

Sacred Heart Parish

120 Jefferson Street ~ Swedesburg, Pennsylvania, 19405
(610) 275-1750

*A prophet is
not without
honor except in
his native place
and among his
own kin and in
his own house.*

Mark 6:4



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Rev. Peter J. DiMaria
Pastor

frdimaria@shswedesburg.org

Rev. Thomas A. Nasta
Pastor Emeritus

Sr. MaryAnne Bolger, IHM
Parish Services Director
srmaryanne@shswedesburg.org

Linda Moser
Coordinator of Religious Education
lmoser@shswedesburg.org

Leo Brady
Sacristan

Holy Mass:

Saturday: Anticipated Mass 4:00 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am & 10:15 am

Monday through Friday at 8:00 am

Sacrament of Penance:

Sunday: 9:30 to 9:50 am

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

Saturday: 3:00 to 3:45 pm

FOCUS Missionary:

Caitlyn Sechuk
csechuk@shswedesburg.org

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, JULY 7, 2024

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



A very special thank you to Linda Moser, Coordinator of Religious Education and to her staff: Joan Koeck, Michelle Efthimiadou, Barbara JanFrancisco, Briana Wisniewski, Brenda Turner and Kara Krouse for a wonderful week –long summer session of religious education for our children. Along with religious instruction there was also time for recreation and prayer.

*Thank you all for your hard work, dedication and planning for such a successful week. God bless you all!
Father DiMaria*



***Caring for Friends
Wednesday, July 10th***

In celebration and remembrance of Angelo Pagnotti's birthday we will be scooping Rita's Water Ice this Wednesday, July 10th at our CFF gathering in the parish hall. Please join in the fun!

Save the Date for our annual Caring for Friends Dinner at Peppers by Amedeo's

Mark your calendar for our annual Caring for Friends dinner which will be held **Wednesday, August 14** at 6:00PM. Details to follow.



Stella Maris Wittmer

Baptized on Saturday,
June 22, 2024



Congratulations to Stella's Parents:

Jim & Amy

May your Child's Baptism be just the start of a life filled with blessings!



Monday Night Rosary

There will be a public recitation of the rosary in church each Monday at 7 p.m. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Ed DiGinto at 610-202-0913.

***Sacred Heart Pro Life
Holy Hour***



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

**SAVE THE DATE!!
DETAILS TO FOLLOW!**

PARISH PICNIC

SEPTEMBER 15, 2024

3:00 - 6:00 PM

ON THE PARISH GROUNDS



MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, July 6

4:00pm For the People of Our Parish

Sunday, July 7

8:00am Frances "Fran" Salamone
 Birthday Remembrance, July 8th
Requested by Barbara Roskos

10:15am 50th Wedding Anniversary Blessings
 For Bernie & Jackie Gutkowski

Monday, July 8

8:00am Pauline H. & Bernard S. Gutkowski, Sr.
Requested by Bernie, Jackie & Family

Tuesday, July 9

8:00am The Intentions of Victor Kalivas
Requested by Mom & Pop

Wednesday, July 10

8:00am Edward Keszczyk
Requested by Ken & Sheldon Opielski & Family

Thursday, July 11

8:00am Megan Brown Ellis
Requested by Linda Stephen

Friday, July 12

8:00am Elizabeth Evan
 Birthday Remembrance
Requested by Eleanor & Junior

Saturday, July 13

NB: No 8:00am Mass on Saturdays

4:00pm Jack Guziewicz
Requested by Laureen Wisniewski

Sunday, July 14

8:00am Judith Narke
Requested by MaryCatherine

10:15am For the People of Our Parish



Let Us Serve The Lord With Gladness!

The following Ministers are scheduled for our Parish Masses.

Saturday evening, July 13:

4:00pm

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion:

Barbara JanFrancisco

Lector: Eileen Bralski

Sunday morning, July 14:

8:00am

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion:

Larry Kilian

Lector: Connie Capaldo

10:15am

Lector: Caitlyn Sechuk



Weekly Report

Due to an early bulletin deadline, financial information will appear in next weekend's bulletin.

Thank you for your support of Our Parish!



THE LORD'S REAL PRESENCE

We are fortunate enough to worship in a Church in which the **Body of Christ** is **reserved**. It is right to acknowledge the **Lord's Real Presence** with a brief act of worship on **entering or leaving** the Church and **every time** passing by the Sanctuary.

Normally, a ***genuflection*** in the direction of the place of Reservation is enough. One who is physically unable to genuflect may substitute a ***profound bow*** at the waist.

*This week the Sanctuary Lamp
in the Church burns for*

A Special Intention



*"God does not love us because we are
valuable. We are valuable because God
loves us." ~Archbishop Fulton Sheen*



If You Cannot Be On Time,
Then Be EARLY.
Making Time For Prayer
Strengthens Our
Connection With God!



**Golfers and non-golfers...have fun
and protect life!** The Valley Forge
Chapter, and Fr. Bally Council #1192
Knights of Columbus, is holding their
Annual Pro-Life Golf Tournament on
Friday, August 9, 2024, at Twin Ponds
Golf Course, Gilbertsville, PA. The

event includes breakfast, lunch, banquet dinner,
golf and individual/team skill prizes. Cost per
golfer is \$150. Dinner only tickets available for
\$40/person. Sponsorships are welcomed. Contact
Gary Huster at 610.972.0356,
(thebighue@aol.com); or Mark Nunan at
610.772.1734,(marknunan6614@gmail.com).

Have you supported Vision 26?
Your generous giving to the
Sacred Heart Stewardship
Campaign helps us to invest in
building improvements, as well
as more ministry and outreach opportunities to
serve our parish family.



*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; **Matthew
J. Capaldo** (Commander, U.S. Navy) son of John
& Connie Capaldo; **Michael DeStefano, Jr.**
(Sergeant U.S. Army) grandson of Jack & Sue
DeStefano; **Michael Gutkowski** (Lieutenant
Commander, U.S. Navy), grandson of Pat
Gutkowski; **Samuel Hoey** (LCpl, U.S.M.C.),
grandson of Leona Cottone; **Noel Irizarry**
(Specialist, U.S. Army), son of Patricia Epright;
Shane Jones (Sergeant U.S. Marines), grandson
of Fran Toth; **Matthew McNulty** (Chief Warrant
Officer 4 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; **Stephanie
Zugay** (National Guard), granddaughter of Greg
& Grace Zugay.



Carol Katkowski
Tom Burke
JoAnn Prinzivalli
Chester Kowalski
Elaine Fertal
Barbara Pruskowski
George Minnis
Al Cowling
John Puzio
Mary(Puzio) Stephenson
Monica Pocelujko
Mary Boyle
Fran Toth
Joan Birely
Evelyn Horning
Martha Smoczylo
Kelly Benedict
Patricia Gaffney
Andrew Andreyko
Angela Desmond
Fred Zugay

Mike Piskai
Eileen Brandt
Denise Kavanagh
Tom Kavanagh
Michael Martin
Betty Lilick
Margaret Halas
Ronald Halas
Marge Leszczynski
Dolores Burton
Fran & Rob Worrall
Rose 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
John Smoczylo
Laurie Ronan

Upcoming EVENTS

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

"Suddenly Seniors" will have its first meeting on Thursday, September 19th at the Swedesburg Fire House on Jefferson St. beginning at 12:00. Bring your own lunch. Water, tea, coffee will be provided. Anyone able to bring a dessert, this will be greatly appreciated. The speaker will be Father Keyes of St. John the Baptist Church.

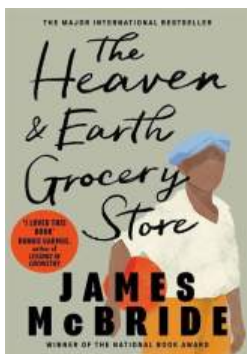


Anyone who is not yet a member of "Suddenly Seniors" please consider joining. We would love to have you join our group. Meetings are on the third Thursday of each month.

Board Members and Event Planners for "Suddenly Seniors" will meet on Monday, September 9, 2024 at 9:00 in the Rectory Meeting Room.



Companions in Prayer & Ministry will meet on the first Sunday of each month after the 10:15 Mass in the Rectory Meeting Room. In September the first meeting will be on Sunday, September 8th. Sharing of our faith through the virtues of the IHM Community is the focus of each meeting. Think about joining this group and see how spiritually enriching the sharing becomes.



The **"Book Club"** will continue to meet on the third Tuesday of each month. Meetings will be held in the Rectory Meeting Room beginning at 1:30. The first meeting will be on Tuesday, September 17th. The book for September is The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store by James McBride. It takes place in Pottstown which should make the

book even more interesting. Please consider coming and joining in the sharing of insights. This book should be read in its entirety for the meeting.



The 2025 Mass Book will open on Monday, July 15th. Please call or stop by the parish office to schedule your intentions.

**Monday through Thursday
from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM**



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 will be held August 9 - 11, 2024 and again on October 4 - 6 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.



SAVE THE DATE

**Bishop Kenrick High
School
Class of 1964**

60th Year Reunion

**Friday, September 20, 2024
12:00 Noon - 4:00PM**

Buffet Luncheon - Cash Bar

Copperfield Inn at Lakeside

594 West Ridge Pike
Limerick, PA 19468

484-938-7082



Would you like to be apart of the choices for Life? A Baby's Breath is looking for two important positions. One is for a Donations Coordinator for the

Jeffersonville center and the other is for a Donations Coordinator for the Independence program. Both involve using computer skills to update our website database, help with mailings and manage client information. For more information or to apply, please visit [Volunteering Opportunities - A Baby's Breath \(ababysbreath.org\)](http://Volunteering Opportunities - A Baby's Breath (ababysbreath.org))

JULY 7, 2024 - FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

For centuries now the Church has acknowledged that St. Francis of Assisi is so much more than the model for a popular garden statue. In fact, he has been frequently described as “a second Christ” for his exemplary holiness. But like many a saint in the Church’s official calendar, he did not have the support of his family for his choice of lifestyle. His own father disowned Francis in front of the whole town because he despised his son’s decision.

In this instance Francis mirrored the rejection that Our Lord Jesus experienced from his own kinsmen as described in our Gospel episode from St. Mark today. Any of us who have felt a similar reaction to our lifestyle choices from our families can take comfort from Our Savior. So sad was he that He had to acknowledge that “No prophet has honor in his native place.”

In a sense, this incident has echoes in the hostility a young man might experience in our selfish culture if he were to express a desire to become a priest. I know that sounds harsh, but it happens more than we know. The mother might argue: “No! Because I want grandchildren!” The father might say “No! I want you to work for my company!” From my limited perspective I believe such people will face a harsh judgment day with those attitudes

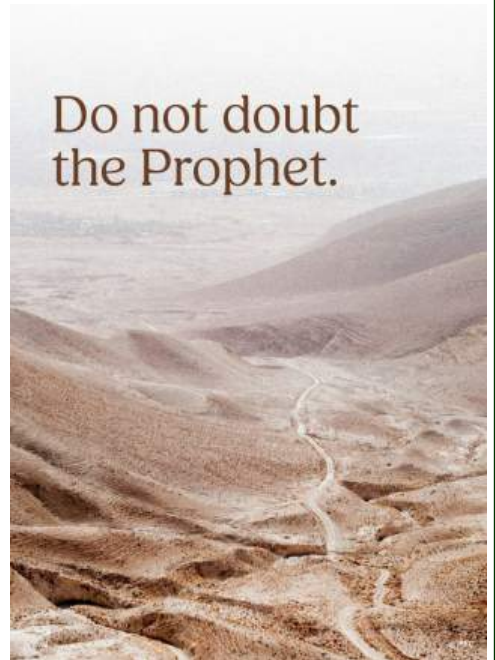
In another sense, I believe that this incident in Christ’s life offers solace to all of us who want to stay loyal to Christ and His Church in our present society. A study of Church history will provide plenty examples of what Christ foretold when He said: “In the world you will have affliction.” But then He added: “But take courage! I have overcome the world.” That’s where I place my hope, even though societal trends encourage the opposite. Just take the long and ongoing push in our country to legalize baby killing. Or to normalize unnatural concepts about marriage and gender.

We must concede that all of this is somehow part of God’s master plan. His mysterious ways were manifest in the crucifixion of His Son for sure. But so was His glorious resurrection on the Third Day. So, we trust God in good times and in bad.

When Jesus announced the Eucharist, a very tough concept for a simple man like St. Peter. When Our Lord asked him “Are you too going to walk away, as did many early disciples, the humble St. Peter replied, “To whom shall we go? You have the words of everlasting life.” So true! Still so!

Here are two homespun observations that make the point with a dash of sarcasm added: “If a person’s character is to be smeared, there’s nobody like a relative to do the job. Many people seem to think that distant relatives are the best kind to have.”

God love you and give you the peace of St. Francis.



Keith J. Murphy
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