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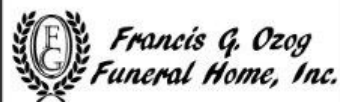
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NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

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Check One: ☐ New Registration ☐ Change of Address ☐ Moving Out of Parish ☐ Want Envelopes

Please drop Membership Form into the offertory basket or mail to Rectory. 814-536-6110

Church of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Rectory Phone: 536-6110

E-Mail: visitationjtown@dioceseaj.org

Website: www.visitationbvmchurch.com

Fax: 536-3709

Palm Sunday,
March 24th, 2024



**1127 McKinley Avenue
Johnstown, PA 15905**

Rev. John J. Slovickowski, PhD, Pastor

Mrs. Maureen Clark, DRE

Mrs. Kathleen Bumbnick, DMM

Mr. David Kozak, Chairperson, PC

Ms. Catherine Bennett,

Mr. Joseph Martella, Vice-

Chairperson, PC

Mr. Steve Myers, Chairperson, FC

Ms. Chris Houghton,

MASS SCHEDULE

MONDAY - Monday of Holy Week

12:05 PM - For The Priests of the Altoona-
Johnstown Diocese

TUESDAY - Tuesday of Holy Week

12:05 PM - Albert Reynolds Sr.

(Req. by Family)

Rescheduled from 3-11-24

WEDNESDAY - Wednesday of Holy Week

5:30 PM - Vickie Schmidt

(Req. by Gary and Linda Albert)

Rescheduled from 3-12-24

***Adoration of Blessed Sacrament**

After Mass until 6:30 PM*

THURSDAY - In Thanksgiving for the Eucharist

6:00 PM - ***Adoration of the Blessed to be
followed for a short period of time***

FRIDAY - Good Friday

12:05 PM - Service of the Passion of the Lord

SATURDAY - Holy Saturday

8:30 PM - Michael Kozak

(Req. by Cathy Fuska)

SUNDAY - Easter Sunday

9:00 AM - James Rovon

(Req. by John Berezansky and Judi Frampton)

SANCTUARY CANDLE

Happy Easter to Aunts Anna Marie & Margaret

Req. by niece Barbara Vedock

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

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 ar-
ranged 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 mar-
riage. Four preparation sessions with the pas-
tor, 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
wedding.

INFANT BAPTISM: Baptisms are generally cele-
brated during one of the Sunday Liturgies. Pre-
baptismal instructions must be completed by
the parents at least 3 weeks prior to the cele-
bration of the sacrament. Catholic godpar-
ents 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. Regis-
trations are also welcome by phone.

\$\$\$ INCOME \$\$\$

Collection - March 17, 2024

Loose Money.....	\$295.00
Sunday Collection.....	\$3731.00
Ash Wednesday.....	\$2.00
Easter Flowers.....	\$275.00
Catholic Relief Services.....	\$15.00
Initial Offering.....	\$5.00
Votive Candles.....	\$103.00
St. Peregrine.....	\$25.00
Bulletin Ads.....	\$800.00
Ordinary Donations.....	\$20.00

TOTAL: \$5271.00

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 Har-nish, Catherine Heinlein, Mary Carol Hill and children, Donna Johnson, Baby Gianna Kniss, Karen Kohan, Betsy Konar, Marylee Konicky, Madeleine Krueger, Gaile Kru-menacker, Victoria Leflie, Michael Letzo, Joanne Macri, Patri-cia 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 Rován, Leonard Russell, Doctor Larry Rutledge, Stephen Sanders, Jennifer Schellhammer, Ernestine Schmidt, Rose Sigg, Allegra Slick, Father John Slovikovski, Shirley Slovikovski, Megan Varnecky, 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 25th to March 31st:



Peggy Cavanaugh
Dawn Stephens
Christine Butler
Stephanie Zanghi
Anna Marie Pfeil

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

ANNUAL VISITATION SPRING BASKET PARTY - The annual Visitation Parish basket party will be held on Sun-day May 5th. The doors will open at 11:30 AM and food will be available at noon. The baskets will be called at 1:00 PM. If anyone has any baskets, very gently used or new items to make baskets, or already made baskets, please bring them to church or call Gaile at (814) 255-5697 to have them picked up.



The invitations to the rosary every Tuesday at 6:00 PM and on Wednesdays to attend the 5:30 Mass followed by adoration of the Blessed Sacra-ment until 6:30 PM continue to be extend-ed to all parishioners. We also pray the lit-any of St. Joseph since Wednesday is dedicated to him as the patron of the Universal Church. Remem-ber the parish intention is for Fr. John’s health. But your personal intentions for the Rosary and adoration are your own.



The following Churches in our area will be hosting a pen-ance Service prior to the celebration of the Easter Mysteries
St. Benedict on March 25th at 5:00 PM and St. Patrick on March 27th at 6:00 PM. Please make every ef-fort to attend one of these celebrations of communal Pen-ance.

More Than A Story - The Greater Johnstown Christian Fellow-ship will be performing an Easter production on March 28th, 29th and 30th at 7:00 PM. Journey back to 1929 as the news re-porters discover the reality of the birth of Christ, experience the verdict, endure the flogging, eyewitness the pain of Calva-ry, observe the defeat of death, and comprehend His as ascen-sion. Doors open at 6:00 PM and admission is free.

Today marks the beginning of Holy Week, the most solemn yet joyous time of the Liturgical year. With the celebration of Palm Sunday, we slowly move into those defining mo-ments of the end of the paschal mys-tery. **Please attempt to be a part of these late celebrations on Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter.** Please consider giving some of your time to attend the celebrations associat-ed with Jesus final journey into Jerusa-lem and into the hands of those who exercise *religious* authority and ultimately condemn Jesus to death for the great love that he has shown throughout his ministry; a love which has been greatly misunderstood but saves us nonetheless.



From the Pastor’s Desk:

I am happy to announce that I am fairing much better than I was last week and that it has returned my joy that ac-companies me as I pray with you. However, I am quite far from being out of the woods yet. I have several important tests and procedures to complete before I can make a decision that that I will communicate to you when appropriate. In the inter-im, I continue to ask you to pray for me both directly to our Lord and through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Jude, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, and Demetrius Gallitzin. I would be thrilled to be his first miraculous intervention and I would deepen the devotion that I presently have for him. Please, think of me with Hope, for that is an inexhaustible vir-tue in my theological and spiritual experiences.

In his past Sunday’s Angelus, Pope Francis reminds us that Jesus in the Gospel (cf. Jn 12:20-33) tells us something im-portant: that on the Cross we will see His glory and that of the Father (cf. vv. 23, 28). But how is it possible that the glory of God manifest itself right there, on the Cross; he talks about His Passion, Jesus says: “The hour has come for the Son of man to be glorified” (v. 23). What does He mean? He means that glory, for God, does not correspond to human success, fame and popularity; glory, for God, has nothing self-referential about it, it is not a grandiose manifestation of pow-er to be followed by public applause. For God, glory is to love to the point of giving one’s life. Glorification, for Him, means giving Himself, making Himself accessible, offering His love. And this reached its culmination on the Cross, right there, where Jesus outspreads God’s love to the maximum, fully re-vealing the face of mercy, giving us life and forgiving his cru-cifiers. Here, the Lord teaches us that true glory, that which never fades and makes us happy, is made up of giving and forgiveness. Giving and forgiveness are the es-sence of the glory of God. And for us, they are the way of life. Giving and forgiveness: very different criteria to what we see around us, and also within us, when we think of glory as something to receive rather than to give; something to possess instead of something to offer. Worldly glory fades, and does not leave joy in the heart; it does not even lead to the good of all, but rather to division, discord, and envy.

And so, we can ask ourselves: what is the glory. Am I on the path of giving and forgiveness, that of the Crucified Jesus, the way of those who never tire of loving, confident that this bears witness to God in the world and makes the beauty of life shine? What kind of glory do I want for myself? Indeed, let us remember that when we give and forgive, God’s glory shines in us. Right there: when we give and forgive. This is so important as we prepare to finish our Lenten journey.

In this Wednesday’s papal Audience, Francis in his continuing catechesis on the virtues, considered **prudence**, one of the four “cardinal” virtues that, together with the “theological” virtues of faith, hope and charity, are the pillars of integrated daily Christian living. Prudence is the ability to combine intelligence and creativity, simplicity and shrewd-ness, understanding the complexity of situations and evaluat-ing possible solutions, applying wisdom gleaned from

past experiences while anticipating future needs. In this sense, Saint Thomas Aquinas calls prudence “right reason in action.” Jesus, in his parables, often encouraged his disciples to exercise this virtue. (*Barriers to prudent judgements include, but are not lim-ited to pride, a know-it-all attitude, or not being attentive to the contours of our daily lives – FJ*) May we also practice prudence daily on the journey towards the fullness of life in the heavenly Kingdom.

JUBILEE 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.*

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 Geof-frey Stumpo at (814) 659-7415 or geoff-tumpo@gmail.com. If you have any questions or con-cerns regarding Theology on Tap or the information provided by the current diocesan Lenten reflections, please bring them to Fr. Slovikovski by making an ap-pointment by calling the rectory at 814-536-6110.

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: 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.