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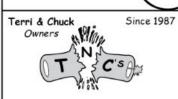
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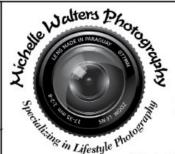
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Fax: 536-3709

2nd Sunday of Lent March 9th, 2025

#### MASS SCHEDULE

**MONDAY - Lenten Weekday** 12:05 PM -Mildred Mazur

(Rea. by Cathy Fuska)

**TUESDAY - Lenten Weekday** 

12:05 PM -Michael & Dorothy Bondi

(Rea. by niece Nicolett)

**WEDNESDAY - NO MASS** 

THURSDAY -NO MASS

FRIDAY -NO MASS

3:00 PM -**Stations of the Cross** 

SATURDAY - Vigil of 3rd Sunday of

Lent

4:00 PM -**Pro Populo** 

**SUNDAY -**3rd Sunday of Lent 9:00 AM -**Sue Karmanocky** 

(Reg. by Steve & Cindy McAneny)

### **SANCTUARY CANDLE Special Intention**

(Reg. by Rose & Bob Barger)



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



# 1127 McKinley Avenue Johnstown, PA 15905

Rev. John J. Slovikovski, PhD, Pastor Mrs. Maureen Clark, DRE Mrs. Kathleen Bumbernick, DMM Mr. David Kozak, Chairperson, PC Ms. Catherine Bennett, Secretary Mr. Joseph Martella, Vice-Chairperson, PC Mr. Steve Myers, Chairperson, FC Ms. Chris Houghton, Maintenance

Rectory Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 9:00AM - 3:00PM

IN LOVING MEMORY: The Sanctuary Lamp is available for your intentions by calling the parish office. Please attempt to request your intentions as early as possible. A \$10 donation is sugaested.

**SACRAMENT OF PENANCE: Confessions are heard** from 6:30 until 7:00 PM on Wednesday Evenings. **DURING THE JUBILEE YEAR, CONFESSIONS WILL BE HEARD FROM 3:00 PM until 3:40 PM THE FIRST SATUR-DAY OF EVERY MONTH. Confession may ALWAYS** be arranged with Fr. John personally by calling the rectory office. Please avail yourselves to this lifegiving sacrament!

**SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:** Scheduled no less than **nine months** prior to the date of marriage. Four preparation sessions with the pastor, 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. There are NO EX-CEPTIONS.

**INFANT BAPTISM:** Baptisms are generally celebrated during one of the Sunday Liturgies. Prebaptismal instructions must be completed by the parents at least 3 weeks prior to the celebration of the sacrament. Catholic godparents 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.

**EUCHARISTIC ADORATION:** Every Wednesday and Friday following Mass.

**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. Registrations are also welcome by phone.

### \$\$ INCOME \$\$\$ Collection - March 2, 2025

Loose Money	\$249.00
Sunday Collection	\$3951.00
Black & Indian Missions	\$10.00
Catholic Relief Services	\$10.00
Ash Wednesday	\$97.00
Apartment Rent - March	\$625.00
Parking Lot Rent	\$145.00

**TOTAL:** \$5087.00

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, 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, Gianna Kniss, Karen Kohan, Betsy Konar, Marylee Konicky, Madeleine Krueger, Dick Krumenacker, Gaile Krumenacker, Victoria Leflie, Michael Letzo, Joanne Macri, Patricia Mainhart, Marianne Mangiafico, Pat Meagher, Myla Minner, Pauline Molchany, Larry Oravetz, Anna Petro, Francis Petro, Jean Petroro, Anna Marie Pfeil, Maria Petro-Sanders, Mia Bella Rastall, Stacy Roberts, Sean Rovan, Stephen Sanders, Jennifer Schellhammer, Rose Sigg, Allegra Slick, Father John Slovikovski, Shirley Slovikovski, Ken Turner, Megan Varmecky, Christi Vavrek, Carrie Young

<u>Please join us in remembering members of our parish family who celebrate their birthdays the week of March 10th to March 16th:</u>

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*



Patricia Bezek Catherine Stephens Zoe Nagle Sharen Bukowski Thomas Trigona Marlene Gahagan Gregory Percosky
Chris Houghton
Karen Conrad
Dave Kozak
Margaret Blough

Dave Kozak Margaret Blough Linda Garanich Connie Pribozie

#### For the Good of the Vineyard and Our Particular Part



The invitations to participate in all of the devotions associated with the spiritual life and vigor of our parish continue to be extended to all parishioners. We pray the rosary every Saturday evening at approximately 3:30 PM prior to mass as well as every Tuesday at 6:00 PM. On Wednesdays, Mass is celebrated at 5:30 PM followed by

adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 6:30 PM. This will 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. BOTH OF THESE DEVOTIONS WOULD MAKE AN EXCELLENT ADDITION TO ANY LENTEN REGIMINE THAT ONE MIGHT CHOOSE TO ENTER MORE DEEPLY INTO THE PROCESS OF CONVERSION DURING THE LENTEN SEASON.



**Basket Party Meeting** – The basket party meeting that was originally scheduled for Monday, March 10th is rescheduled for Thursday, March 13th at 6:00 PM in the school cafeteria.

<u>Trivia Night</u> - Mom's House, Inc. of Johnstown Invites you to Trivia Night, Tuesday, March 25th @ the Boulevard Grill.

Doors open @ 5:00 PM – First question is @ 6:00 PM. Admission includes food, drinks, & dessert.

Teams of up to 8 people - \$25/person. Prizes for the top 3 teams.

Call Allegra or Rose 814-535-4848 for team registration or information.



#### VISITATION PARISH PILGRIM-



AGE: We are currently planning a jubilee year pilgrimage to The National Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Emmitsburg Maryland for Friday, May 18, 2025. The Pilgrimage will include luxury bus transportation to and from the Shrine, a tour of the basilica and the grounds, Mass and dinner. The cost of the trip is \$65 per person. If you are interested, please sign up in the main vestibule of the Church by March 30th. We look forward to sharing the day with you.

There will be no Masses or devotions this week on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday (with the exception of stations of the cross). Fr. John will be in Pittsburgh for a medical procedure during this time. Please pray for him over the course of these days. Thank you.

#### From Pope Francis to the Pew:

Below you will find the unabridged text of the Holy Father's Angelus Message this past Sunday. I am providing it in its entirety to show you how well the Pope's recovery is proceeding despite many of the disparaging media reports and speculations:

Dear brothers and sisters,

In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus makes us reflect on two of the five senses: sight and taste. With regard to sight, He asks us to train our eyes to observe the world well and to judge our neighbour with charity. He says: "Remove the wooden beam from your eye first; then you will see clearly to remove the splinter in your brother's eye." Only with this gaze of care, not condemnation, can fraternal correction be a virtue. Because if it is not fraternal, it is not correction! With regard to taste, Jesus reminds us that "every tree is known by its own fruit." And the fruits that come from man are, for example, his words, which ripen on his lips, since "for from the fullness of the heart the mouth speaks." Rotten fruits are violent, false, vulgar words; good ones are the just and honest words that give flavor to our dialogues and so we can ask ourselves: how do I look at other people, who are my brothers and sisters? And how do I feel looked at by others? Do my words have a good flavor, or are they imbued with bitterness and vanity?

Sisters and brothers, I am still sending you these thoughts from the hospital, where as you know I have been for several days, accompanied by doctors and healthcare professionals, whom I thank for the attention with which they are taking care of me. I feel in my heart the "blessing" that is hidden within frailty, because it is precisely in these moments that we learn even more to trust in the Lord; at the same time, I thank God for giving me the opportunity to share in body and spirit the condition of so many sick and suffering people. I would like to thank you for the prayers, which rise up to the Lord from the hearts of so many faithful from many parts of the world: I feel all your affection and closeness and, at this particular time, I feel as if I am "carried" and supported by all God's people. Thank you all! I pray for you too. And I pray above all for peace. From here, war appears even more absurd. Let us pray for tormented Ukraine, Palestine, Israel, Lebanon, Myanmar, Sudan and Kivu.

The text of the Holy Father's Ash Wednesday homily was read by Cardinal Angelo De Donatis who celebrated while Francis remained hospitalized. A version of the homily notably abridged by me is provided below:

The imposition of the holy ashes brings to mind the memory of what we are, but also the hope of what we will be. The ashes remind us that we are dust, but they also set us on a journey towards the hope to which we are called. For Jesus descended to the dust of the earth and, by his Resurrection, has drawn us with himself into the Father's heart. Thus the Lenten journey towards Easter unfolds amidst the remembrance of our fragility and the hope that, at the end of the road, the Risen Lord is waiting for us.

First, we must remember. We bow our heads to look within ourselves. The ashes help to remind us that our lives are fragile: we are created, and to dust we shall return. We learn this above all through the experience of our own fragility: our weariness, the

dwell in us, the failures that consume us, the fleetingness of our dreams and the realization that what we possess is ephemeral. Made of ashes and earth, we experience fragility through illness, poverty, and the hardships that can suddenly befall us and our families; when, in the social and political realities of our time, we find ourselves exposed to the "fine dust" that pollutes our world: the abuse of power,...the exploitation of the earth's resources, violence in all its forms and war between peoples. This "toxic dust" clouds the air of our planet impeding peaceful coexistence, while uncertainty and the fear of the future continue to increase. Furthermore, the condition of fragility reminds us of the tragedy of death. Death imposes itself as a reality with which we have to reckon, a sign of the precariousness and brevity of our lives. Despite the cleverly crafted ploys meant to distract us, the ashes remind us of who we are. This reshapes us, reduces the severity of our narcissism, brings us back to reality and makes us more humble and open to one another: none of us is God; we are all on a journey. Lent, however, is also an invitation to rekindle our hope. Although we receive the ashes with our heads bowed in remembrance of who we are, the Lenten season does not end there. However, we are invited to lift our eyes to the One who rises from the depths of death and brings us from the ashes of sin and death to the glory of eternal life. The ashes remind us of the hope to which we are called in Jesus, the Son of God, who has taken upon himself the dust of the earth and raised it to the heights of heaven. He descended into our dust, dying for us and reconciling us to the Father, as we heard from Saint Paul: "For our sake, he made him to be sin who knew no sin" (2 Cor 5:21). This, brothers and sisters, is the hope that restores to life the "ashes" of our lives. Without such hope, we are doomed passively to endure the fragility of our human condition. Particularly when faced with the experience of death, a lack of hope can lead us to fall into sadness and desolation, and we end up reasoning like fools: Yet the hope of Easter that we journey towards reassures us of God's forgiveness. Even while submerged in the ashes of sin, hope opens us up to the joyful acknowledgment of life: Brothers and sisters, having received the ashes, we walk towards the hope of Easter. Let us turn back to God. Let us return to him with all our hearts (cf. Joel 2:12). Let us place him at the center of our lives, so that the memory of what we are — fragile and mortal as ashes scattered upon the wind — may finally be filled with the hope of the Risen Lord. Let us direct our lives towards him, becoming a sign of hope for the world. Let us learn from almsgiving to go beyond ourselves, sharing each other's needs and nurturing the hope of a fairer world. Let us learn from prayer to discover our need for God. Finally, let us learn from fasting that we do not live merely to satisfy our needs, but that, hungry for love and truth, only the love of God and of one another can truly satisfy us and give us hope for a better future. \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* Lent is a time for discipline, for confession, for honesty, not be-

weaknesses we have to come to terms with, the fears that

Lent is a time for discipline, for confession, for honesty, not because God is mean or fault-finding or finger-pointing but because he wants us to know the joy of being cleaned out, ready for all the good things he now has in store. - N.T. Wright