evening conference.



Father Emmerich comes to Sacred Heart for the Mission to reflect on the goodness, beauty, and truth of the faith with which God has gifted us.

How to Understand Suffering and a God who loves us.

After a reflection on the nature of God as revealed by Christ, and taking his cue from what Jesus reveals to us by His own words and works, Father's conferences will spell out the concrete steps needed in the life of every wounded Christian

— Christians wounded by Original Sin and by personal sin, and in that context situate the Cross of Redemption.

Fr. Emmerich is a priest of the Holy Name Province of the Dominican Order and is currently the Director of the Saint Jude Shrine at St. Dominic's Church, San Francisco, while also ministering with Western Dominican Preaching.

For the past forty years he has been involved in giving retreats and seminars to Mother Teresa's Priests and Sisters in Mexico, Poland, Guatemala, Uruguay, Calcutta, Madagascar, Russia, and Africa. He currently resides at St. Dominic Priory, San Francisco, CA.

Many are familiar with the writings of the Catholic convert Peter Kreeft, a professor of philosophy who has written over eighty wonderful books on Christian philosophy, theology, and apologetics. In one of his books he reminds us that most of us may not be addicted to alcohol or drugs, but we are to impatience, pride, anger, lust. In other words, we are addicted to sin. Thus we can call ourselves "sinaholics." Father Emmerich will focus on the steps needed by "sinaholics" that give us access to the life of grace as Sacred Scripture reveals.

By leading the parishioners in an exploration of the guiding principles that lead to a deep inner peace in the midst of a troubled world, his conferences will focus on our Catholic understanding of God and the principles needed for recovery from the effects of sin in our lives, as well as other issues of our spiritual warfare.



Pasta Night

SACRED HEART'S SOCIAL CLUB SPAGHETTI DINNER

(Featuring P & S Pasta)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2023

**Dinner served in the Parish Hall
From 3:30Pm until 5:00Pm**

Adult - \$12.00

Children - \$7.00 (12 and under)

Tickets for SHSC Spaghetti Dinner will be on sale after all the weekend Masses. Tickets can also be purchased at the rectory.

Cost of ticket includes the following:

- ◆ Italian Bread
- ◆ Caesar Salad
- ◆ Spaghetti and Meatballs
(featuring P&S products)
- ◆ Dessert
- ◆ Beverages
- ◆ BYOB



Calling all who are 55+ (actually anyone "49 and Holding") :

We are having our Senior Meeting on Thursday, February 16th beginning at 12:00 Noon and held at the Swedesburg Firehouse on Jefferson St. Bring your own lunch. Water, coffee, tea will be provided.

We will have our business meeting followed by games - guaranteed fun for all!!

So that we can plan on numbers, please notify me, Sister MaryAnne, at either my email address or call the Rectory to let us know that you will be attending.

Looking forward to seeing both old and new members on February 16th.

God bless you!

Sister MaryAnne



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, February 11

4:00pm Daniel & Dorothy Burke

Requested by Son, Tom & Cindy Burke

Sunday, February 12

8:00am Living & Deceased Members of the Holy Name Society

Requested by The Holy Name Society

10:15am For the People of Our Parish

Monday, February 13

8:00am Loretta Valerio

Requested by Her Family

Tuesday, February 14

8:00am Daniel DiRado

Requested by Linda Korpel

Wednesday, February 15

8:00am The Deceased Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary

Requested by IHM Sisters of Sacred Heart

Thursday, February 16

8:00am Lorraine Farrell

Requested by Tom & Mary Ellen Kester

Friday, February 17

8:00am Kenneth Zadroga

(Birthday Remembrance)

Requested by Brother & Family

Saturday, February 18

8:00am Carmella DiSanto

(Anniversary Remembrance)

Requested by Daughter, Sue & Family

4:00pm For the People of Our Parish

Sunday, February 19

8:00am Sandra Wilkinson

Requested by Kathy & Joe Gasko

10:15am Frank Opielski

(1st Anniversary Remembrance)

Requested by Wife, Wanda & Family



LITURGICAL MINISTRIES



Let Us Serve The Lord With Gladness!

The following Ministers are scheduled for our Parish Masses.

Saturday evening, February 18:

4:00pm

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion:

Barbara JanFrancisco

Lector: Michelle Efthimiadou

Sunday morning, February 19:

8:00am

Lector: Connie Capaldo

10:15am

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion:

Andy Moletzsky

Lector: David Turner

Celebrant's Mass Schedule

Saturday evening, February 18:

4:00pm - Father DiMaria

Sunday morning, February 19:

8:00am - Father Shea

10:15am—Father DiMaria



Weekly Report

February 4—5, 2023

\$4,603.00

Thank you for your support of Our Parish!

*This week the bread and wine
for the celebration of the Holy
Sacrifice of the Mass is in
loving memory of*



*Rose Wanczyk
Anniversary Remembrance
February 16th
at the Request of
Daughter, Rose Ann & Family*



CBS' 60 Minutes at Lourdes

Last December 60 minutes ran a 13-minute segment on the story and the miraculous occurrences of Lourdes called: Sanctuary of Our Lady of Lourdes: Investigating Medically Unexplained Cures.

It is a very well-done piece which is worthy of your time. To view it please go to the following site:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EaG7mesmdH4>



Archbishop Pérez wants to text you!

Join Archbishop Pérez in his mission to create a culture of missionary disciples in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia! Subscribe to receive a weekly text from the Archbishop with one action step you can take that week to deepen your friendship with Jesus or Grow in your mission to bring Jesus to others. Texts begin Ash Wednesday, February 22, 2023 and will continue weekly for one year.

To subscribe: Text *goforth* to the number 84576 or visit: phillydisciples.org/goforth



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; **LCDR Matthew J. Capaldo** (U.S. Navy) son of John & Connie Capaldo; **Michael DeStefano, Jr.** (Sergeant U.S. Army) grandson of Jack & Sue DeStefano; **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; **Matthew McNulty** (Chief Warrant Officer 3 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; **Jeffrey Seamans** (Captain, U.S. Army), son-in-law of Dolores Burton.



Theresa Seiders	Irene Elliott
Kerry Link	Stanley Leszczynski
Barbara Bores	Ayden Boone
Barbara Vernitsky-Hebal	Butch Rodenbaugh
Baby, Bruce Vogelei, Jr.	Nicholas Janicki
Betty Lilick	Catherine Bankowski
Ronald S. Smith	Michael Myers
Margaret Halas	Melissa (Myers) Sillah
Ronald Halas	George Estock
Michael Martin	Helen Bednar
Marge Leszczynski	Barbara A. Burkert
Michael Dulaney	Melonie Mitchell
Dolores Burton	John Smoczylo
Fran & Rob Worrall	Teddy Swede
Rose Coscia	Laurie Ronan
Francis Coscia	Edward Keszcyk
Jeff Simmons	
Joan Coscia	
Marion Raup	
Joseph Saboe	
Margie Martin	

Adding names of persons to parish prayer list can only be made by the sick person or a family member.

When your loved one recovers, please notify the Parish Office.



GIVING HOPE TO ALL

Catholic Charities Appeal

CATHOLICCHARITIESAPPEAL.ORG



OUR BENEFICIARIES

Gifts made to the Catholic Charities Appeal will provide vital support to almost a million people in need. These individuals are served by a range of organizations, programs, and ministries throughout the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. The beneficiaries of the Catholic Charities Appeal focus on five key areas:

- Education
- Social Services
- Evangelization, Parish, and Spiritual Life
- Clergy
- Local Mission Activities

To see a full listing of beneficiaries, please visit catholiccharitiesappeal.org/beneficiaries.



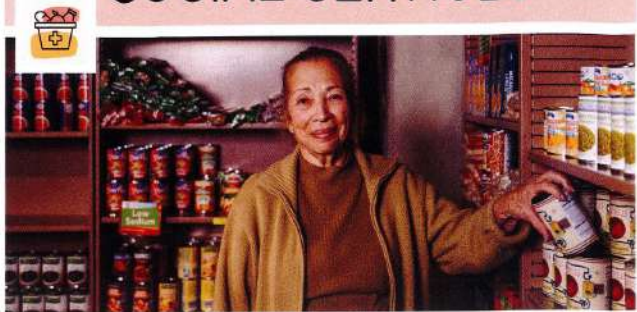
Homeless to Hopeful

"The house I was living in started falling apart and I had no choice but to leave, but I had nowhere to turn. I was homeless and living on the streets for two years. I don't know how I made it through the winter months, but I know God was with me, looking over me. The streets were getting too dangerous, and I knew I needed shelter. I spoke to my pastor, and he recommended St. John's Hospice. The first time I walked through the doors here, I loved it. St. John's Hospice has clothed me, fed me, and kept me safe. They have also helped support me through counseling, case management services, and anything I could possibly need. Next week I start a new job, and I know this opportunity would not have been possible without the support of the staff here. In addition to helping the 52 residents that call St. John's Hospice home, individuals experiencing homelessness can come to the dining hall for a hot lunch every day. They are met with dignity. Through the support of the Catholic Charities Appeal, these services are made possible. **People are given a second chance in their life. The Appeal helps feed the hungry and provides shelter to those experiencing homelessness.** I don't know where I would be in my life without St. John's Hospice."

– John, Resident, St. John's Hospice

Each weekday, St. John's Hospice provides more than 300 hot meals as well as case management, on-site nursing, daily showers, and mail delivery for over 1,700 men experiencing homelessness in our community.

SOCIAL SERVICES



Making a Positive Change

"Many people who live in this neighborhood live below the poverty line. The clients who visit the St. Helena Food Pantry are struggling to put food on the table, and when they shop at our pantry, it is a great help to them and their families. They are able to shop for themselves and pick out the items they like. It makes them feel a sense of dignity and pride, knowing they are making their own selections. They are so thankful for the food provided by Nutritional Development Services of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. So many people are in need, and as a former client of the pantry, I know how they feel. I now work at the pantry, and I love what I do. I enjoy working with the community and helping people. **When you donate to the Catholic Charities Appeal, you are helping put food on the table for families in need. You are making a difference and helping to change someone's life.**" – Blanca, Volunteer, St. Helena Food Pantry



Nutritional Development Services has 50 food cupboards and outreach programs throughout the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. Last year, they served 1.8 million meals to those most in need.

WAYS TO GIVE

The Catholic Charities Appeal is recognized as a non-profit institution. As such, all gifts are tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. It has its own Employer Identification Number (EIN) and receives a separate financial audit. Besides gifts of cash, donors to the 2023 Catholic Charities Appeal may contribute in many other ways, each offering tax advantages according to their circumstances:

- Pledge Gift
- Gifts of Cash
- Matching Gifts
- Electronic Fund
- Transfer (EFT)
- Gifts of Security
- Planned Gifts

For more information about any of the ways you can support the 2023 Catholic Charities Appeal, please call The Catholic Foundation of Greater Philadelphia at 215.587.5650 or email cca@thecfgp.org.

[@catholiccharitiesappeal](https://www.facebook.com/catholiccharitiesappeal) [@catholiccharitiesphila](https://www.instagram.com/catholiccharitiesphila) [@catholicappeal](https://www.twitter.com/catholicappeal)

FEBRUARY 12, 2023 - SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

From a grade school playground to the graduate seminar to the corporate boardroom we know there are rules to follow. Not always appealing but necessary. Otherwise there is chaos small and large. It takes a certain maturity to decode the logic inherent in those rules, and then the admission that they must be obeyed even if we don't like it. It takes a good dose of maturity and wisdom to realize that compliance with the rules is the only way to be fully human, cooperative with others, making for a civil society. However, once you and I accept Jesus as the only genuine Way, Truth and Life, we consequently can build a faith-based society. It's that simple.

Early on in His ministry, Jesus told His disciples that He had not come to destroy the Law that they knew so well, but to fulfill it. The gospel passage we hear today shows us what that fulfillment looks like. From the basic command "Do not kill," meaning bodily death, comes the much more expansive meaning of the term to include the "murder" of a person's good reputation; or the "killing" of a person's self-esteem by using slander and insult against them. Another clear development, or "fulfillment" is the case of literal adultery expanded to mental adultery found in lust.

I find Our Lord's interesting instruction added at the end of this weekend's passage: "Let your 'yes' be yes and your 'no' meaning 'no'." We are so inundated these days by public figures whose speech is deceitful so often. Their words are so often prone to equivocation, that is, using ambiguity to mislead or hedge the truth.

In light of today's Gospel selection, I believe it would be fair to ask: "Did Jesus know that what He was asking of His hearers would be difficult to obey? That it would be tantamount to heroism to live His way in 2023?" Surely He did then and certainly now. That's the cost of discipleship.

I might confidently add that while the price is high nowadays, so it really was the same back then. But, as experience proves, the inner peace that observance brings is priceless. Just ask any of the saints.

There was once a popular expression among seminarians of my time that went like this: "Keep the rule and the rule will keep you." I hesitate to admit that often it was said with a dash of cynicism. But objectively speaking, the slogan is no less than salvific. What do you think?

God love you and give you His peace.

