

The Roman Catholic Parishes

A Pennsylvania
Charitable Trust'
Parishes of
the
Diocese of
Greensburg.



of Lower Burrell New Kensington

December 4, 2023
First Sunday of
Advent



Saint Margaret Mary
3055 Leechburg Road
Lower Burrell, PA 15068

Saturday ~ 4:00 p.m.
Sunday ~ 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

Daily Mass:
(Monday - Thursday)
7:30 a.m.



Mount Saint Peter
100 Freeport Road
New Kensington, PA 15068

Saturday ~ 4:30 p.m.
Sunday ~ 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

Daily Mass:
(Tuesday - Friday)
8:30 a.m.



Saint Joseph
1125 Leishman Avenue
New Kensington, PA 15068

Saturday ~ 4:00 p.m.
Sunday ~ 9:30 a.m.

Daily Mass:
(Monday - Wednesday, Friday)
12:30 p.m.



**Saint Mary of
Czestochowa**
857 Kenneth Avenue
New Kensington, PA 15068

Sunday ~ 7:30 & 11:30 a.m.

Daily Mass:
Monday ~ 8:30 a.m.
Thursday ~ 12:30 p.m.
Friday ~ 9:30 a.m.

Your presence here makes all the difference!

QR CODES

Below are QR codes that will link you to the Lower Burrell and New Kensington website.

You will find the details to all events and answers to your questions listed on the website.

Point your smart phone at the QR code for more parish information on the Lower Burrell website.



Point your smart phone at the QR code for more parish information on the New Kensington website.



SACRAMENTAL LIFE

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

Considering entry into the Catholic Church?
Contact the Parish Office for more information.

SACRAMENT OF INFANT BAPTISM

Contact the Parish Office.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Contact the parish office at least **nine months** in advance for information and scheduling.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

12 noon - Saturdays at MSP
1:00 p.m. - Saturdays at St. Margaret Mary

SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Contact Father Ken, Father Joel or Father Bimbot to request the sacrament.

MINISTRY OF HOME VISITATION

Contact the Parish Office at 724-335-9877 or the Sisters of Mary Immaculate at 724-845-2828.

The Eucharistic Table

SATURDAY, December 2, 2023

12 noon	MSP	Sacrament of Reconciliation	Father Bimbot
1:00 pm	SMM	Sacrament of Reconciliation	Father Joel
3:00 pm	MSP	Baptism - Francis Xavier Pessolano, III	Father Bimbot
3:30 pm	SJ	Rosary	
4:00 pm	SJ	Edward (Butch) Rayburg, Adam & Dorothy Rayburg (Family)	Father Joel
4:00 pm	SMM	Earnest & Pauline Seinerer (Family)	Father Ken
4:30 pm	MSP	Deceased of the Focareta Family (Terry & Lynette Focareta)	Father Bimbot

SUNDAY, December 3, 2023 - First Sunday of Advent

7:00 am	SM	Rosary	
7:30 am	SM	Lawrence & Bernadine Cybach (Rita Sieczkowski & Marcia Wroblewski)	Father Joel
7:55 am	MSP	Rosary	
8:30 am	MSP	Deceased Members of Tamburo, Clark & Acone Families (Family)	Father Bimbot
8:30 am	SMM	Mass for Congregation	Father Ken
9:30 am	SJ	Louis, Lillian & Kenneth Barkowski (Larry & Kathy Barkowski)	Father Joel
10:30 am	MSP	Anna Mae Guida (Sisters, Lee & Patty)	Father Bimbot
11:00 am	SMM	Benjamin & Dominic Moret (Family)	Father Ken
12 noon	SMM	Baptism - Scarlett Ann Fitzsimmons	
11:00 am	SM	Rosary	
11:30 am	SM	Jim Rawlinson (Family)	Father Joel

MONDAY, December 4, 2023 - St. John Damascene

7:30 am	SMM	Deceased Members of Bindas & Swanderski Families (Rick & Terry DeMoss)	Father Joel
8:30 am	SM	Dorothy Perdeus (Alumni & Friends of SM)	Father Bimbot
12:30 pm	SJ	Dorothy Nee (Mr. & Mrs. Pat Conroy)	Father Ken

TUESDAY, December 5, 2023

7:30 am	SMM	Deceased Members of the Golden Family (Arlene Golden)	Father Joel
8:30 am	MSP	Jack L. Walters, Sr. (St. Anthony Guild)	Father Bimbot
12:30 pm	SJ	George Joseph (Friends of Sisters of Mary Immaculate)	Father Ken
2:00 pm	MSP	Eucharistic Adoration/Holy Hour of Mercy/Reposition	Father Bimbot

WEDNESDAY, December 6, 2023 - St. Nicholas

7:30 am	SMM	John Rykaceski (Wife, Marge & Family)	Father Joel
8:30 am	MSP	Nancy Kristofik (Trudy Polsinelli)	Father Bimbot
12:30 pm	SJ	John Sensi (Carolyn, Maria & Brennan)	Father Ken

THURSDAY, December 7, 2023 - St. Ambrose

7:30 am	SMM	Collin Feeney (Family)	Father Joel
8:30 am	MSP	John M. Scheck (Cheryl L. Scheck)	Father Bimbot
12:30 pm	SM	John Lawrence (Stephanie & Michael Gracey)	Father Ken

The Eucharistic Table

FRIDAY, December 8, 2023 - The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7:30 am	SMM	Helen Kolakowski (Ed & Lori Kolalkowski)	Father Ken
8:30 am	MSP	Angelo Lorelli (Family)	Father Bimbot
9:30 am	SM	Irene Karrs (St. Mary Christian Mothers)	Father Joel
12:30 pm	SJ	Joseph & Dorothy Nee (Mr. & Mrs. Pat Conroy)	Father Bimbot
6:00 pm	SMM	Peggy Gonzales (SMM Music Ministry)	Father Joel

SATURDAY, December 9, 2023 - St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin

12 noon	MSP	Sacrament of Reconciliation	Father Joel
1:00 pm	SMM	Sacrament of Reconciliation	Father Bimbot
3:30 pm	SJ	Rosary	
4:00 pm	SJ	Alan & Roberta Delmastro (Arvay Family)	Father Ken
4:00 pm	SMM	Deceased Members of Kaniecki & Kish Families (Dennis & Laura Kish)	Father Bimbot
4:30 pm	MSP	Charles M. Szajna (Wife, Kathryn)	Father Joel

SUNDAY, December 10, 2023 - Second Sunday of Advent

7:00 am	SM	Rosary	
7:30 am	SM	Lillian F. Pfeifer (Daughter, Lillian G. Pfeifer)	Father Ken
7:55 am	MSP	Rosary	
8:30 am	MSP	Satamo Enciso (Wife, Jane & Family)	Father Joel
8:30 am	SMM	Herbert & Anna Saylor (Schoepf & Saylor Families)	Father Bimbot
9:30 am	SJ	Father Tony Gargotta (Maria Novak)	Father Ken
10:30 am	MSP	Anthony Pignatelli (Wife & Children)	Father Joel
11:00 am	SMM	Joe Arteritano (Family)	Father Bimbot
11:00 am	SM	Rosary	
11:30 am	SM	Michael, Cecilia, and Geraldine Mazgaj (Family)	Father Ken



MARIAN CONSECRATION 2023

Dear Fellow Marian Travelers,

Our journey is almost at an end. These final five days are a recap of the many pearls of wisdom given to us by four great Marian saints. Whether the passion of St. Louis speaks to some of us, or the thirst of St. Mother Teresa touches the heart of others, we hopefully have grown in our spiritual lives over the past month. Please bring your book to Mass on December 8; the consecration prayer is on page 137. May all of us experience a *Glorious New Morning* on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception!

ADVENT REGIONAL RECONCILIATION SERVICES

Everyone is highly encouraged to attend one of these services as there are no Saturday confessions at Mount Saint Peter on December 16. No Saturday confessions also at either Saint Margaret Mary or Mount Saint Peter on December 23 and 30.

Wednesday, December 13	1:00 PM	St. Joseph, New Kensington
Friday, December 15	6:30 PM	St. James, Apollo
Saturday, December 16	1:00 PM	St. Margaret Mary, Lower Burrell
Tuesday, December 19	6:30 PM	St. Gertrude, Vandergrift

Take part in the Regional Reconciliation Services or the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and experience again God's loving mercy.



BAPTISM

Last weekend, we welcomed into the saving waters of Baptism:

Nicolas Raymond Andrade and Halle Grace Ketterer, St. Margaret Mary

We rejoice with their parents and with all who celebrate their newborn lives in the family of God.



IN SYMPATHY

We commend to your prayers

*Leonard (Skeets) Paletta and Rosemary Pleva, Mount St. Peter
Alfred Aiello, Betty Ann Alfonsi, Victor Ardito and Luanne Wohleber, St. Margaret Mary*

who died recently. May God welcome them to the joys of Paradise and bring comfort and peace to their families.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

The Parish Office will be closed Friday, **December 8** in observance of The Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Lower Burrell Parish

(St. Margaret Mary)

A Peek at the Week. . .

Sunday December 3	Baptism Scarlett Ann Fitzsimmons 12 NN Church Commissioning of All EMHC (including homebound) At Mass Church
Tuesday December 5	Men's Bible Study Group 6:30 AM Lobby Advent Reflection 10:00 AM-12NN Freude Room Adult Handbell Rehearsal 5:00 PM-6:30 PM Church
Wednesday December 6	Middle & High School Youth Group 6:30 PM-8:00 PM Room B-1 Adult Choir 6:45 PM-8:45 PM Church
Thursday December 7	Confirmation Class 6:30 PM-8:00 PM Room B-1
Friday December 8	Parish Office Closed Feast of Immaculate Conception
Sunday December 10	Change for Haiti After Masses Donut Social After 8:30 AM Mass Narthex

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	Is 2:1-5; Mt 8:5-11
Tuesday:	Is 11:1-10; Lk 10:21-24
Wednesday:	Is 25:6-10a; Mt 15:29-37
Thursday:	Is 26:1-6; Mt 7:21, 24-27
Friday:	Gn 3:9-15, 20; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38
Saturday:	Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8
Sunday:	Is 40:1-5, 9-11; 2 Pt 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8

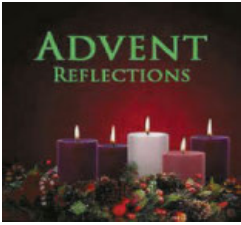


New Kensington Parishes

(Mt. St. Peter, St. Joseph, St. Mary)

A Peek at the Week. . .

Sunday December 3	Commissioning of All EMHC (including homebound) At Masses Churches MSP Addolorata Advent Luncheon 11:30 AM Marble Hall SM Christian Mothers Christmas Party 12 NN-4:00 PM Friendship Hall
Monday December 4	Faith First 6:00 PM MQA-Freeport Road Comfort Blanket Ministry 6:30 PM Library Ezekial 37 Prayer Group 7:00 PM MQA-Greenwald
Tuesday December 5	Community Clothes Closet 12:00NN-2:00 PM Catechesis of the Good Shepherd 6:00 PM MSP Disciples' Center
Wednesday December 6	MSP Food Bank Distribution 9:00 AM Marble Hall
Thursday December 7	Grab n Go Meal 5:30 PM Knead Community Café
Friday December 8	Parish Office Closed Feast of Immaculate Conception Fruit Basket Assembly 9:00 AM Office Kitchen
Saturday December 9	Fruit Basket Distribution 9:00 AM Marble Hall Harvest for Haiti After Mass MSP Church
Sunday December 10	Harvest for Haiti After Masses Church Pierogi, Stuffed Cabbage & Haluski Sale After Masses SM Friendship Hall St. Anthony Guild Christmas Party 11:30 AM Marble Hall



ADVENT REFLECTION

Busy holiday schedule? Take some time to reflect on the coming of Christ this Advent season! We will meet for the final reflection on **Tuesday, December 5**. We will pray and reflect on the joyful mysteries of the rosary, and how to prepare your heart for the coming of Christ this Christmas season. We will meet at St. Margaret Mary from 10:00 AM to 12:00 NN in the Freude Room. All are welcome! If you have any questions, contact Heather Hensley in the Parish Office.

Father Ken's Advent Note

Will the ability to receive from the "cup" the Precious Blood return to our Parishes? The short answer is, it is up to you.

Bishop Kulick has decided that the option for the faithful to receive Holy Communion under both species is to be permitted starting the First Sunday of Lent, February 18, 2024. Bishop Kulick has also informed the priests of the diocese that although the option for reception of the Precious Blood is being restored, it is not required that every parish pastor implement this option. With the option that pastors can restore this practice or not restore this action in their parish, I believe that it is really up to the parishioners in each of our four parishes individually to have this practice restored.

What does that mean? Before COVID, the practice of receiving Communion under both species occurred in each of our four parishes. Unfortunately, COVID and its aftermath not only decimated the number of our parish parishioners it also decimated our pool of Eucharistic Ministers. This decrease in Eucharistic Ministers was camouflaged by the fact that without offering the Precious Blood as a Communion option since COVID, we needed only half the ministers that we did prior to COVID. It is also noteworthy that our pool of Eucharistic Ministers needed just to "hand out" the "Body of Christ" is a pool too small to satisfy our scheduling needs. Many, if not most, of our Eucharistic Ministers serve even when not scheduled because they can see that we are short Eucharistic Ministers at Mass.

Getting back to the practice of offering Communion under both species can only occur with a lot of additional helpers called new Eucharistic Ministers. The ability to receive from the "cup" - - the Precious Blood in any one of our four parishes or in all of our four parishes, is clearly up to each individual parish. I would love to have this practice restored in all our parishes, but it cannot without new helpers, new Eucharistic Ministers. The practice to restore the option of receiving the Blood of Christ at Mass will start in each parish at or after the start date set by Bishop Kulick as each parish acquires the ministers needed to start the option.

To be a Eucharistic Minister, you must be over the age of 18, a Catholic in good standing, have received all the sacraments of initiation, and must be willing to comply with the Diocese of Greensburg's Protecting God's Children policy. If you are willing to become a new Eucharistic Minister, please fill out the form below and mail in to Father Ken at either St. Margaret Mary Parish, 3055 Leechburg Road, Lower Burrell, PA 15068 or Mount Saint Peter Parish, 100 Freeport Road, New Kensington, PA 15068.

I, _____ would love to become a Eucharistic Minister of Holy Communion and would be willing to serve my brother/sister in the parish of _____.

I understand that being a Eucharistic Minister means that at times I will be offering the Body of Christ and at times the Blood of Christ. I also understand that on those times that I offer the Blood of Christ that I am also willing to consume whatever amount of the Blood of Christ is left in my chalice after all who wish to partake of the cup have been served. Please sign your name to this statement, which marks that you are willing to live up to the mandate of the statement. Please sign affirming this statement _____.

I am also willing to follow the policy of the Diocese in Protecting God's Children, and will participate willing in obtaining the needed clearances.

Please sign affirming this statement. _____

Please Print:

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____ E-mail address _____



MSP FOOD BANK

Volunteers are needed to help with the MSP Food Bank distribution. We need strong muscles to unload the Westmoreland County Food Bank truck at 9:15 AM on **Wednesday, December 6**. Or, if you don't want to wake up that early, we need sturdy walkers to push shopping carts full of food to clients' cars from 12:30 PM to 3:00PM. Just show up! Many thanks!



This year, consider experiencing the Polish tradition of the Oplatki. The **Oplatki Christmas Wafers** are available in the back of the NKCC Churches or the Parish Office. Each packet is **\$3.00** and explains the history of the Oplatki as well as how to share with those attending your Christmas Eve Feast.



CHRISTMAS "SOUP 'N SING"

Wednesday, December 8, 2023
12:00 NN

Logan's Ferry Presbyterian Church
750 Church Street, New Kensington

Light Lunch with Soup and Sandwich

Come and enjoy a time of fellowship with eating and singing!!

You will have some holiday fun and get into the Christmas Spirit!!

Bring a friend or neighbor with you, everyone is welcome!!



FAMILY PHOTOS

Family photos that were on display during the month of November will be available for pickup in Marble Hall after Masses this weekend, December 2/3. Photos can also be picked up in the parish office during normal office hours.



DO YOU LIKE TO DECORATE?

Volunteers are needed to decorate **St. Joseph Church on Thursday, December 7 at 11 AM** for the Christmas Season. **Everyone is welcome**, no matter what your expertise.



EARLY BULLETIN SUBMISSIONS

With the upcoming Christmas and New Yearholidays, any items to be submitted for the bulletin must be submitted no later than the date listed below. Any questions, please contact the Parish Office.

<u>Bulletin Date</u>	<u>To Be Submitted</u>
Dec. 10	Dec. 4
Dec. 17	Dec. 7
Dec. 24	Dec. 12
Dec. 31	Dec. 19



HARVEST FOR HAITI COLLECTION

Our monthly collection for our sisters and brothers in Haiti will be taken after all Masses at MSP next weekend. Proceeds benefit *Rich in Mercy* used for educational scholarships to children from Haiti. Please be generous.

A MESSAGE FOR THE PARISHIONERS OF SAINT JOSEPH PARISH FROM FATHER KEN

Recently, Shirley Makuta informed me that she is retiring from the position of scheduling and training our liturgical ministers. Shirley has faithfully and generously handled the scheduling of our liturgical ministers literally for years and years. I cannot thank her enough for her work.

Her retiring leaves our parish with a deep void that needs to be filled. I, as pastor, and we, as parishioners of Saint Joseph, need another gracious and loving parishioner of Saint Joseph Parish to step forward and take over the position that Shirley handled extremely well.

Shirley, not to my surprise, has offered to train the volunteer who steps forward to fill her role. This role is a volunteer role; it offers just what most people might be looking for, a lot of complaints, little appreciation and the satisfaction of knowing you are helping your beloved parish.

If you would like to take on this role, please contact me at KZaccagnini@dioceseofgreensburg.org.



ST. ANTHONY GUILD HOLIDAY FRUIT BASKET DELIVERY

The holidays will soon be approaching and on Saturday, December 9 at 10:00 AM, Mt. St. Peter, St. Mary and St. Joseph parishioners will have an opportunity to deliver fruit baskets to our nursing home and homebound parishioners. You can deliver a fruit basket on that day or shortly after at your convenience. We have limited our delivery area so we won't have to travel as far. All three parishes are represented so we'd like to see volunteers from the entire community. School and Confirmation service hours can be obtained.

We will meet in Marble Hall, Saturday, December 9, at 10 am for a short prayer service and review new procedures for nursing homes and care facilities. Fruit baskets will be organized by addresses for easy pickup and delivery to nearby areas. For more information and to volunteer, please contact Darlene Resek at 724-335-3536.



FIRST RECONCILIATION

On Saturday morning December 2 at St. Margaret Mary Church, children who are preparing for their First Holy Communion in the spring celebrated the

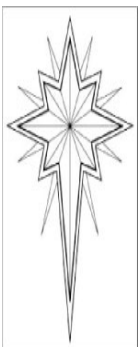
Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time.

The children began preparing for this wonderful sacrament of God's saving love by returning to where it all began: the waters of Baptism.

In these life-giving waters, we were all named and claimed as the beloved children of God! But as we grow older, we know that we do not always live in light of our baptismal dignity. There are times that we act like spoiled children, rather than loving ones.

But God loves us so much, that even when we sin, he sends Jesus, the Good Shepherd, to forgive us, to lead us back to the flock, and to strengthen us with his Spirit.

May we follow our children's example and celebrate this sacrament of God's love as we prepare for the great Feast of Christmas.



Faith Formation

Faith First

Mondays

6:00 PM

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Tuesdays

6:00 PM

All class instructions are held in MQA School and Disciples' Center at Mt. St. Peter Parish.

Any questions, please contact Linda Reno at Ireno@dioceseofgreensburg.org.

Attention Parents:

Grades 6-12 will meet on Wednesdays from 6:30 PM to 8:00 PM at Saint Margaret Mary. If you have questions or want to register your child for youth ministry, contact Heather Hensley in the parish office.

Saint Joseph High School

PLACEMENT TEST

Saint Joseph High School will host the High School Placement Test on Saturday, December 9. This exam is required for all 8th grade students looking to attend Saint Joseph High School. Submit an application before the exam date, and the test fee will be waived. Registration for the test and the application for admission can be found at SaintJosephHS.com.

Questions? Contact the Admissions Office at admissions@SaintJosephHS.com or 724-226-2819.



ANGEL TREE PROJECT DONORS

The St. Anthony Guild of Mount Saint Peter Parish wishes to express gratitude to all that have already donated to the Angel Tree Program, which helps children in need in our area celebrate a brighter Christmas. Donations are still being accepted.

Christine Aftanas
Doug & Erin Aftanas
Michael & Maria Aftanas
Stush & Carolyn Aftanas
Patty & Jim Basista
John & Dawn Bellavia
M/M Stanley Borowski
Lori & Bob Brasiola
Nancy & Michael Brock
Terese M. Connorton
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Czmerda
James & Paula DeLuca
B. Dreher

M/M Shawn Eckenrod & Family
James Gallo
Therese Gatto
Monica & RoseMary Giulioli
Shavawn Hoebeck
Mark & Felicia Junod
Linda Klimashko & Family
John, Nancy & Frank Lemon
Tracee Mentecki
Vince Milito
Dorothy Miller
Robert T. Miller
Gary & Judy Mraz

Donna Muto
Joe & Heather Pencak
Bob & Carolyn Petri
M/M Francis X. Pessolano, Jr
and Family
Andy Podobnik Family
Frank Rapp
Bill & Frances Sadecky
Joe & Kathy Schreiber
Frank & Patty Tosto
Bill & Linda Wareham
Maria Biamonte Warhola

Thank You

Advent Waiting

During Advent, we wait in joyful hope. We wait for the coming Christmas. We look forward to our annual celebration of the birth of Christ. But Advent is not so much about waiting for an event or waiting for something to happen. Rather, it is a time in which we await a person, our Savior, Jesus Christ. Such anticipation shapes the way we wait. Both the first reading and the Gospel present us with a contrast between lives lived in fidelity to God's covenant and lives that have strayed from that covenant.

Fidelity breeds confidence and hope. Straying from the covenant breeds anxiety and despair. May the coming of Christ dispel our fear so that we may live in a spirit of joyful hope.

Here are a few suggestions on how we might do this:

- Mend a quarrel.
- Seek out a forgotten friend.
- Dismiss suspicion.
- Be gentle and patient with an angry person.
- Express appreciation.
- Gladden the heart of a child.
- Find the time to keep a promise.
- Just listen, for a change.
- Speak kindly to a stranger.
- Enter into another's sorrow.
- Smile. Laugh a little.
Laugh a little more.
- Take a walk with a friend.
- Play some beautiful music during dinner.
- Apologize if you were wrong.
- Treat a friend to breakfast.
- Wear a smile throughout the day.
- Pray for someone who has hurt you.



WHAT DOES THE ADVENT WREATH SYMBOLIZE



The use of the Advent Wreath with four candles has been an Advent ritual for hundreds of years. The Advent wreath is a symbol of the four-week wait for Jesus' birth. The green branches remind us of the new life we have in Jesus, the circle represents the eternity of God's love for us (with no beginning and no end) and the candles represent the light and hope Jesus brings into a dark world. Set up an Advent wreath in the center of your dinner table and a candle for each week of the Advent season.



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION AND HOLY HOUR OF MERCY

At 2:00 PM until 4:00 PM every Tuesday afternoon at Mount Saint Peter Church, the Blessed Sacrament is exposed.

2:00 PM-2:50 PM - This time is devoted for quiet prayer and talking with Jesus.

2:50 PM-3:00 PM - Public prayer begins with A Prayer for Vocations.

3:00 PM-3:30 PM - The Chaplet of the Divine Mercy is recited.

3:30 PM-4:00 PM - Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary are recited.

4:00 PM - The Blessed Sacrament is reposed.

Please consider spending Tuesday afternoons at Mount Saint Peter Church to pray and reflect with Jesus.

St. Nicholas - December 6

Saint Nicholas, a bishop of the fourth century, is said to have heard of the plight of three unmarried daughters who had no money for the dowries - a situation that could have led to a life of destitution for these women. Being too modest to help the family publicly, Nicholas threw purses filled with gold coins through their window or, in another version of the story, dropped them down the chimney.

Yet another rendition says that one daughter washed her stockings and hung them near the fire to dry - and then bags of gold fell into the socks. Heard that one before? Hold on to the little customs of the holidays. They are links to long ago.



Blessing of Candy Canes

Good Saint Nicholas, during these Advent days, we ask that you be our guide and companion as we prepare our hearts and homes for the great feast of Christmas.

We rejoice that you are the holy bringer of gifts and that so many find delight through your great generosity. Help us to follow your example that we might be generous of heart.

We pray that these candy canes, shaped just like your staff, might be a sign of joy for us, and a reminder of your loving care.

Wherever these candy canes are hung, may they carry with them the blessing of God. May all who taste them experience the joy of God upon their tongues and in their hearts.

We ask you, God, to bless these your brightly striped sweets now in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of The Holy Spirit.

Amen.



CHRISTMAS 2023

To facilitate your holiday planning, we are publishing the Mass schedule for Christmas at this time. Please note that there will be Sunday Morning Masses on December 24 to celebrate the 4th Sunday of Advent and Christmas Vigil Masses begin at 4:00 PM.

CHRISTMAS

Vigil Mass of Christmas - Sunday, December 24

Saint Joseph	4:00 PM
Saint Margaret Mary	4:00 PM
Mount Saint Peter	4:30 PM
Saint Margaret Mary	6:30 PM
Mount Saint Peter	7:00 PM

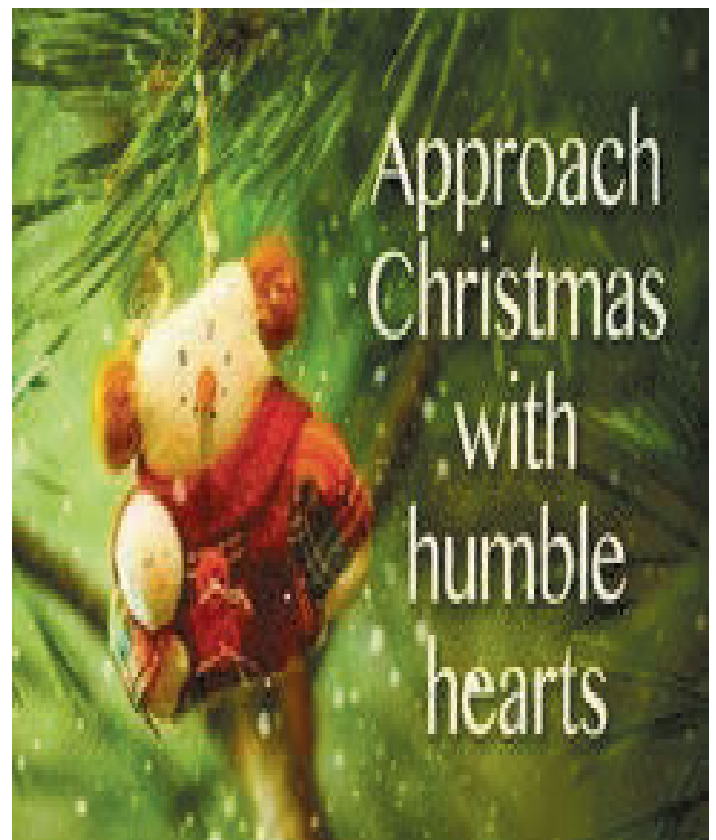
Mass at Night - Monday, December 25

St. Mary of Czestochowa	12:00 MN
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Mass Christmas Day - Monday, December 25

Saint Mary of Czestochowa	9:00 AM
Saint Joseph	9:30 AM
Mount Saint Peter	10:30 AM
Saint Margaret Mary	11:00 AM

NO MORNING MASSES OR ADORATION ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2023.



STEWARDSHIP

November 11/12, 2023 - Collection Report

Mount Saint Peter

Offertory	\$ 8,185.75
Weekly EFT	\$ 2,442.00
Diocese DPR/CRS	\$ 459.00



Saint Mary of Czestochowa

Offertory	\$ 4,202.00
Weekly EFT	\$ 265.00
World Mission Sunday	\$ 443.00

Saint Joseph

Offertory	\$ 2,738.00
Weekly EFT	\$ 175.00
Diocese DPR/CRS	\$ 327.00

Saint Margaret Mary

Offertory	\$ 16,152.00
Weekly EFT	\$ 3,272.00
Ret. Religious/DPR	\$160/\$225
Cath. Rel./Food Bank	\$265/\$275
Other Misc.	\$ 811.00



A GREAT SUCCESS!!

Many thanks to all who purchased pepperoni rolls from the Mount Saint Peter Addolorate Society. This first time endeavor of selling the pepperoni rolls from Sunseri's has worked out very well. We are thankful and grateful for all help in meeting our goal. Buon Natali!

FOOD SALE

Pierogi, stuffed cabbage rolls and haluski will be available for sale on Sunday, December 10 after Masses in St. Mary Friendship Hall. Pierogi will be sold for \$12/dozen, stuffed cabbage rolls are 3/\$12 and haluski is \$8/quart.



PASTORAL STAFF

Very Rev. Kenneth G. Zaccagnini, V.F., *Pastor*,
kzaccagnini@dioceseofgreensburg.org 724-327-2244

Rev. Elpidio (Bimbot) Alcontin, *Parochial Vicar*,
ealcontin@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Rev. Joel A. Sayson, *Parochial Vicar*,
jsayson@dioceseofgreensburg.org

PASTORAL MINISTRY STAFF

Heather Hensley, *Pastoral Associate for Youth & Young Adult Ministries*,
hhensley@dioceseofgreensburg.org

MUSIC & LITURGY MINISTRY STAFF

Mrs. Mary Murphy (*SMM*)
mmurphy@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Mr. David Leo (*MSP*)
dleo@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Mrs. Diane Painter (*SJ*)
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New Kensington Parishes: Phone: 724-335-9877 (MSP)
724-337-6412 (SJ) 724-335-8212 (SM)

Website: www.newkensingtoncatholic.org

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday - 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Friday - 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

SMM Parish: Phone: 724-335-2336

Website: www.smmlb.org

Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 12 noon & 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Deadline for bulletin submissions for Sunday, December 10 is Monday, December 4 at 10:00 a.m.

Send submissions for SMM to: marabia@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Send submissions for MSP, SJ, SM to:

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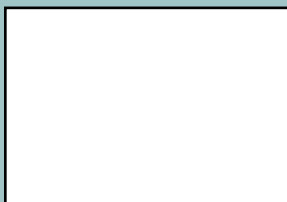
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