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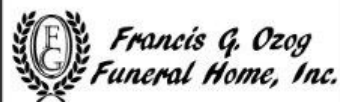
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VISITATION PARISH MEMBERSHIP FORM

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

**5th Sunday of Easter,
April 28th, 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 of fifth week of Easter

12:05 PM - Rose King

(Req. by Rosary Group)

WEDNESDAY - Wednesday of fifth week 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 of fifth week of Easter

12:05 PM - John Slovickowski Sr.

(Req. by Ron Cleaver)

SATURDAY - Vigil of 6th Sunday of Easter

4:00 PM - Lissy Lovette

(Req. by Sharon Lovette & sons)

5:30 PM - Gloria Fenik

(VPM) (Req. by Family)

SUNDAY - 6th Sunday of Easter

9:00 AM - Pro Populo

SANCTUARY CANDLE

For the Spiritual & Temporal Welfare
of our Visitation Parish Family

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.

ANOIDING 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 21, 2024

Loose Money.....	\$432.00
Sunday Collection.....	\$2391.00
Easter Offering.....	\$50.00
Votive Candles.....	\$114.00
St. Peregrine.....	\$55.00
Sanctuary Candle.....	\$10.00
Ordinary Donations.....	\$20.00

TOTAL: \$3072.00

Second Collection - Basket Party \$620.00

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 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 29th to May 5th:



Ryan Daly Molly McCullough
Joan Marhefka Barry Mills
Wade Meyer

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.** 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. PLEASE ACTIVELY SUPPORT THIS IMPORTANT FUNDRAISER.



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.



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 support this fundraiser.



HABITAT FOR HUMANITY: All are invited to a Community SPOTLIGHT on Habitat for Humanity on Sat., May 18 at 1:00 PM in the Resurrection Oratory Hall located at 721 Chestnut St. in Johnstown. Learn about this organization and their success, current projects and needs. While this event is free to attend, please consider monetary donations or a Lowe's Gift Card to help support their work in our local communities. Refreshments will be provided. Direct Donations can be sent to Habitat for Humanity, P.O. Box 785, Somerset, Pa. 15501.



Life is a mystery; however, when we experience joy or trial, we are always being purified through love in the sight of God. He is our greatest friend and the most intimate love we will ever know. God only desires our good. God loves us for who we are, not in spite of who we are. (JJS)

From the Pastor's Desk: Given the announcement made to the parish this past weekend, I wanted to remind and clarify you regarding a few things. **First**, I ask that **NO ONE** move forward on social media with this matter until I have completed my discussion with the diocese regarding how I am going to attempt to solicit donors on a more public scale. To do so would be problematic for me. **Second**, as I mentioned I am not discussing this in great detail with anyone on a personal level, unless I am convinced for a genuine need for such a discussion to take place. **Third**, information will become available to the parish as it becomes necessary and appropriate to share said information. I appreciate the privacy that you respect toward me and especially to my mother. **Finally**, I continue to need your prayers in order to find a suitable donor of a liver for me. As I said I am working through a three-year window for things to transpire. I APPRECIATE AND ASK FOR YOUR CONTINUED PRAYERS REGARDING THIS MATTER.

This past week during his Sunday recitation of the Regina Caeli, Pope Francis Lord noted that the Lord wants to tell us with the image of the Good Shepherd: not only that He is the guide, the Head of the flock, but above all that He thinks about every one of us, and that He thinks of each of us as the love of His life. Consider this: for Christ, I am important, He thinks of me, I am irreplaceable, worth the infinite price of His life. And this is not just a way of speaking: He truly gave His life for me, He died and rose again for me. Why? Because He loves me and He finds in me a beauty that I often do not see myself.

It is true that many people today think of themselves as inadequate or even wrong! How many times do we think that our value depends on the goals we achieve, on whether we succeed in the eyes of the world, on the judgments of others! And how many times do we end up throwing ourselves away for trivial things! Today Jesus tells us that we are always infinitely worthy in His eyes. So, in order to find ourselves, the first thing to do is to place ourselves in His presence, allowing ourselves to be welcomed and lifted up by the loving arms of our Good Shepherd.

On Wednesday, at his general audience, Pope Francis made the move in his continuing catechesis on the virtues, we now turn from the cardinal to the theological virtues. As we have seen, the cardinal virtues are essential elements of a good life. Yet the fullness of life in Christ to which we are called - our final end - is possible only with **the infused virtues of faith, hope and charity bestowed on us by God.** They are called theological because they place us into a dynamic relationship with the Tri-personal (Triune) God; these virtues animate and shape our exercise of all the other virtues and are thus the foundation of the Christian moral life, enabling us to receive with the aid of grace the gift of eternal life (cf., CCC 1813). **May we open ourselves anew each day to the power of the Holy Spirit, to remember that if we have lost confidence, God reopens us to faith with the strength of the Spirit; if we have lost confidence, God reopens us to faith; if we are discouraged, God awakens hope in us; and if our heart is hardened, God softens it with His love.**

Theology is not only an academic discipline, but also an exercise in poetry where we dare to articulate our probing of the divine mystery. (JJS)

JUBILEE CORNER: -WEEKLY UPDATE

Due to the fact that so many persons have backed out from the pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi (without the courtesy of informing the parish), the Official trip through Peter's Way looks as if it most likely will be cancelled. A final decision will be made by the Seventh Sunday of Easter, May 12, 2024. I am disappointed on many fronts about this unfortunate development.

Young Adult Group (18-39): March was our one-year anniversary. We have grown to almost 100 members averaging 40+/- per meeting including special needs young adults and members from as far as Cumberland, Md. Mid-April we hosted our first Benediction and Board Games which was a success. Upcoming events include a bonfire and Rosary at Maura's house on May 10th at 6pm; Theology on Tap at the Boulevard Grill on May 29th at 6pm with Fr. Timothy Harris T.O.R. speaking on Moral Theology; and Benediction and Board Games at Saint John Gualbert Cathedral on June 14th at 6pm. Young adults aged 18-39 are welcome! For more information contact Geoffrey Stumpo at (814) 659-7415 or geoffstumpo@gmail.com.

Mass for Widows and Widowers to be Televised - Remember your loved ones on Sunday, May 26, 2024 with a televised Mass Celebrated by Bishop Mark Bartchak at 11:00 am on WATM ABC 23 and will rebroadcast that night at 9:00 p.m. on the Breezeline channel 9. All spouses will be acknowledged and remembered at Mass. All persons who have lost a spouse through death throughout the Altoona-Johnstown Diocese are invited to register by contacting the Family Life Office 814-317-2643 or email familylife@dioceseaj.org. When registering, please give your name, address, phone number and the name of your spouse who has passed away. The last day to register is Wednesday, May 22, 2024. The event is sponsored by the Diocesan Family Life Office and the Catholic Ministries Drive.

This year, we will celebrate our feast day of the Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday, June 1st after the 4 PM mass (the day after our actual feast day on May 31st) with a free and festive celebration in the cafeteria of the school. Please make every effort to participate with your fellow parishioners. A sign up sheet is available in the main vestibule. More details to follow.