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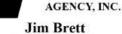
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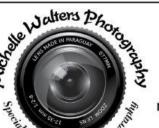
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Church of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

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Fax: 536-3709

5th Sunday of Lent, March 17th, 2024

MASS SCHEDULE

MONDAY - Lenten Weekday 12:05 PM - Carol Houghton

(Rea. by Family)

TUESDAY - St. Joseph, Spouse of the **Blessed Virgin Mary**

12:05 PM - John Slovikovski Sr.

(Rea. by Barbara Rutledge)

WEDNESDAY - Lenten Weekday 5:30 PM -**Angeline Lecci**

(Rea. by Jeno Lecci)

Adoration of Blessed Sacrament After Mass until 6:30 PM

THURSDAY - NO MASS

Lenten Weekday FRIDAY -12:05 PM - Sue Karmanocky (Reg. by Elieen Zibura)

SATURDAY - Vigil of Palm Sunday

4:00 PM - Spiritual & Temporal Welfare Of Patricia Balagusz (Birthday Celebration)

(Rea. by Family)

5:30 PM -Spiritual & Temporal Welfare of the Jeanjaguet, Kohan and **Skovensky Families** (Rea. Rita Leis Family)

Palm Sunday SUNDAY -9:00 AM -**Pro Populo**

SANCTUARY CANDLE

Spiritual and Temporal Welfare

Of Father John

The daily readings; may be found at either USCCB.ORG or under the headings of daily readings listed in back of the missalette.



1127 McKinley Avenue Johnstown, PA 15905

Rev. John J. Slovikovski, PhD, Pastor Mrs. Maureen Clark, DRE Mrs. Kathleen Bumbernick, DMM Mr. David Kozak, Chairperson, PC Ms. Catherine Bennett,

Mr. Joseph Martella, Vice-

Chairperson, PC

Mr. Steve Mvers, Chairperson, FC

Ms. Chris Houghton,

IN LOVING MEMORY: The Sanctuary Lamp is available for your intentions by calling the parish office. Please attempt to request your intention as early as possible. A \$10 donation is suggested.

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE: Confessions are heard regularly on the First Saturday of every month at 3:00—3:30 PM (suspended until Fr. John is well). Confession may ALWAYS be arranged with Fr. John personally by calling the rectory office. Please avail yourselves to this life-giving sacrament!

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE: Scheduled no less than **nine months** prior to the date of marriage. Four preparation sessions with the pastor, as well as all diocesan requirements, must be met. All Catholic candidates for Marriage must be registered, practicing members of a parish at least 6 months prior to scheduling the weddina.

INFANT BAPTISM: Baptisms are generally celebrated during one of the Sunday Liturgies. Prebaptismal instructions must be completed by the parents at least 3 weeks prior to the celebration of the sacrament. Catholic godparents must obtain a letter of eligibility from their pastors four weeks in advance. Baptisms are never celebrated during the Season of Lent.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: Celebrated after any Sunday Mass as requested and as a parish during the Easter Season.

MEMBERSHIP: Forms are located on the back page of the bulletin (or on the parish website) to be filled out and sent to the parish. Registrations are also welcome by phone.

\$\$ INCOME \$\$\$

Collection - March 10, 2024

Loose Money	\$237.00
Sunday Collection	\$1590.00
Catholic Relief Services	
Ash Wednesday	\$25.00
Sanctuary Candle	\$20.00
Parking Lot Rent	\$210.00
Ordinary Donations	\$25.00

TOTAL: \$2133.00

This is low amount is due to Fr. John's emergency hospital visit.

Let us continue to pray for the members of our parish community who serve in the military, as well as for the sick, elderly and homebound members of our parish especially:

Anonymous Petitioners, Helene and Pat Balagusz, Ralph Blair, David Clark, Ronald Cleaver, Dolores Danner, Francis Dietz, Dorothy Fisher, Barbara Fox, Emma Frieko, Paul Harnish, Catherine Heinlein, Mary Carol Hill and children, Donna Johnson, Baby Gianna Kniss, Karen Kohan, Betsy Konar, Marylee Konicky, Madeleine Krueger, Gaile Krumenacker, Victoria Leflie, Michael Letzo, Joanne Macri, Patricia Mainhart, Marianne Mangiafico, Pat Meagher, Mary Mihalacki, Myla Minner, Larry Oravetz, Anna Petro, Francis Petro, Anna Marie Pfeil, Maria Petro-Sanders, Mia Bella Rastall, Stacy Roberts, Sean Rovan, Leonard Russell, Doctor Larry Rutledge, Stephen Sanders, Jennifer Schellhammer, Ernestine Schmidt, Rose Sigg, Allegra Slick, Father John Slovikovski, Shirley Slovikovski, Megan Varmecky, Coralie Williams, Christi and Nancy Vavrek, Carrie Young

Please join us in remembering members of our parish family who celebrate their birthdays the week of March 18th to March 24th:



Ronald Conahan Andrea Nosko David Doepken Thomas Oberhaus Michael McDaniel

Valerie Gjurich Carrie Young Delaney Leis Maureen Clark Patricia Balagusz

For the Good of the Vineyard and Our Particular Part of It:

The invitations to the rosary every Tuesday at 6:00 PM and on Wednesdays to attend the 5:30 Mass fol-



lowed by adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 6:30 PM continue to be extended to all parishioners. We also pray the litany of St. Joseph since Wednesday is dedicated to him as the patron of the Universal Church. Remember the parish intention is for Fr. John's health. But your personal intentions for the Rosary and adoration are vour own. ************************

Please know that Stations of the Cross will continue be held on the Fridays of Lent at 3:00 PM .for the benefit of those persons who find it difficult to travel at night.



Annual Fish Fry: Our Annual Fish Fry continues Friday during Lent (except on Good Friday) from 11:00 AM until 6:00 PM. The cost is \$13 dollars with a menu including an 8 oz. Fish Sandwich with coleslaw and with a choice of macaroni and cheese, French fries, or sweet Potato fries. Any extra sides are \$1 each. Volunteers are needed to



help prepare for the Fish Fry on Thursdays at 10:00 AM in the school cafeteria. We hope to see you there. Also, I am asking you to patronize our Fish Fry. I am sad when I hear of parishioners patronizing other churches and fire halls but not our own. Please make every effort to support us, even if it is only one time this year!

THIS IS OUR LAST FISH FRY FOR THE YEAR! *******************

PLEASE NOTE THAT VISITATION WILL NOT BE HAVING A PENANCE SERVICE THIS YEAR (due to the lack of available priests). The following Churches in our area will be hosting a penance Service;

OMOS on March 18th & 19th at 6:00PM

St. Benedict on March 25th at 5:00 PM

St. Patrick on March 27th at 6:00 PM. Please make every effort to attend one of these celebrations of communal Penance.

St. Therese Piroghi Sale - St. Therese will be selling their famous fresh potato and cheese piroghis on Friday during Lent except Good Friday. Phone orders will be taken at 814-539-7633 on Mondays from 9 AM - 11 AM. Pick up is on Thursdays from 11 AM - 1 PM or Fridays from 10 AM - 12 PM at the Social Hall. The cost is \$8.00.

From the Pastor's Desk: Dear friends of Visitation Parish, this week I spent several days in the hospital that were frightening for me. It made me think that I am so happy to have life today despite my various ailments. I continue to place my faith in God and in you. I ask that you continue to pray for me that I continue to have hope and to heal my present illness or at least to maintain stability with the medical problems that I have. Please pray directly to our Lord, to his blessed Mother Mary, to Saint Joseph, Saint Jude, and to Demetrius Gallitzin Servant of God.

Also, you will be receiving a letter from me at the end of the week. It is important that you read it carefully.

And now onto better things, at this Sunday's Angelus, Pope Francis focused on Nicodemus, a Pharisee who was open to *Jesus Message. He went to meet Jesus at night so as not to be* seen. The Lord welcomes him, converses with him, and reveals to him that He came not to condemn, but to save the world. Let us pause to reflect on this: Jesus came not to condemn, but to save. This is beautiful! Often in the Gospel we see Christ revealing the intentions of the people He meets, at times unmasking their false attitudes, such as with the pharisees or making them reflect on the disorder of their life, as with the Samaritan woman (cf. In 4: 5-42). There are no secrets before Him; He reads all of them in the heart. And in doing so, he does not point a finger at us, but rather embraces us, to free us from sins and to save us. Jesus is not interested in putting us on but to embrace our life; He wants none of us to be lost. His gaze is a gentle glimmer of a friendly lamp, which helps us to see the good in ourselves and to be aware of the evil, so that we may be converted and healed with the support of His grace. Again, Jesus came not to condemn, but to save the world. Think of us, who very often condemn others; many times, we speak badly, to go in search of gossip against others. Let us ask the Lord to give us, all of us, this merciful gaze, to look at others as He looks at us.

At his Wednesday audience, Pope Francis looked at his catechesis on the virtues and the vices, and considered the nature of virtue, which the Catechism defines as "a habitual and firm disposition to do the good." The pope noted that having been created in the image and likeness of God, we were made for goodness, yet in our fallen world the pursuit of virtue and detachment from vice require discipline and perseverance. Growth in virtue is the noblest expression of our human freedom, but must necessarily be sustained by God's prior gift of grace. For this reason, the Scriptures counsel us to pray for the Holy Spirit's gift of wisdom, to know the Lord's will and to let it shape our every decision as we strive to conform our lives ever more fully to his gracious and loving plan for our human family. *My note: there are more virtues than we can count and we would do well to follow them and we will have few external sources of wisdom at any time in our lives, e.g., the commandments and teaching of the Church.

ANNUAL VISITATION SPRING BASKET PARTY—MAY

5, 2024: We will be holding our annual Basket Party on Sunday, May 5 2024. A sign-up sheet will be available next week in the main vestibule of the Church for those persons willing to contribute a basket or other donation for this event. For more information please contact Gaile Krumenacker at 255-5697. Thank you for your support.

IUBILEE CORNER: Stage I, Part I V -WEEKLY UPDATE Even though the March 15th date has passed, you may still join our pilgrimage to Rome. The last day to sign up will be JUNE 30, 2024. If you haven't given much thought to this trip, please consider coming with us. Your life will be forever changed by visiting the eternal city (Rome) and Assisi

MEAT/CASH RAFFLE - There will be a meat/cash raffle at the St. Francis Activity Center on Mar 23rd, 2024. Tickets are \$10 & includes Kielbasa, Hot Dogs, Kraut, Macaroni Salad, Baked Beans and coffee & soda. Beer bracelets will be available for \$5.00. Doors open at 5:00PM and the activity lasts until 6:00PM -9:00PM. For tickets, contact Fran King at (814)536-3667.

Young Adult Group (18-39) - Our February Theology on Tap was our largest yet with 40+ coming to hear Fr. Ananias O.S.B. We also volunteered with our member's special needs group on Saint Patrick's Day. Over our first year we have grown to over 85 young adults strong with new members joining monthly. Fr. Curtis Kiddy C.P. (Passionist Priest and Retreat Director at Saint Paul of the Cross Retreat Center in Pittsburgh) is our March 27th speaker on "The Passion of Jesus in Lent and Life" at the Boulevard Grill from 6-8pm. All faiths aged 18-39 are welcome to join us for faith and fellowship! We take monthly freewill offerings but are seeking sponsors to defer our excess buffet and speaker costs to avoid charging a set fee. For more information contact Geoffrey Stumpo at (814) 659-7415 or geoffstumpo@gmail.com. ******************

CCW Spring Series - The Carmelite Community of the Word is offering A Five Week Spring Series on April 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29, 2024 at the CCW Incarnation Center from 10AM - 12N and at the Basilica of St. Michael in Loretto from 6-8PM. This series will take a new and fresh look at Jesus: who he is, what he is really like, what he taught, and what he did for our salvation. This encounter with Christ will inspire and empower you to center your entire life around him as you come to know and love him in an ever deeper and more intimate way. Pre-registration for either location is required by March 27. To register for either program, contact 814-886-4098 or email: CommunityofficeCCW@gmail.com or srmarilynw@CCWCommunity.org. Please provide your name, address, phone and email and include the name of the program you wish to attend. You may also register by mailing your information to: Incarnation Center Retreats, 394 Bem Road, Gallitzin, PA 16641.