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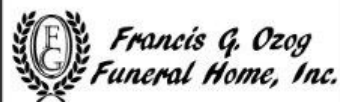
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NAME _____ PHONE _____

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CITY _____ ZIP _____

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

**Easter Sunday,
March 31st, 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 - NO MASS

TUESDAY - Tuesday within the Octave of Easter

12:05 PM - Joseph Lecci

(Req. by Jeno Lecci)

**WEDNESDAY - Wednesday within the Octave
of Easter**

5:30 PM - The Meyers Family

(Req. by The Lombardi Family)

***Adoration of Blessed Sacrament
After Mass until 6:30 PM***

THURSDAY - NO MASS

FRIDAY - Friday within the Octave of Easter

12:05 PM - Mary Hawthorne

(Req. by Cathy Fuska)

SATURDAY - Holy Saturday

4:00 PM - Debbie Stahr

(Req. by Mother, Alice Stahr)

5:30 PM - Gloria Fenik

(VPM) (Req. by Family)

SUNDAY - 2nd Sunday of Easter

9:00 AM - Pro Populo

SANCTUARY CANDLE

Easter Blessings for Frank & Elizabeth Mateljan

Req. by daughter 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 24, 2024

Loose Money.....	\$423.00
Sunday Collection.....	\$2754.00
Easter Flowers.....	\$726.00
Votive Candles.....	\$103.00
St. Peregrine.....	\$40.00
Bulletin Ads.....	\$200.00
Parking Lot Rent.....	\$295.00
Ordinary Donations.....	\$50.00

TOTAL: \$4951.00

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 Frieke, 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 Rovon, 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 April 1st to April 7th:



Christine Bumbernick	Lynette Corona
Connie Grunza	Jessica Martella
Craig Moore	Allyana Stephens
Barbara Costlow	Bonnie Trigona
Deborah Cowan	

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.



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 loca-tion is required by March 27. To register for either program, contact 814-886-4098 or email: Communityof-ficeCCW@gmail.com or srmarilyn@CCWCommunity.org. Please provide your name, address, phone and email and in-clude the name of the program you wish to attend. You may also register by mailing your information to: Incarnation Cen-ter Retreats, 394 Bem Road, Gallitzin, PA 16641.

Broadway & Beyond - Bishop McCort Catholic High School will present Broadway & Beyond, April 11, 12 and 13. All shows begin at 7:00 p.m. in the Guzzi Performing Arts Center. Tickets can be pur-chased in advance by calling (814) 536-8991 or at the door on the night of the show.



Alleluia! He is risen!!



From the Pastor's Desk:

I am happy to be with you for the celebration of the Solemnity of the Resurrection of the Lord this Easter Sunday. This is by far my favorite time of year, and although the sched-ule is rather exhausting, it is beyond reward. The celebration of the Paschal Triduum, i.e., Holy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil/ Easter Sunday give me a sense of new life and purpose every year. As I said, I am left rather drained after these events and so 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 miracu-lous intervention and I would deepen the devotion that I pres-ently have for him. Please, think of me with Easter Hope, for that is an inexhaustible virtue in my theological and spiritual experience especially in light of my very serious health con-cerns. **Post Scriptum (PS): My Easter Message to you is to be found in today's bulletin insert.**

This week I shall quote POPE Francis' Palm Sunday Angelus Message directly: Dear brothers and sisters, Jesus entered Jerusalem as a humble and peaceful king; let us open our hearts to Him! Only He can free us from wickedness, ha-tred, and violence, because He is mercy and the forgiveness of sins. Let us pray for all our brothers and sisters who suffer as a result of war; in a special way, I think of tormented Ukraine, where so many people find themselves without electricity be-cause of the intense attacks against infrastructure, which, be-sides causing death and suffering, bring the risk of an even greater humanitarian catastrophe. Please, let us not forget tormented Ukraine! And let us think of Gaza, which is suffering a great deal, and so many other places of war. And now, let us turn in prayer to the Virgin Mary: may we learn from Her how to stay close to Jesus in the days of Holy Week, so as to arrive at the joy of the Resurrection.

In this Wednesday's papal Audience, Francis in his continuing catechesis on the virtues, focused upon perhaps one of the most difficult virtue, *patience*, which has its su-preme model in the example of Jesus during his Passion. The patience of Jesus did not consist in a stoic endurance of suffer-ing, but was completely the fruit of his love. Saint Paul also associates patience with the love of God, who is "slow to an-ger" and quick to repay evil with good. Indeed, Christian pa-tience and forbearance is the most convincing witness to Christ's love. Patience is also the fruit of lovingly dealing with persons who fail to meet our expectations and dealing with situations beyond our control. As we move into the season of Easter, we need to ask the grace of the Holy Spirit to imitate Christ in his patience and compassionate love, which forgives all wrongs and shows mercy even to his enemies.

Please note that the Parish Offices are closed during the en-tire Easter holiday which includes Easter Monday. If you require urgent assistance, please note that you can leave a message on the parish voicemail that will be checked at least that day. The Parish office will reopen at 9:00 AM on Easter Tuesday, April 2nd at 9:00 AM and will resume regular hours. Thank you for your understanding.

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.

Pope Francis Prayer Intention— Each year, the Holy Father asks for our prayers for a specific intention each month. You are invited to answer the Holy Fa-ther's request and to join with many people world-wide in praying for this intention. From time to time, the Holy Father may add a second prayer inten-tion related to current events or urgent needs, like disaster relief. The second prayer request will help mobilize prayer and action related to the urgent situ-ation. Pope Francis' prayer intention for month of April is for the role of women in society and the Church. We pray that the dignity and immense val-ue of women be recognized in every culture, and for the end of discrimination that they experience in dif-ferent parts of the world.

Nova et Vetera Liturgical Comments: As the Easter season begins, I thought it appropriate to review and "introduce" some rubrics and questions regarding liturgy. First, I continue to be so very pleased that we stand at the appropriate time before the prayer over the offering; however, I've noticed that some per-sons feel as if they are at the starting block ready to jump before I say the last word. Please, there is no rush, let's all continue to do things appropriately. Second, I still see that many of us are not comfortable with the ORANS position during the Our Father. Let me remind you that this position was standard until the Council of Trent. Ergo, although it is completely optional and your choice is respected, not raising your hands in prayer is really **the radically new de-velopment.** Third, I have often received the question why I pause when we remember our deceased broth-ers and sisters during the second half of the Eucharis-tic Prayer. I am very happy to address this, for there are two reasons, one theological and the other gram-matical. The theological reason is that the deceased (especially the person for whom the Mass is offered and those deceased close to us) deserve at the very least mental articulation in prayer to God. The gram-matical reason is that according to the *Oxford Eng-lish Grammar* and the *Cambridge Grammar of Eng-lish* a semi-colon requires an audible pause notably longer than the one that accompanies a comma.

