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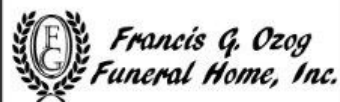
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VISITATION PARISH MEMBERSHIP FORM

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

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



**4th Sunday of Easter,
April 14th, 2024**

MASS SCHEDULE

MONDAY - NO MASS

TUESDAY - NO MASS

**WEDNESDAY - Wednesday of fourth week of Easter
5:30 PM - Ann Lecci**

(Req. by Art Smith & Linda Cavanaugh)

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

**THURSDAY - Thursday of fourth week of Easter
12:05 PM - Phyllis Urban**
(Req. by Family)

**FRIDAY - Friday of fourth week of Easter
12:05 PM - Sue Karmanocky**
(Req. by Eileen Zibura)

**SATURDAY - Vigil of 5th Sunday of Easter
4:00 PM - Pro Populo**

5:30 PM - Loretta Meyers
(VPM) (Req. by Family and Friends)

**SUNDAY - 5th Sunday of Easter
9:00 AM - Carol Houghton**
(Req. by Family)

SANCTUARY CANDLE

In Memory of Dr. James Furnary

Req. by Cathy Fuska

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. Slovickovski, 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,

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 - April 7, 2024

Loose Money.....	\$423.00
Sunday Collection.....	\$3602.00
Solemnity of Mary.....	\$2.00
Easter Offering.....	\$315.00
Easter Flowers.....	\$45.00
Catholic Home Missions.....	\$10.00
Ash Wednesday.....	\$5.00
Holy Thursday.....	\$64.00
Good Friday.....	\$84.00
Votive Candles.....	\$69.00
St. Peregrine.....	\$57.00
Initial Offering.....	\$5.00
Perquisites - Frieko Funeral.....	\$100.00
Bulletin Ad.....	\$300.00
Gym Rental.....	\$60.00
Parking Lot Rent.....	\$350.00
Ordinary Donations.....	\$70.00

TOTAL: \$5561.00

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, 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 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 April 15th to April 21st:



Melanie Mihelic
 Brody Nagle

Patrick Costlow
 Ernestine Schmidt

ANNUAL VISITATION SPRING BASKET PARTY - The annual Visitation Parish basket party will be held on Sun., 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 already made baskets, please bring them to church or call Gaile at (814) 255-5697 to have them picked up.



We will be selling entrance tickets for the basket party in the vestibule at \$10.00 a ticket.

There will be a second collection to help offset the costs of the basket party on the weekend of April 20th-21st.

If anyone has any new or gently used items that could be used to make baskets, we would greatly appreciate it. Also we are in need of lottery tickets and wine and spirits for a basket.

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 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,

however, personal intentions for the Rosary and adoration are your own.

Public Rosary - There will be a public rosary to pray for peace in our country and our world on Saturday April 20th at noon at Central Park in downtown Johnstown.

Flowers, Flowers, Flowers - Coupons for flowers from Stuver's Nursery are currently on sale in the main vestibule of the church. There are two coupons. One is for a flat of flowers with the cost of \$14.00. The other for hanging baskets at a cost of \$18.00. Please consider supporting this fundraiser and think what a beautiful addition this would make for a Mother's Day gift, flowers to honor your beloved dead at the cemetery, or to bring beauty and joy into your homes.



*JUBILEE CORNER: - WEEKLY UPDATE 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 of Rome and the center of Franciscan Spirituality, Assisi.

Even



From the Pastor's Desk: I have a very important procedure being done this Monday (late morning through the afternoon) that is absolutely essential for my future health needs. I am asking that you please pray for me and for this test at your convenience. I cannot tell you how important the results of this test are for my future well being. As always, I am asking you to please pray to our regular friends: Jesus, the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Jude, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Demetrius Gallitzin, Servant of God and any other holy men and women you have a good relationship with in the Communion of Saints. I talk with my dad a lot about this matter. Regardless of any results, I place my entire hope and trust in Jesus Christ, my truest friend. I believe that whatever happens, it is God's will for me.

This Sunday, Pope Francis in his Regina Caeli message spoke of the Gospel which tells us that, by believing in Jesus, Son of God, we can have eternal life in His name (v. 31). "To have life": what does it mean? First he spoke to what does not bring life: "We all want to have life, but there are various ways of having it. For example, there are those who reduce existence to a frenetic race to enjoy and possess many things: to eat and drink, to enjoy themselves, to accumulate money and objects, to feel strong and new emotions, and so on. It is a road that at first sight seems pleasurable, but which does not satiate the heart. It is not in this way that one "has life", because by following the path of pleasure and power one does not find happiness. Indeed, many aspects of existence remain unanswered, such as love, the inevitable experiences of pain, of limitations and of death. And then the dream we all have in common remains unfulfilled: the hope of living forever, of being loved without limit. Today the Gospel says that this fullness of life, to which every one of us is called, is realized in Jesus: it is He who gives us this fullness of life. But how can one gain access to it, how can one experience." He continues on a positive note, recounting what happened to the disciples in the Gospel. They are going through the most tragic moment in life: after the days of the passion they shut themselves away in the Upper Room, afraid and discouraged. The Risen One comes to them and shows them His wounds (cf. v. 20): they were the signs of suffering and pain, they could stir feelings of guilt, yet with Jesus they become channels of mercy and forgiveness. In this way, the disciples see and touch with their hands the fact that with Jesus, life always wins, death and sin are defeated, with Jesus. And they receive the gift of His Spirit, which gives them a new life, as beloved sons - life as beloved sons - imbued with joy, love and hope. I will ask one thing: do you have hope? The pope continued: "Each one of you, ask yourselves: "It is enough to fix one's eyes on the crucified and risen Jesus, encountering Him in the Sacraments and in prayer, recognizing that He is present, believing in Him, letting oneself be touched by His grace and guided by His example, experiencing the joy of loving like Him. Every encounter with Jesus, a living encounter with Jesus enables us to have more life. Looking for Jesus, letting ourselves be found - because He looks for us - opening our heart to the encounter with Jesus." Francis continues by asking us to ask ourselves - do we believe in the power of the Resurrection over sin, fear and death?

Does this belief draw us to a more intimate relationship with him, our neighbors, and our world? Is this reflected in our Easter joy that we are to share with all of creation?

During his Wednesday audience, Pope Francis continued his catechesis on the virtues by considering fortitude, which the Catechism defines as "the moral virtue that ensures firmness in difficulties and constancy in the pursuit of the good". With the help of this virtue, we are strengthened in our daily efforts, sustained by grace, to resist temptation and to overcome all obstacles to living fully our new life in Christ. Those obstacles may be from within, such as fear, anxiety, or guilt, all of which paralyzed us in the face of moral choices. Other obstacles to fortitude from without, which are the trials of life, persecutions, difficulties that we did not expect and that surprise us. Indeed, we can try to predict what will happen to us, but to a large extent reality is made up of imponderable events that challenge us greatly because of the uncertainty. Fortitude gives us the resilience to not be frightened or discouraged. Cultivating the virtue of fortitude makes us take seriously the reality of evil and actively combat all forms of injustice in the world around us. May the example of fortitude and perseverance shown by Jesus and the saints encourage us in our journey of Christian faith and confirm our trust in the risen Christ's definitive victory over sin and death

Requiescat in pace: Gary Witkosky, husband of our faithful friend and parishioner Betty Ann, died on April 2nd, after a difficult illness. One would have thought him to be our parishioner, giving his willingness to help out as a volunteer here at Visitation, and his faithfulness in coming to mass with Betty Ann and to his accompanying her to the Tuesday evening rosary. Much to my surprise he was a member of the Second Presbyterian Church in Moxham. He was therefore a loving Christian man and an ambassador of Ecumenism. He was a good and just husband, father and grandfather who wished for everyone to "be happy." I for one am truly hopeful that he heard the words in passing from time to eternity: 'Well done, good and faithful servant...Enter into the joy of your lord.' Matthew 25: 21. We pray that Gary now rests in the peace of Christ.



A few liturgical "notes" 1) Please make certain that cell phones are silenced or turned off during the celebration of the Eucharist. It is distracting for both the Presider and the assembly. 2) Talking in the back of the nave of the Church before and during Mass has become an issue that needs to stop. Also, please do not carry on a conversation while going to communion.

