

# Sacred Heart Parish

120 Jefferson Street ~ Swedesburg, Pennsylvania, 19405

(610) 275-1750



**Rev. Peter J. DiMaria**

*Pastor*

[frdimaria@shswedesburg.org](mailto: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](mailto:srmaryanne@shswedesburg.org)

**Linda Moser**

*Coordinator of Religious Education*

[lmoser@shswedesburg.org](mailto: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](mailto:vdifilippo@shswedesburg.org)

**Joanne D'Alessandro**

*Parish Office Manager*

[jdalessandro@shswedesburg.org](mailto:jdalessandro@shswedesburg.org)

**Carl Gedeik**

*Director of  
Liturgical Music*

**Joe & Jeff Houseal**

*Directors of Parish  
& Cemetery Facilities*

## SUNDAY, MARCH 5, 2023 SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

### *Welcome, Mark!*

The Holy Family Council of the Knights of Columbus are sponsoring, and our parish is hosting in the church a presentation by Mark Houck on Monday, March 20 beginning at 7 pm. The Thomas More Society describes Mark's recent circumstances in the following fashion:



*Mark Houck made national headlines after heavily armed federal agents stormed his home at dawn on September 23, 2022, scaring his family, pointing guns at his head, and then arresting him in front of his wife and seven young children. The devoted family man and community leader has been charged with violating the federal Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances Act. Houck, a Catholic life advocate and speaker, is being prosecuted over an altercation with an abortion activist who repeatedly targeted Houck's son with vulgar verbal attacks, an October 2021 incident that, according to Thomas More Society attorneys, does not fall under the federal FACE act.*

*"The Biden administration has filed two brazenly defective and discriminatory charges against Mark Houck under the FACE Act, and both should be dismissed," stated Peter Breen, Thomas More Society Executive Vice President & Head of Litigation. "Both counts allege that Mark Houck interfered with a so-called volunteer abortion patient escort, when in reality, Houck had a one-off altercation with a man who harassed Houck's minor son, approximately 100 feet from the abortion business and across the street."*

*"This case is being brought solely to intimidate people of faith and pro-life Americans," stated Breen. "Mark Houck is innocent of these lawless charges, and we intend to prove that in court."*

On January 30, 2023, in the Federal Courthouse of Philadelphia, Mark was acquitted of all the charges against him. We are happy to welcome this outstanding Catholic gentleman and life advocate to Sacred Heart so that he can share his story with us. Religious freedom is a hallmark of American democracy. It is important that we remain informed and willing to act when governmental authority infringes upon such a foundational freedom.



### **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place each Wednesday of Lent. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed at the conclusion of the 8:00am Mass and will remain exposed until 7:00 p.m. A sign-up sheet for Adoration may be found in the back of Church.

### **Stations of the Cross and Benediction**

Join us on Wednesday for Stations of the Cross and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at 2:00pm.

### **ProLife Holy Hour**

Prayers will be recited together starting at 1:00 PM during Lent.



**Super Seniors Meeting  
March 16, 2023**

Be sure to mark your calendars for our upcoming Senior Meeting on Thursday, March 16, 2023. The meeting begins at noon at the Swedesburg Fire House and extends for approximately two hours. Bring your own lunch. Water, tea, coffee are provided.

This month's special guest is **Miss Vera Calendra** who is one of the miracles for the sainthood of Padre Pio. Vera will be speaking about her miracle. Vera will be bringing Padre Pio's glove to our meeting. Many already have expressed how much they are looking forward to this presentation. We will also be talking about our upcoming "pilgrimage" to Padre Pio's Shrine in Barto which will take place on Thursday, April 20, 2023 by way of car pool. Those who will be attending Vera's presentation on March 16<sup>th</sup>, please call me at the rectory or please email me. I need to tell Bernie at the Fire House so that we can prepare for the number coming. Please let me know by Thursday, March 9<sup>th</sup> at the latest.

Thank you and God bless you!

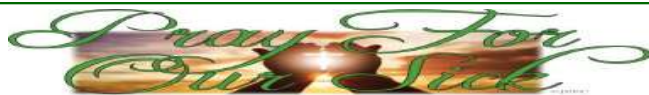
Sister MaryAnne



**Spaghetti Dinner Success!**

Delicious food and great conversation made for a wonderful spaghetti dinner last Sunday which was a sold out event. Everyone had a great time. Such parish events are only possible when everyone pulls together to make it work.

Special thanks are owed to our kitchen crew: Frank and Liz Houseal, Patty Houseal, and Joe Maggio for preparing and cooking the meal. We are also very grateful to the parish's social committee and their crew who staffed the buffet as well as for setting up and breaking down the hall. Special thanks are extended to: Nadine Dennis, Karen Hinchey, Matt, Leann, Ryan, and Jacob McCloskey, Andy, Melanie and Andrew Moletzsky, Andy and Pat Moletzsky, Lisa Pagnotti, Julie Razin, Kitty Ritrovato, Bernie and Claudia Rodriguez. Thanks are also due to our maintenance team: Joe and Jeff Houseal for their efforts to make the dinner a success. Well done, everyone!



- Michael Cardone
- Theresa Seiders
- Kerry Link
- Barbara Bores
- Barbara Vernitsky-Hebal
- Betty Lilick
- Margaret Halas
- Ronald Halas
- Marge Leszczynski
- Dolores Burton
- Fran & Rob Worrall
- Rose Coscia
- Francis Coscia
- Jeff Simmons
- Joan Coscia
- Marion Raup
- Joseph Saboe
- Irene Elliott
- Stanley Leszczynski

Ayden Boone  
 Butch Rodenbaugh  
 Nicholas Janicki  
 Catherine Bankowski  
 Michael Myers  
 Melissa (Myers) Sillah  
 George Estock  
 Helen Bednar  
 Barbara A. Burkert  
 Melonie Mitchell  
 John Smoczylo  
 Teddy Swede  
 Laurie Ronan  
 Edward Keszczyk

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

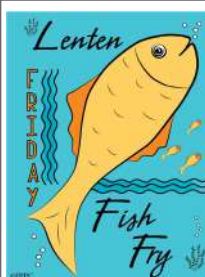
*When your loved one recovers, please notify the Parish Office.*

**PLEASE SUPPORT THE HOLY NAME LOTTO TICKET SALES**



Purchase a ticket and take a chance with your luck!

The Holy Name Society thanks you for your support of the Lotto Ticket Sales.



**Swedesburg Fire Co's  
Social Hall  
LENT DINNERS!**

**Every FRIDAY during Lent  
thru to Friday, April 7  
5:00 to 8:00 PM**

**TO PLACE AN ORDER CALL 610.272.9853**





## MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday, March 4

**4:00pm Desiree Halas**

*Requested by Mom & Dad*

### Sunday, March 5

**8:00am For the People of Our Parish**

**10:15am William A. Bolinsky**

**(Birthday Remembrance)**

*Requested by The Bolinsky Family*

### Monday, March 6

**8:00am Lottie Lawler**

*Requested by Jo-Ann & Kevin Lawler*

### Tuesday, March 7

**8:00am Benito Cornacchio**

**(Birthday Remembrance)**

*Requested by Wife, Christel*

### Wednesday, March 8

**8:00am Monica Aquilante**

*Requested by John Bednar, Jr.*

### Thursday, March 9

**8:00am Daniel DiRado**

*Requested by Gary Miller & Doreen Lange*

### Friday, March 10

**8:00am Joseph & Concetta Pizza**

*Requested by Daughter, Theresa  
& Bob Wagner*

### Saturday, March 11

**8:00am Elizabeth "Betty" Pierce**

*Requested by Bill & Bridget Maruszczak*

**4:00pm Richard Brango**

*Requested by Douglas & Mary Orner*

### Sunday, March 12

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

*Requested by Sacred Heart Holy Name Society*

**10:15am For the People of Our Parish**



## LITURGICAL MINISTRIES



### *Let Us Serve The Lord With Gladness!*

The following Ministers are scheduled for our Parish Masses.

#### Saturday evening, March 11:

**4:00pm**

**Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion:**

Barbara JanFrancisco

**Lector:** Pete Wisniewski

#### Sunday morning, March 12:

**8:00am**

**Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion:**

Margie Pruskowski

**Lector:** Michelle Efthimiadou

**10:15am**

**Lector:** David Turner

### Celebrant's Mass Schedule

#### Saturday evening, March 11:

**4:00pm** - Father DiMaria

#### Sunday morning, March 12:

**8:00am** - Father DiMaria

**10:15am**—Father Shea



### *Weekly Report*

February 25—26, 2023

\$7,148.00

*Thank you for your support of Our Parish!*



### **Lenten Jar Scavenger Hunt**

We are inviting the Parish to join our PREP families to complete a Lenten Jar Scavenger Hunt. Our PREP teachers will be on hand after the Masses this weekend to answer questions to help you start your Family Lenten Jar or you can choose to include items to the Parish Jar. We will have a basket of items for use with our Parish Jar.

This activity is designed around the 3 pillars of Lent – almsgiving, fasting and prayer which is to open oneself more fully to the presence of God. Our hope is that the more we make faith relevant and engaging in everyday life, the more likely we are to think of the possibility of God's role in our lives.



**Wednesday, March 8  
6:00PM**

**Please join our CFF ministry to help make Snack Bags for our less fortunate neighbors. Many hands make light work!**



*This week the Sanctuary Lamp in the Church burns in Memory of*

*Nicole Levinsky*

*Birthday Remembrance, March 10<sup>th</sup>*

*at the Request of Her Mom & Dad,*

*Kelly & Melissa*

*and Nicole's children, Bentley & Logan*



LOCAL COMMUNITY



All Proceeds go to Your

Date: Friday, March 10, 2023

Registration: 6pm

Game Time: 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm



Location: Sacred Heart Church Social Hall  
633 East 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Bridgeport, PA 19405

\* Hall / parking lot around backside of building

Registration Fee: \$25.00

Minimum age requirement is 21

**New location: Hall with AC - cafeteria - 70 inch television screen - sound system and much more**

Food & Free door Prizes - 50/50 - Scratch Off - Raffle

15 games chance to win \$25 - 4 games chance to win \$50

1 game chance to win \$100

**GRAND PRIZE \$100.00**

Sponsored by:



Holy Family Council #3327, Bridgeport, PA

Questions Please call Jake at, 858-337-1953

Please pay with Cash only

**NO ALCOHOL BEVERAGES PERMITTED**

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



*Benito Cornacchio*

*Birthday Remembrance*

*at the Request of*

*His Wife, Christel*

**Martha's Choice Marketplace at Catholic Social Services** is looking to hire a Spanish

Language Engagement Coordinator. Must have bilingual fluency and a passion for (all-weather) client service. Be a part of a great team and help change the world.

Email resume to Patrick Walsh at:

[pwalsh@chs-adphila.org](mailto:pwalsh@chs-adphila.org)



**UPPER MERION SENIOR SERVICE CENTER**  
431 W. Valley Forge Road  
King of Prussia  
610-265-4715

***BIG BINGO, SUNDAY, MARCH 19***

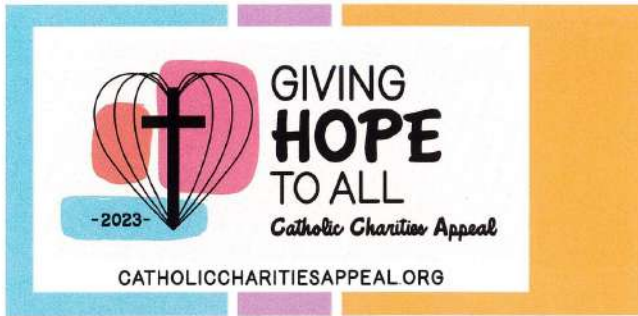
**Doors Open at 12:00 PM—Games at 1:00 PM**

**Pre-Registration \$30.00 \* \$35.00 at the Door**

**Cash Prizes, 50/50, Basket Raffle**

**Door Prizes, Refreshments**





## 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](http://catholiccharitiesappeal.org/beneficiaries).

*Casa del Carmen Family Service Center provides a variety of services and support to the North Philadelphia community. Last year, Casa del Carmen's pregnancy and parenting support program distributed 62,647 diapers, the food pantry provided meals to 2,902 families, and 54 students graduated from their Keystone STARS 4 rated preschool.*



## SOCIAL SERVICES

### A Helping Hand

"I just gave birth to a beautiful baby girl named Martilda. During my pregnancy, I started to feel like I could not do this on my own. When I started to look at the prices of everything, I felt overwhelmed, and it made me emotional. A friend recommended I visit Casa del Carmen, and I could not be more grateful. At Casa, I received all the extra items I needed for my daughter: diapers, wipes, a pack and play, and clothing. I even participated in a car seat workshop and learned the proper safety instructions for transporting my child. Services like these are so beneficial to parents, and especially new moms like me.

As a student studying to be a social worker, I know how important the work of Casa del Carmen is in our community. **They are here to help give a helping hand, and through donations to the Catholic Charities Appeal, their work is made possible. Trust me, every dollar counts and makes a difference.** I am so grateful for all I have learned and received at Casa and look forward to continuing to utilize their vital parenting programs." – Belinda, Client, Casa del Carmen



## 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](mailto:cca@thecfgp.org).

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

**MARCH 5, 2023**

*Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson*



Sooner rather than later a young person setting out on their future realizes that connections count. For instance, having a parent with a famous name in a certain field automatically gives “a leg up” to his son or daughter.

In a certain sense the same applies to any of us seeking a closer union with Christ. Through our baptism, our parents brought us to the front and right then and there established a connection with Christ. All that’s left for us to do is to keep it alive and healthy. But that’s easier said than done.

Even though Abram (later Abraham) preceded the institution of the sacrament of Baptism, his wholehearted “yes” to the Lord’s “marching orders” to leave his home to settle someplace else was nearly equivalent. He stayed connected to his God. He found a certain inner peace in knowing that he cooperated with God’s plan. He not only became “the father of many nations” but also “our Father in Faith” as the First Eucharistic prayer asserts.

Jesus also left His “native place” in heaven in obedience to His heavenly Father. He thus became connected to us as the subject of our faith while still remaining connected to the Father.

In this remarkable story of the Transfiguration, proclaimed to us this weekend, we have a perfect illustration of how the divine connection persists. It is the Bible at its best, with a gospel message of encouragement, as we strive through our Lenten penance to upgrade and enhance our connection to Christ.

The “wiring” of our connection may have frayed by how we have lived spiritually since last Easter. So the Church presents us with Lent and this story right at the early part of the season to make the necessary repairs. There is an ancient tradition which held that the Transfiguration of Jesus happened 40 days before Good Friday. At any rate, the event reminds us why and for whom we pray, fast, and give alms during this significant season.

We can face up to our failures and try to make amends. We can change for the better with God’s help. We can be calm and courageous while all around us is the swirling chaos of a world that ignores Christ. Staying connected with Him is the one way that will enable us one fine but unknown day to look at the smiling Face of Jesus. Then each of us might well borrow from St. Peter’s reaction and say: “Lord, it’s good for me to be here!”

