

Please support the sponsors on this page. It is through their support that this bulletin is made possible.

255-3822(DUCA)	Frank Duca Funeral Home , Inc.	ducafuneralhome.com
Westmont Chapel 1622 Menoher Blvd. 15905 Frank Duca, Supv., Funeral Director	3 Generations of Trusted Duca Family Care	East Hills Chapel & Crematory 404 Walters Avenue, 15904 Bradley Duca, Supv., Funeral Director

Dr. John P. Walker



Family Dental Center

"Experience the Art of Dentistry"

Cosmetic Dentistry - Crowns
Bridges - Dentures
ZOOM! Professional Whitening System
Root Canals & Extractions

New Patients Welcome
Most Insurance Accepted

(814) 255-7181
www.DrJohnWalker.com
307 State Street - Johnstown, PA 15905

"Best Auto Rates For Drivers Over 50"

BRETT INSURANCE AGENCY, INC.

Jim Brett
Phone: 814-535-8649
E-mail: jbrett@brettinsurance.com

Randy's BiLo FOODS

81 Osborne Street
Johnstown • 535-7704

1514 Jefferson Ave.
Windber • 467-6624

Country Delights
EST. 1987



Specializing in Wedding Packages & Cookies for All Occasions.
Homestyle Cooking and Baking

Please visit us at
www.country-delights.com

814-288-5372
129 Dickey Hill Road, Davidsville, PA

Francis G. Ozog Funeral Home, Inc.

710 Broad Street
Johnstown, PA 15906
814.539.5127

Frank G. Ozog
Funeral Director

Our family serving your family with compassion, dignity and respect for over 90 years.

With Over 90 Years Serving The Greater Johnstown Area

We Offer Services That Fit Every Family's Needs

Traditional Funeral Services
Contemporary Funeral Services
Cremation Services
Pre-Need Counseling

PICKING - TREECE - BENNETT MORTUARY, INC.

West Hills • 921 Menoher Blvd. - 814-255-4040 • PTBMortuary.com

CARING, COMPASSIONATE SERVICE SINCE 1909
THE AREA'S MOST SPACIOUS AND ACCESSIBLE FUNERAL HOME
THOMAS L. DIXON, Supervisor •

If anyone is interested in advertising their business, please give Catherine, the parish secretary, at (814) 536-6110 extension 1.

Henderson Funeral Homes

- Johnstown
- Geistown
- Conemaugh

Ask about our:

- Bethlehem Steel Retirees Program
- COPE - Grief Help Group
- YOUR CHOICE PLAN

NO MORE BOTTLES

with... **Medi-Pac**

Michelle Waters Photography

I aim to capture and document real-life events, situations or milestones.

Let me capture your most precious moments.

Book Today!

814-244-1647
MWALTERS912@YAHOO.COM

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE

TEAR, TAKE & GO!

"Caring For You & About You Since 1964"

Martella's Pharmacies

Franklin St. | Park Hill | Ligonier
Windber | Central City | Boswell

www.martellaspharmacy.com
CALL US TODAY 814-535-1833

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



1127 McKinley Avenue
Johnstown, PA 15905

Rectory Phone: 536-6110
E-Mail: visitationjtown@dioceseaj.org
Website: www.visitationbvmchurch.com
Fax: 536-3709

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

2nd Sunday of Lent March 1st, 2026

MASS SCHEDULE

- MONDAY - Lenten Weekday**
Dr. James Furnary
(Req. by Cathy Fuska)
(Private Mass in Rectory)
- TUESDAY - Lenten Weekday**
12:05 PM - Francis John Beaujon
(Req. by Fran & Charlotte Beaujon)
- WEDNESDAY - Lenten Weekday**
5:30 PM - Paul Schmidt
(Req. by Helen Boyle)
Followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
- THURSDAY - Lenten Weekday**
12:05 PM - Michael Crisafulli
(Req. by Eileen & Jim Winski)
- FRIDAY - Lenten Weekday**
12:05 PM - Rosemary Buckshaw
(Req. by John & Julie Fontana)
Followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
- 3:00 PM - Stations of the Cross
- SATURDAY - Vigil of 3rd Sunday of Lent**
4:00 PM - Betty Petro
(Req. by Marian Cyburt)
- 5:30 PM - Gloria Fenik
(Req. by Family)
- 6:30 PM - The True Effigy of the Holy Face
Presented by Vicki Schreiner
- SUNDAY - 3rd Sunday of Lent**
9:00 AM - Pro Populo

SANCTUARY CANDLE
Spiritual and Physical Health of Fr. John
Anonymous

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 suggested.

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE: Confessions are heard from 6:30 until 7:00 PM on Wednesday Evenings. **CONFESSIONS WILL BE HEARD FROM 3:00 PM until 3:40 PM THE FIRST SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH.** Confession may ALWAYS be arranged 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 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 EXCEPTIONS.**

INFANT BAPTISM: Baptisms are generally celebrated during one of the Sunday Liturgies. Pre-baptismal 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 - February 22, 2026

Loose Money.....	\$236.00
Sunday Collection.....	\$2874.00
Solemnity of Mary.....	\$5.00
Ash Wednesday.....	\$912.00
Initial Offering.....	\$25.00
Black & Indian Missions.....	\$14.00
Perquisites.....	\$75.00
Bulletin Advertising.....	\$300.00
Parking Lot Rent.....	\$245.00

TOTAL: \$4686.00

Second Collection - Fish Fry \$650.00

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, John Bair, Ralph Blair, David Clark, Ronald Cleaver, Dolores Danner, 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 Petro, Maria Petro-Sanders, Mia Bella Rastall, Stacy Roberts, Sean Rovon, Stephen Sanders, Jennifer Schellhammer, Rose Sigg, Allegra Slick, Father John Slovickovski, Shirley Slovickovski, Ken Turner, Megan Varnecky, Carrie Young

Please join us in remembering members of our parish family who celebrate their birthdays the week of March 2nd to March 8th:



Liam Daly
 Mary Figura
 Emma Smitley
 Steve Myers

Roberta Oberhaus
 Vicki Rosa
 Charlotte Beaujon
 Kevin McMonagle

For the Good of the Vineyard and Our Particular Part

The Holy Face of Jesus: A Sacred Relic Presentation - Join us for a powerful presentation centered on the **Holy Face of Jesus**, drawing from the Church's rich tradition and the relic associated with the **Veil of Veronica**. This evening invites prayer, reparation, and deeper contemplation of Christ's suffering love. The presenter will be Vicki Schreiner, a Holy Face Apostolate and she will be at Visitation Parish to talk about the Holy Face of Jesus. Please come and see her presentation and the Holy Face of Jesus on **Saturday, March 7th at 6:30 PM**. The event is free and there will be a love collection to support Vicki's ministry.

Stations of the Cross will be celebrated each week at 3:00 PM during the Lenten Season with the exception of Good Friday. We hope that you can join us for this very traditional Lenten devotion.

Catholic Ministries Drive - The 2026 Catholic Ministries Drive begins throughout the diocese this weekend. This year's theme, *Sent to Serve*, reminds us that, by virtue of our baptism, each of us has been *Sent to Serve*, entrusted with gifts that are meant to be shared for the good of others. Saint Peter teaches us, "As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards to God's varied grace" (1 Peter 4:10). Our *Catholic Ministries Drive* supports 9 ministries throughout our diocese, which all fall into one of our three main focuses of evangelization, serving those in need, or formation of our priests and deacons. Please reflect on Bishop Mark's invitation when it arrives in your mail, and prayerfully consider supporting our diocesan ministries. You may return your pledge card and donation through the mail, make your payment online, or return your pledge card and donation to your parish through the offertory. Thank you for supporting the *Catholic Ministries Drive* and our diocese's vital ministries.

We always pray the rosary 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. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament also occurs on Friday following the 12:05 PM Mass until 1:30 PM. 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 for the rosary is for Fr. John's health, however, personal intentions for the Rosary and adoration are your own. **BOTH OF THESE PRACTICES**

HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO CHANGE YOUR LIFE ESPECIALLY DURING LENT 2026!! A VISITATION WITH OUR LORD PRESENT IN THE BLESSED SACRAMENT IS NEARLY A PERFECT FORM OF PRAYER AND CAN HELP YOU TO BELIEVE THAT WITH GOD ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE!!!



From Pontiff to Pew:

As part of the **Sunday Angelus**, Pope Leo XIV, on the first Sunday of Lent, reflected upon on the Gospel which tells us about Jesus who, led by the Spirit, enters the desert and is tempted by the devil (cf. Mt 4:1-11). After fasting for forty days, he feels the weight of his humanity: physically, through hunger, and morally, through the devil's temptations. In this, he experiences the same struggle we all face on our journey. By resisting the evil one, he demonstrates how we, too, can overcome the devil's deception and snares. Through this Word of life, the liturgy invites us to view Lent as a luminous path. By means of prayer, fasting and almsgiving, we can renew our cooperation with the Lord in the crafting of our lives as a unique masterpiece. This involves allowing him to cleanse the stains and heal the wounds of sin, as we commit to letting our lives blossom in beauty until they attain the fullness of love – the only source of true happiness. To be sure, this is a demanding journey. There is always the risk of discouragement or of being drawn to easier paths to satisfaction, such as wealth, fame and power (cf. Mt 4:3-8). These temptations, which Jesus himself faced, are merely poor substitutes for the joy for which we were created. Ultimately, they leave us dissatisfied, restless and empty.

For this reason, Saint Paul VI taught that penance – far from impoverishing our humanity – enriches, purifies and strengthens it, as we move toward a horizon that has "as its aim love and surrender to God" (Apostolic Constitution, Paenitemini, 17 February 1966, I). Indeed, while penance makes us aware of our limitations, it also grants us the strength to overcome them and to live, with God's help, in deeper communion with him and with one another. In this time of grace, let us therefore practice penance generously, alongside prayer and works of mercy. Let us create space for silence by turning off televisions, radios and cell phones for a while. Let us meditate on the Word of God, approach the Sacraments, and listen to the voice of the Holy Spirit who speaks to us in our heart. Let us also listen to one another – in our families, workplaces and communities. Let us dedicate time to those who are alone, especially the elderly, the poor and the sick. By giving up what is superfluous, we can share what we save with those in need. Then, as Saint Augustine taught, our prayer offered in this way – "in humility and charity, by fasting and giving, by restraining ourselves and pardoning, by paying out good deeds and not paying back bad ones, by turning away from evil and doing good" (Sermons, 206, 3) – will reach heaven and give us peace.

We entrust our Lenten journey to the Virgin Mary, our Mother who always assists her children in times of trial. **This week, the Holy Father did not have a general audience on Wednesday.**

The Pope Video is an official global initiative aimed at disseminating the Holy Father's monthly intentions. It is carried out by the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network. The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network is a Pontifical work, with the mission of mobilizing Catholics through prayer and service in response to the challenges facing humanity and the mission of the Church. These challenges are presented in the form of prayer intentions entrusted by the Pope to the entire Church. For more information, visit: popesprayer.va



Visitation Parish Easter Gas Card Giveaway

On Easter Sunday, April 5, 2026, Visitation Parish will be chancing off a ticket for \$500 of Sheetz Gasoline. The Winning number will be taken from the first three (straight) numbers drawn of the 7 PM official Pick 3 daily Pennsylvania Lottery. If the winning ticket is not sold, the winner will be determined by a random drawing. The cost of one ticket is \$5, or 5 tickets may be purchased for \$20. Please support this new fundraiser that is earmarked to assist with the budgetary deficit caused by the present lack of a renter for our school building.

From the Pastor's Desk

On Thursday I received a call from one of my doctors telling me that my resistance was too low and that I was to avoid crowds until my next scheduled bloodwork on Monday. As a result, I was unable to celebrate Masses with you this weekend. I am certain that you can understand that I just cannot deal with yet another bout with pneumonia. I am certain that this is just a temporary setback and that I will be praying again with you next weekend.

I am once again encouraging you to make the most of this Lenten Season. There are so many things that are available to you, and unfortunately, so few persons are taking advantage of them. Allow me to remind you, for the possibilities are endless. You could attend daily Mass at least once or twice (especially if you are retired), you could join us for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Wednesday Evenings or Friday Afternoons; maybe you could come and pray the rosary on Tuesday Evenings, you could join us for stations of the cross on Friday afternoons (I have to say that attendance at the first stations of the Friday after Ash Wednesday was the WORST since I arrived here 11 years ago), you could spend 15 minutes more a day in prayer; you could open your bibles and read a passage from Sacred Scripture every day, you could practice one of the corporal works of mercy, you could attend on eof the four Lenten Spiritual events to be sponsored here at our parish including The Holy Face of Jesus: A Sacred Relic Presentation and the visitation of the Shroud of Turin, just to name a few. Remember, this Lent is to be different from all other Lents that you have celebrated in the past. This is the one time that you have so many opportunities to grow in intimate relationship with Jesus staring you right in the face. Make the most of them. You may never have the opportunity again. Ask yourself, is Jesus the center of my life? Am I truly grateful for the gift of eternal life that came to me by means of his suffering, death, and resurrection? Or do I just punch my card when I come to Mass on Sunday, thinking that that is enough thanks for the greatest gift that has ever been given me. We all have to answer these questions, if not now, at the very least we will when we come before the Lord at the end of our lives!!!

"The world offers you comfort, but you were not made for comfort. You were made for greatness." Benedict XIV