The Roman Catholic Parishes

A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust' Parishes of Diocese of Greensburg.

of Lower Burrell December 17, 2023 Third Sunday of New Kensington

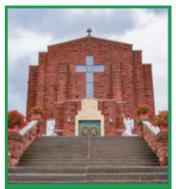
Advent





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.



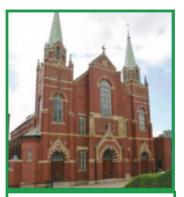
Mount Saint Peter 100 Freeport Road New Kensington, PA 15068

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 16, 2023

3:30 pm	SJ	Rosary	
4:00 pm	SJ	Arthur Errico (Bridget & Denny Conwell)	Father Joel
4:00 pm	SMM	George Vicini & Deceased Members of the of Brochetti & Caliari Families (Sylvia & Thomas Saska)	Father Ken
4:30 pm	MSP	Carmine & Mafalda Pagliaro (Children & Grandchildren)	Father Bimbot

SUNDAY, December 17, 2023 Third Sunday of Advent

7:00 am	SM	Rosary	
7:30 am	SM	Taylor Pawlish (Aunt Mo & Uncle Richard)	Father Joel
7:55 am	MSP	Rosary	
8:30 am	MSP	Joseph & Dorothy Nee (Children & Grandchildren)	Father Bimbot
8:30 am	SMM	Albin Kolakowski (Family)	Father Ken
Candle	SJ	Joseph & Patricia Crytzer (Dolores Calligan)	
9:30 am	SJ	Emily Rankin (Ryan Famiy)	Father Joel
10:30 am	MSP	Donald Briscoe, Jr. (Brisco & Perkins Family)	Father Bimbot
11:00 am	SMM	Paul Rovnanik (Wife, Joan)	Father Ken
11:00 am	SM	Rosary	
11:30 am	SM	Ray Kastelic (Kastelic & York Families)	Father Joel

MONDAY, December 18, 2023

7:30 am	SMM	Kimberly Mentecki (Karen & Ray Gretz)	Father Bimbot
8:30 am	SM	Alice Harnish (Harnish Family)	Father Ken
12:30 pm	SJ	Living & Deceased of the Shepard Family	Father Joel

TUESDAY, December 19, 2023

7:30 am	SMM	Cecelia Carson (Rebecca Ammons)	Father Bimbot
8:30 am	MSP	Gene Miller (Birthday) (Miller Family)	Father Ken
12:30 pm	SJ	Clement M. Banichar (Birthday) & Keith B. Banichar (Birthday) (Nannette Banichar)	Father Joel
2:00 pm	MSP	Eucharistic Adoration/Holy Hour of Mercy/Reposition	Father Bimbot
6:00 pm		Regional Reconciliation Services at St. Gertrude, Vandergrift	All Priests

WEDNESDAY, December 20, 2023

7:30 am	SMM	Stacey Bieranoski (Husband, John)	Father Bimbot
8:30 am	MSP	Tony & Caroline Polsinelli (Rich & Trudy Polsinelli)	Father Ken
12:30 pm	SJ	Dario Massarelli (Edward Ostravecky)	Father Joel

THURSDAY	', Decem	ıber 21, 2023	- St. Peter (Canisius
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7:30 am	SMM	Steve Stasko (Family)	Father Bimbot
8:30 am	MSP	Wislie, Santucci, and Taliani Families (Angela Wislie Misera)	Father Ken
12:30 pm	SM	Bernadine Cybach (Ellen Kaminski & Blaise Grden)	Father Joel

The Eucharistic Table

FRIDAY, December 22, 2023

8:30 am	MSP	In Memory of Frank and In Honor of Lois Martin on their 50th Wedding Anniversary (Family)	Father Ken
9:30 am	SM	Julia Discello Stanonis (Matt & Mary Jo Stelmach)	Father Bimbot
12:30 pm	SJ	Joe Discello (Tim & Nannette Bechard)	Father Joel

SATURDAY, December 23, 2023 - St. John of Kanty

3:30 pm	SJ	Rosary	
4:00 pm	SJ	Laura Kozik (Helen & Bruce Kozik)	Father Bimbot
4:00 pm	SMM	Gary Mazzotta (Mom, Dad & Family)	Father Joel
4:30 pm	MSP	Pasquale & Elizabeth D'Eramo (Family)	Father Ken

SUNDAY, December 24, 2023 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

7:00 am	SM	Rosary	
7:30 am	SM	Rita Szul (Charles Brestensky, Sr.)	Father Bimbot
7:55 am	MSP	Rosary	
8:30 am	MSP	John Runco (Donna Muto & Family)	Father Ken
8:30 am	SMM	Special Intention	Father Joel
9:30 am	SJ	Living & Deceased of the Liberto and Clark Family	Father Bimbot
10:30 am	MSP	Joseph Azzaro (St. Anthony Guild)	Father Ken
11:00 am	SMM	Special Intention	Father Joel
11:00 am	SM	Rosary	
11:30 am	SM	Caryl Lee Olszewski (Daughter, Cassandra Castrianni)	Father Bimbot

SUNDAY, December 24, 2023 - Vigil of the Nativity of the Lord

4:00 pm	SMM	Special Intention	Father Ken
4:00 pm	SJ	Special Intention	Father Peck
4:30 pm	MSP	Special Intention	Father Joel
6:30 pm	SMM	Special Intention	Father Ken
7:00 pm	MSP	Special Intention	Father Bimbot
12:00 mn	SM	Special Intention	Father Bimbot

FINAL ADVENT REGIONAL RECONCILIATION SERVICES

Everyone is highly encouraged to attend, if you have not already done so, this final services before Christmas. 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.

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.

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.

WE LOVE OUR VOLUNTEERS!

To continue the New Kensington Catholic tradition, a letter was sent last week for the volunteers during the past year to pick up their Volunteer Appreciation Gift. If you have volunteered during 2023 and did not receive a letter, please stop in the office and pick up your gift.

IN SYMPATHY

We commend to your prayers

Mary Andree, Joseph Kriegel, St. Mary Linda Hilty, Marlene Frederick,

Stella Nykiel, Saint Margaret Mary

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

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Jer 23:5-8: Mt 1:18-25 Monday:

Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a; Lk 1:5-25 Tuesday:

Wednesday: Is 7:10-14; Lk 1:26-38 Thursday: Sg 2:8-14; Lk 1:39-45

1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd; Friday:

Lk 1:46-56

Saturday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Lk 1:57-66 Sunday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16: Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38;



FAMILY PHOTOS

Family photos that were on display during the month of November will be available for pickup in the parish office during regular office hours.



PARISH OFFICE CLOSED

The NKCC Parish Office will be closed from Friday, December 22 through and including December 26 in

celebration of the Christmas holiday. The St. Margaret Mary Parish Office will be closed from Saturday. December 23 through and including Wednesday, December 27.

From the staff of the New Kensington and Lower Burrell Parishes, have a happy and blessed Christmas.

Lower Burrell Parish

(St. Margaret Mary) A Peek at the Week . . .

St. Nicholas Day Celebration Sunday

December 17 12:00 NN-2:00 PM Sullivan Room

Tuesday Men's Bible Study Group

December 19 6:30 AM Lobby

Adult Handbell Rehearsal

5:00 PM-6:30 PM Church

Wednesday Middle & High School Youth Group

December 20 6:30 PM-8:00 PM Room B-1

Adult Choir

6:45 PM-8:45 PM Church

Thursday St. Vincent de Paul Meeting

December 21 7:00 PM-8:00 PM Freude Room

CONCERT!

Everyone is invited to an ethnic Pre-Christmas concert, today (Sunday, December 17) at 2:00 PM in St. Mary Church. Several ethnic carols will be presented by local church choirs, followed by a carol sing and light refreshments in Friendship Hall.

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

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.

New Kensington Parishes

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

A Peek at the Week . . .

Monday Faith First

December 18 6:00 PM MQA-Freeport Road

Ezekial 37 Prayer Group

MQA-Greenwald 7:00 PM

Community Clothes Closet Tuesday

December 19 12:00NN-2:00 PM

> Catechesis of the Good Shepherd MSP Disciples' Center 6:00 PM

SJ Choir Rehearsal

6:30 PM Church

SM Choir Rehearsal

6:45 PM Church

MQA K-3 Christmas Concert Wednesday

December 20 7:00 PM Mt. St. Peter Church

Thursday Breaking Bread Dine-In Meal

December 21 Knead Community Café 5:30 PM

Friday Parish Office Closed

December 22 Merry Christmas

"What do you want for Christmas?"

This is a question we ask each other often before Christmas. Yet how many of us actually take a few minutes to kneel before the infant Jesus and ask Him what He wants from us this Christmas. When we kneel before the manger and ask Jesus what he wants, it is very possible that we will hear Him whisper that He wants us to share a little more of our time with him. Maybe each of us could make a New Year's resolution to spend more time with God. Go to Mass more frequently, find some time for prayer in the morning, end our day with spiritual reading, say the rosary while we drive to work, participate in Eucharistic adoration, stop into church occasionally for a quiet visit. The gift of time with God could be the very best gift we could give this year, not only to Jesus but also ourselves. It might be just what our own hearts are truly longing.

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.

l,	would love to become a Eucharistic Minister of Holy
Communion and would be w	rilling to serve my brother/sister in the parish of
and at times the Blood of Ch that I am also willing to cons who wish to partake of the c	charistic Minister means that at times I will be offering the Body of Christ rist. I also understand that on those times that I offer the Blood of Christ sume whatever amount of the Blood of Christ is left in my chalice after all up have been served. Please sign your name to this statement, which live up to the mandate of the statement. Please sign affirming this
I am also willing to follow the willing in obtaining the need	e policy of the Diocese in Protecting God's Children, and will participate
Please Print:	
Name	
Address	
	E-mail address

STEWARDSHIP

December 2/3, 2023 - Collection Report

Mount Saint Peter	
Offertory	\$ 11,689.00
Weekly EFT	\$ 2,242.00
Monthly EFT	\$ 13,276.00
Electronic Giving	\$ 2,505.00



Saint Mary of Czestochowa	
Offertory	\$ 9,480.00
Weekly EFT	\$ 265.00
Monthly EFT	\$ 1,482.00
Electronic Giving	\$ 460.00
Mission Co-op	\$ 300.00

Saint Joseph	
Offertory	\$ 7,204.00
Weekly EFT	\$ 175.00
Monthly EFT	\$ 4,025.00
Electronic Giving	\$ 800.00
Mission Co-op	\$ 300.00

Saint Margaret Mary	
Offertory	\$ 20,818.00
Weekly EFT	\$ 3,917.00
Monthly	\$ 12,524.00
Food Bank	\$ 385.00
Maint/Other Misc	\$700/\$1,862

COME CELEBRATE THE JOY OF CHRISTMAS

Free Christmas Brunch (Bring a friend or neighbor)

Sponsored by the Holy Family Parish Community (Oakmont, Penn Hills, Plum & Verona)

Monday, December 25, 2023 — 10:30 am-12:30 pm

Our Lady of Joy Hall Or St. Joseph Church Hall 2000 O'Block Rd. Plum 825 Second St. Verona

To make reservations for the brunch by December 23:

Call Noreen at 412-296-1709 or Dave at 412-932-553 or Email:sos@holyfamilypgh.org Brunch includes: Quiche, scrambled eggs, sausage, baked ham, potatoes, rolls, fruit, pastries, cookies, juices, and coffee/tea.



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)

dpainter@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Mr. George Pecoraro, (SM)

gpecoraro@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Deadline for bulletin submissions for Sunday, December 31 is Tuesday, December 19 at 10:00 a.m.

Send submissions for SMM to: marabia@dioceseofgreensburg.org Send submissions for MSP, SJ, SM to:

dhilliard@dioceseofgreensburg.org

SUPPORT STAFF

William Staniszewski, Business Manager, wstaniszewski@dioceseofgreensburg.org

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Rebecca Planavsky, Secretary, (SM)

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Michele Arabia, Secretary, (SMM) marabia@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Toni Shaffer, Clearance Coordinator, (SMM)

tshaffer@dioceseofgreensburg.org

CONTACT INFORMATION

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.

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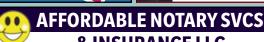
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