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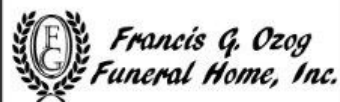
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**VISITATION PARISH MEMBERSHIP FORM**

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](mailto:visitationjtown@dioceseaj.org)

Website: [www.visitationbvmchurch.com](http://www.visitationbvmchurch.com)

Fax: 536-3709

**Mother's Day,  
May 12th, 2024**



**1127 McKinley Avenue  
Johnstown, PA 15905**

Rev. John J. Slovickowski, 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 Myers, Chairperson, FC

Ms. Chris Houghton,

### MASS SCHEDULE

**MONDAY - NO MASS**

**TUESDAY - NO MASS**

**WEDNESDAY - Wednesday of seventh week of Easter**  
5:30 PM - Vickie Schmidt

(Req. by Barry & Mickie Mills)

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

**THURSDAY - Thursday of seventh week of Easter**  
12:05 PM - James Rován

(Req. by Francis & Joann Daly)

**\*Rescheduled from 5-7-24\***

**FRIDAY - Friday of seventh week of Easter**  
12:05 PM - Ann Lecci

(Req. by Art Smith & Linda Cavanaugh)

**SATURDAY - Vigil of Pentecost Sunday**  
4:00 PM - Pro Populo

5:30 PM - Carol Bassett  
(VPM) (Req. by Cathy Fuska)

**SUNDAY - Pentecost Sunday**  
9:00 AM - Joe & Lucille Hoover  
(Req. by Jim & Evelyn Haggerty)

### SANCTUARY CANDLE

In Memory of Lucille Hoover

Req. by Jim & Evelyn Haggerty



The daily readings; may be found  
at either [USCCB.ORG](http://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 - May 5, 2024

Loose Money.....	\$480.00
Sunday Collection.....	\$2780.00
Mother’s Day.....	\$205.00
Catholic Home Missions.....	\$10.00
Votive Candles.....	\$67.00
St. Peregrine.....	\$45.00
Sanctuary Candle.....	\$10.00
Perquisites - Vavrek Funeral.....	\$75.00
Parking Lot Rent.....	\$245.00
Ordinary Donations.....	\$75.00

TOTAL:     **\$3992.00**

\*\*\*\*\*

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 Vavrek, Carrie Young*

\*\*\*\*\*

**Please join us in remembering members of our parish family who celebrate their birthdays the week of May 13th to May 19th:**

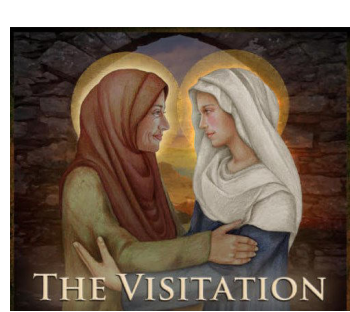


James Haggerty	Vincent Rzasá
Ronald Cooney	Debi Riek
James Soto	Coralie Williams
Debra Lehman	Christi Vavrek
Martin Kozak	Walter Werzyn

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.

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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. If more than 45 people sign up for this FREE SOCIAL EVENT, there will be a full buffet meal provided including salad, rolls, an entrée, a starch, and a vegetable. A special dessert will be provided along with a special door prize that will be given away to one lucky winner and a 50/50 drawing. If the number is 44 or below, we will have a substantial spread of finger foods and desserts. Please make every effort to participate with your fellow parishioners. REMEMBER THAT CHRIST IS PRESENT IN WORD, SACRAMENT AND



COMMUNITY here at Visitation Parish. This is also a special time to honor our Blessed Mother who is the patroness of our parish. A sign up sheet is available in the main vestibule. I see this as a statement of support of me and our parish. PLEASE mark your calendars.

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**Fatima Devotions** - The Franciscan Friars, T.O.R., from Loretto, invite you to participate with them in celebrating the Fatima Devotions on Monday, May 13th, 2023, at 6:30pm at the Immaculate Conception Chapel on the campus of St. Francis University. The presider will be Fr. David Dodd, T.O.R. We are looking forward to seeing you.

\*\*\*\*\*

**MAY DAYS 2024 at the Basilica of St. Michael** - May 25th and 26th at Our Lady of Loretto Community Hall – live entertainment, cinch tournament (call Mag 421-2867 to join) basket raffle, flea market, silent auction, and refreshments. Saturday, 4pm-8pm and Sunday, 11am-4pm. Chicken dinner Sunday at 11AM. \$10 per person. All are welcome!

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**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.



**From the Pastor’s Desk:** This past week has been relatively routine for me. I have several appointments, my regular Mass schedule, I anointed someone who will be going into palliative care/hospice, I did some work for the diocese regarding our Jubilee year celebrations, caught up on some paperwork, did a bit of my own research for a few articles that I am working on, and most importantly, I enjoyed some very powerful and intimate prayer time. That is most important for me presently, for I must maintain my special friendship with Christ to remain hopeful as I await news about a possible liver becoming available. I am well aware of your prayerful support and personal encouragement which helps to keep my firm rooted hope properly nourished.

The Regina Caeli reflection by Pope Francis this past Sunday reflects upon friendship in general and friendship with Christ in particular. The pope sets the stage by reflecting on the beauty for friendship by recalling that “Since childhood we learn how beautiful this experience is: we offer friends our toys and the most beautiful gifts; then, growing up, as teenagers, we confide our first secrets to them; as young people we offer loyalty; as adults we share satisfactions and worries; as seniors we share the memories, considerations and silences of long days.” He also notes the spontaneous nature of friendship, when we recognize something of ourselves in the other. He tells us that Jesus himself becomes fragile for us, placing Himself in our hands without defense or pretense, because He loves us. The Lord loves us, as a friend He wants our good and He wants us to share in his. We must grow in our response to that friendship and share it with others.

In his weekly Wednesday Audience, Francis continues his catechesis on the virtues by discussing the theological virtue of hope. In his words, hope, by which we desire the happiness of eternal life. Without hope the life of virtue would seem unobtainable. Christian hope is grounded in the Lord himself who died and rose for us. As his followers we trust in his promises, especially the gift of the Holy Spirit, striving each day to live in a manner worthy of our calling. Patience walks hand-in-hand with hope, providing a steady path forward. When we are accompanied by them on the journey of life, we remember God’s mercy and faithful love. This helps us to avoid being held captive by nostalgia for the past, by melancholy or discouragement. “ I would add that hope is a transtemporal virtue, that is, it helps us to remember good’s goodness to us in the past and God’s promise of faithfulness to us in the future. Therefore we can always live in hope in the present, since one of the theological certainties that we have is that God will remain ever-consistent.

*The bulletin was completed only on Friday morning. At that time I felt under the weather. The doctors on my transplant team said that I need to be healthy to have the transplant when a liver becomes available. In consultation with them, even though I believe it to be a 48 hour bug, I have made the decision to have Fr. Code have Masses this weekend.*

**Young Adult Group (18-39):** Upcoming events include 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 geoff-stumpo@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 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 family life@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.

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**Requiescere in pace aeterna** “Rest in eternal peace.” This past Friday, we celebrated the Funeral Liturgy for Nancy Vavrek, a long-time member of our parish family. It is undeniable that Nancy had a commanding presence; however, this was tempered by her genuine love of God, her family, and anyone she met who was in need. She was a very strong and faithful woman with a vibrant prayer life and a commitment to our parish through her years of volunteering and serving as an Eucharistic Minister. Her Catholic faith was of extreme importance to her as she bore her suffering with the hope that God’s will for her would be fulfilled. Indeed Nancy’s long battle with cancer



brought her into an intimate relationship with the suffering Christ which makes our hope certain that she now shares in Christ’s greatest gift to us, eternal life and peace.

\*\*\*\*\*

**I wanted to note that my anniversary date was incorrect. I was ordained for 28 years as of May 11, 2024. Thank you to all who wished me well on the celebration of that important milestone in my life.**