

ST. MICHAEL'S



4TH SUNDAY OF LENT

The Pharisees also asked him how he was able to see.
He said to them, "He put clay on my eyes, and I
washed, and now I can see." - Jn 9:15

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI

Mission Statement

Compelled by the love of Christ,
we love others,
deepen our faith,
and transform our world.

PARISH OFFICE
415 Tioga St., Johnstown, PA 15905
Phone: 814-535-7646
Fax: 814 536-7850
Email: omos@dioceseaj.org
Website: omostoday.com

PRESBYTERY
407 Tioga St., Johnstown, PA 15905
814-535-7646
By appointment

ST MICHAEL CATHOLIC CHURCH
180 Gilbert St., Johnstown, PA 15906
DIVINE MERCY SCHOOL—WEST
Phone: 814 961-3622, Ext. 3

FR. MARK'S NOTES

Sacrament of Penance

As I mentioned last week, we will not have our usual Penance Service. **Still, we will offer times for the sacrament – especially Monday evening, March 20, and Tuesday, March 21, from 6—7:30 each evening.** Priests will be scattered throughout the Church. Things will be the same as we have been doing since Covid. So, we will have hospitality ministers direct you and let you know where the priests are stationed. That way, you will know when the priests are available. Of course, I will also have Confessions at the usual times throughout Lent. More on that later. Personally, this sacrament is essential in my life. I need to celebrate it often. I need to hear those words of forgiveness. I hope we are providing enough opportunities for you, to celebrate this great sacrament of forgiveness. Folks, let's stop putting off confession. Let's make every effort to get there. Parents, please, please get here yourself, AND PLEASE, PLEASE, BRING YOUR KIDS!! PLEASE. And, of course, don't forget yourself!

Receiving the Precious Blood

Bishop Mark has directed that parishes may begin distribution of Holy Communion under both forms at the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday. This permission to resume the practice of offering the Precious Blood was the purpose of a meeting with our Eucharistic Minister this past Sunday. So we will begin the distribution of Holy Communion under both forms on Holy Thursday. It is your right to receive under both forms, and we will do that in keeping with all the approved liturgical forms.

It is crucial for us to realize that the receiving of the Precious Blood is not simply "an add-on." *The General Instruction of the Roman Missal* states: "Holy Communion has a fuller form as a sign when it takes place under both kinds. For in this form, the sign of the Eucharistic banquet is more clearly evident, and a clearer expression is given to the divine will by which the new and eternal Covenant is ratified in the Blood of the Lord, as also the connection between the Eucharistic banquet and the eschatological banquet in the kingdom of the Father." Fr Raniero Cantalamessa in discussing the importance of receiving the Precious Blood reminds us that reception of the Blood of Christ "places us in direct contact, even if only sacramental, with the death of Christ."

Someone mentioned to me that we hadn't received from the Cup in 3 years. I didn't know that. So, take some time to reflect on all this and make an informed decision. Let's ensure we enter into the Holy Three Days together as one Body of Christ. Your decision will indeed be respected as we together embrace these Holy Three Days, the very center of our life of Faith.

EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL: DID YOU KNOW?

During the Liturgy of the Eucharist, the bread and wine go through a "Transubstantiation."

Transubstantiation: The conversion of the substance of the Eucharistic elements into the body and blood of Christ at consecration, only the appearance of the bread and wine remain.

Cardinal Ratzinger writes, "The Lord takes possession of the bread and wine, lifts them up, as it were, out of the setting of their normal existence into a new order; from a purely physical point of view, they remain the same, they have become profoundly different." He continues, "Where Christ has been present, afterward it cannot be as if nothing had happened."

CARE MINISTRIES

Within our Care Ministry, we have several groups that serve both folks within our parish and folks in our community. We are all familiar with the **Assistance Ministry**. Through the generous financial support of our parishioners each month, the Assistance Ministry assist many with the financial help needed to help them get through a challenging time. This ministry has been helping many for over 25 years, and your generous donations make it happen. Our **Joseph's Hands Ministry** responds to those who need assistance for home repairs, yard upkeep, or other labor-intensive tasks that they cannot do, nor are they able to afford to hire help. These handy helpers have helped many in dire situations in their homes. **Serve Others Saturday** is exactly what it is called. Every Third Saturday, we invite everyone to meet at Holy Grounds, where they will go out to the community to help and serve where needed. Sometimes they may be helping to clean up a park or roadside or the yard of an elderly homebound neighbor. The tasks are endless and many helping hands are needed. While many of these tasks require some physical help, we also have a ministry that provides a meal or two for those struggling. Whether it is just getting out of the hospital, recovering from an illness, or slightly overwhelmed with a new baby, our **Meal Train Ministry** will help you out. A simple request on our website will connect you to parish volunteers who will prepare and deliver a meal to your home. All these ministries serve all areas of our community and could use additional helping hands. If you want to help with any of these ministries, please contact omoscareministry@gmail.com or call the Parish Office at 814 535-7646.

YOUNG ADULT GROUP (18-35)

Are you or anyone you know a young adult seeking to grow in faith and be part of a like-minded community? The Greater Johnstown Young Adult Group presents the solution: Theology on Tap! Events are free of charge, with food/drink available for purchase. Meetings will include prayer, a guest speaker, group discussion, and fellowship. We will meet the last Wednesday of every month from 6-8 pm beginning March 29th - just in time for Easter - at the Boulevard Grill at 165 Southmont Blvd, Johnstown, in their Atrium room upstairs. Our first speaker will be V. Rev. Matthew Baum speaking on the Resurrection. All young adults aged 18-35 are welcome! Bring a friend! For more information, contact Geoffrey Stumpo at (814) 659-7415 or geoffstumpo@gmail.com. Space is limited, so RSVP. If you cannot attend, please pray for us. Thank you to KOC All Saints Assembly 954 for their sponsorship.

MARIAN CONSECRATION PRAYER HOUR

The monthly Marian Consecration hour will be held on **Thursday, March 23, at 3 pm** in the church on the tabernacle side. We will pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet and the Louis de Montfort method of the rosary. New members are welcome to join in prayer.

NIGHTS OF RECONCILIATION

Monday & Tuesday, March 20 & 21—6 pm—7:30 pm

Come experience the mercy of God.



FOLLOW YOUR FAITH—March 19 @ 7 pm

Fr. Mark will be using the book *Healing of Memories: Prayer and Confession Steps to Inner Healing* by Dennis & Matthew Linn to discuss healing things that cause you to sin. Join us on YouTube.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Adult Faith Formation (AFF) has been successful this year. We are averaging over 90 attendees every week. It's amazing to see all the people who attend AFF walk towards a deeper relationship with Jesus and a better understanding of our faith. It is a blessing for sure.

The facilitators are highly motivated wonderful people, who provide a vitally important service for our parish community. So please feel free to thank those ladies and gentlemen when you see them; the parish could not do this without them.

We have a couple of reminders for the AFF attendees and facilitators. The last classes for this semester are on April 30. We are currently working on the summer schedule of classes and will give you more information later.

New classes for the fall are being looked at and evaluated. If you're interested in facilitating a class or would like to lend a hand in doing so please let us know. If there are any particular subjects or courses, you think we should offer, feel free to make suggestions about those too.

If you're not attending AFF, why not? Please let us know; we really would like everyone to participate if possible.

SHARING THE JOURNEY

Are you, or a friend or family member, grieving the loss of a loved one?

Grief is a lonely time. Please consider joining us for Sharing the Journey, an ongoing bereavement support group that meets on the 3rd Sunday of each month. Our next meeting is **Sunday, March 19, from 3-4:30 pm at Holy Grounds.** These informal gatherings are intended to provide the opportunity to share, listen to others who have experienced loss, and open our hearts to Jesus. There is no need to pre-register. You are welcome to come as often as you would like.

For more information contact, Mary Petrak at (814) 502-6076

2023-LENTEN SCHEDULE

Stations of the Cross:

- ◆ March 24—6 pm @ OMOS
- ◆ March 31—6 pm @ St. Michael's
- ◆ April 7—6 pm @ St. Michael's

Soup, Salad, & Speaker: (will begin after Stations)

- ◆ March 24 @ OMOS

Nights of Reconciliation:

- ◆ March 20—6 pm @ OMOS
- ◆ March 21—6 pm @ OMOS

Walking Stations of the Cross:

- * April 7—TBD—@ OMOS

ST. MICHAEL'S NEWS

Please help us create a Spring Garden for the Easter Season. Easter flower order forms are at our church doors or contact Maureen Puchko at 814 539-6321. All orders are due March 19. Thanks for your help decorating St. Michael's.

Gifts cards for Giant Eagle, Sheetz, Walmart, and BiLo are available at Riek's Country Store Thursday and Friday, 11 am to 5 pm and Saturday, 10 am to 2 pm, or by calling Marisa Williams at 814 243-3674. Please make checks payable to St. Michael's Church. Sorry, we cannot accept cards for payment.

ASSISTANCE MINISTRY

2nd Collection— March 18/19

Winter is still upon us and bills for heating are still coming in. Please help those who are struggling to keep their homes warm. Thank you for your generous support!

SAVE THE DATE—JUNE 20, 2023

Unlocked Conference at OMOS

The 'Unlocked' Event we are hosting for Divine Renovation will be **June 20** not June 6. So please mark your calendars as we will roll out the welcome mat to many visitors. We will need many helping hands.

Way of the Cross

Art inspired by Faith to Create space
for Reflection and Meditation
on the gifts **GOD** provides for Us.

Wednesday, March 29 and Thursday March 30
Doors will be open from 3 - 7
625 Horner St. Johnstown, Pa 15902

All are welcome. Bring a friend.

Walk through at your own pace.

Take time to reflect

Be inspired to move closer to God's presence and character.

A Season for Everything



OMOS Women's Retreat
Saturday, April 15, 2023

8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Bishop Carroll Catholic High School
Ebensburg, PA

The focus of this retreat is to understand the seasons of life and the many ways we can relate, support and love each other through our seasons.

Register at omostoday.com

CURSILLO WEEKEND

Another Step in Your Journey of Faith

Join us for the Women's (April 20 – 23) and
Men's (April 27 – 30)

Cursillo weekend at St. Ann's in Ebensburg.

The cost is \$200, which covers lodging and meals.

Scholarships are available. Contact Sean O'Dowd

(sodowd8@yahoo.com; 814 539-1489)

for additional information.

STUFF THE TRUCK

March 25/26

This month we are collecting items to help Beginnings Inc., a local non-profit that providing services for children at risk for developmental delays, abuse, or neglect. They need:

- ◆ diapers
- ◆ Baby wipes (sensitive/ultra-sensitive)
- ◆ hygiene items (baby shampoo, lotion, was)
- ◆ Newborn to toddler learning toys
- ◆ Newborn to toddler clothes
- ◆ Blocks, board book, rattles, toddler-aged puzzles, shape sorter toys/games
- ◆ Different size balls

WEEKLY & MINISTRY SCHEDULES

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, March 20

6 a.m.—Eucharistic Adoration
 8 a.m.—Mass at OMOS
Server: Tim Burgess

Tuesday, March 21

6 a.m.—Eucharistic Adoration
 7:30 am—Confession
 8 a.m.—Mass at OMOS
Server: Isabella Segear

Wednesday, March 22

7 a.m.—Praise & Worship
 4:30 p.m.—Eucharistic Adoration
 5:15 p.m.—Confessions
 6 p.m.—Mass at OMOS
Server: Tim Burgess

Thursday, March 23

6 a.m.—Eucharistic Adoration
 9 a.m.—Mass with Divine Mercy
Servers: Divine Mercy Students

Friday, March 24

6 a.m.—Eucharistic Adoration
 8 a.m.—Mass OMOS
Server: Stanley Smith
 6 p.m.—Stations of the Cross—OMOS
 Soup, Salad, Speaker after Stations

Saturday, March 25

4 p.m.—Mass at OMOS
Servers: Joseph Gritzer & Austin Altschuh
Lector: Anita Altman
Euch. Min. Michelle Rivetti (2), Jerry & Mary Kay Clark
Hosp. Val Deater, David & Jane Solomon, Gerri Isban, Rich & Deb Cowan, Ann & Jim Mattie

Saturday, March 25

6 p.m.—Mass at St. Michael’s
Servers: Tim Burgess
Lector: Kayla Stephenson

Sunday, March 26

8:30 a.m.—Mass at OMOS
Servers: Joe Nibert & Isabella Segear
Lector: Nelson Lowes
Euch. Min: Heather Nibert (2), Rick Messina, Michelle St. Clair
Hosp: Julie & Ed Sheehan, Kevin Evans, Jim & Joan Frischauf, Michelle Kush, Marge Pipan, Marjorie Lechene
Prayer Ministry: Maureen Puchko, Doug Pucko, Mitzi Simmons

Sunday, March 26

11:00 a.m.—Mass at OMOS
Servers: Charlie Neumann & Aubrey Marron
Lector: Linda Fleming
Euch. Min. Maria Nesmith (2), Nelson Lowes, Donna Gillan
Hosp: Patty & Don Falcone, Michele Varner, Lisa Shetler, Gail Stotler, John Onufro, Bill Ingram, Joyce Nesmith

Saturday, March 18—Vigil

4:00 p.m. Albert Kiefer (Bill & Terrie Ray)
6:00 p.m. Bernice Stem (John Meyers) & Paulette Balog (Eugene & Donna Vamos)

Sunday, March 19—Fourth Sunday of Lent

8:30 a.m. Judy Abood (Kathleen Murnin)
11:00 a.m. Laura Garrity (Jim & Mary Jo Gardill)

Monday, March 20

8:00 a.m. Mary Parks (Daughter, Patty)

Tuesday, March 21

8:00 a.m. Charles M. Turanik (Thomas & Karyn Waligora)

Wednesday, March 22

6:00 p.m. Teresa Oliverio (Mary Pittenger)

Thursday, March 23

9:00 a.m. Edward Stankiewicz (Pattie Poole)

Friday, March 24

8:00 a.m. Elizabeth Regula (Regula Family)

Saturday, March 25—Vigil

4:00 p.m. Albert Hromulak (wife, Helen & son, Albert, Jr.)
6:00 p.m. Andrew Puniak (wife, Stephany) & Barbara Petruska (Christine Moran)

Sunday, March 26—Third Sunday of Lent

8:30 a.m. Jeffrey & Shirley Vien (Norma Oliverio)
11:00 a.m. Clara Vranich (Ralph & Maria DeMarco)

WEEKLY READINGS

Monday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29/Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a
 Tuesday: Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 5:1-16
 Wednesday: Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18/Jn 5:17-30
 Thursday: Ex 32:7-14/Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23/Jn 5:31-47
 Friday: Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Ps 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 and 23/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
 Saturday: Is 7:10-14; 8:10/Ps 40:7-8a,8b-9, 10, 11/Heb 10:4-10/Lk 1:26-38
 Next Sunday: Ez 37:12-14/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (7)/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

SUNDAY COLLECTION

March 12, 2023

Envelopes\$ 8,171
 Loose 1,685
 Online 5,955
Total\$ 15,811
Budget to Sustain Mission \$17,000/wk

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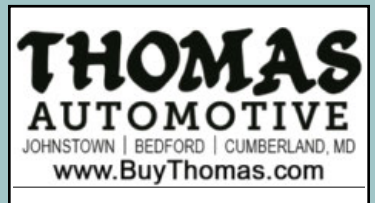
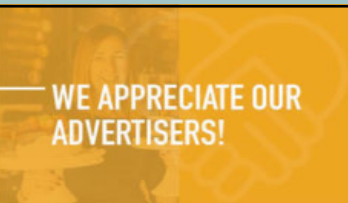
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