

Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Church

A Parish of the Diocese of Greensburg

A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust

200 Leger Road, North Huntingdon, Pa 15642 Phone: 724-864-6364 Office Hours: Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

November 3, 2024 ~ Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time



31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

EXCERPTS FROM THE LECTIONARY FOR MASS #2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. #LPI

Rev. Michael J. Crookston mcrookston@dioceseofgreensburg.org **Parochial Vicar** Rev. Louiegene Arnold Valdez lvaldez@dioceseofgreensburg.org Deacon Jeffrey Cieslewicz jcieslewicz@dioceseofgreensburg.org **Music Coordinator Rita Feals** rfeals@dioceseofgreensburg.org **Parish Office Rose Straley** rstraley@dioceseofgreensburg.org **Director of Faith Formation** Susan Cheplic skcheplic@dioceseofgreensburg.org **Regional Director of Youth Ministry** Katelynn Waterhouse kwaterhouse@dioceseofgreensburg.org **Facilities Manager Bryon Tognarina** BJTognarina@dioceseofgreensburg.org **Queen of Angels Catholic School** Jennifer Filak, Principal jfilak@queenofangelssch.org www.queenofangelssch.org 724-978-014 **Diocese of Greensburg** www.dioceseofgreensburg.org Help Line St. Vincent DePaul

Pastor

www.svdpgreensburg.org 724-691-3711

Follow us on Facebook @ Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Church or visit our website @ www.seasnh.org

MASS SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS:

Saturday, November 2, 2024 4 pm All Souls Sunday, November 3, 2024 8:30 am Rose Marie Kulha (Husband, Joe) 11:30 am Thomas Mikula (Jean Mikula) Monday, November 4, 2024 8:30 am For the Parish Family 6:30 pm ALL SOULS PARISH REMEMBRANCE MASS Tuesday, November 5, 2024 8:30 am Patricia Grandinette (Grandinette Family) Thursday, November 7, 2024 8:30 am Patricia Grandinette (Grandinette Family) Friday, November 8, 2024 8:30 am Jim Carrigan (Friends and Family) Saturday, November 9, 2024 4 pm Deceased Parents of McCann & Bechtold Families (Cheryl & John McCann) Sunday, November 10, 2024 8:30 am Mary Rose Warren (Labik, Schade & Zeik Families) 11:30 am Terri Kopchinski (Brothers, Sisters, Nieces, Nephews) CONFESSIONS - SATURDAYS* 3 pm - 3:45 pm *On 1st Saturdays – Confessions will follow 8:30 am Mass (no confessions at 3 pm)

READINGS FOR THIS WEEK:

Sunday: Dt 6:2-6/Ps 18:2-3, 3-4, 47, 51 (2)/Heb 7:23-28/Mk 12:28b-34

Monday: Phil 2:1-4/Ps 131:1bcde, 2, 3/Lk 14:12-14

Tuesday: Phil 2:5-11/Ps 22:26b-27, 28-30ab, 30c, 31-32//Lk 14:15-24

Wednesday: Phil 2:12-18/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Lk 14:25-33

Thursday: Phil 3:3-8a/Ps 105:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Lk 15:1-10

Friday: Phil 3:17—4:1/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5/Lk 16:1-8

Saturday: Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17/Jn 2:13-22

Next Sunday: 1 Kgs 17:10-16/Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10 (1b)/ Heb 9:24-28/Mk 12:38-44 or 12:41-44

MEMORIALS

Altar Bread & Wine:

Patricia Olson

By Bill and Kathleen Bellis

IN MEMORY OF ALL SOULS

Henry Algeri Robert Barnett Gary Capaccione Philip Cristina Patrick Evans Jean Gutshall Robert Kitta Karen Los Ernest Macioce Donna Mediate Timothy Quinlan Mary Ritter **Beverly Unnone** Mary Rose Warren Hilda Youngerman Maureen Truckly Daniel Capaccione Peyton Jean Sabo

Elizabeth Bachy Bernice Bosniak William Charmo Christopher Dixon Patricia Gulaskey Alberta Hoover Leo Letterine Catherine Macey Rose Martin Elizabeth Petrarco Frank Remaley **Dolores Simkovic** Virginia Walsh Barbara Wilker Charles Heasley, Jr. John Salopek James Richie Philip Szajnuk

ST. VINCENT DEPAUL

The next collection weekend is November 9 and 10. Please donate items ONLY on the designated weekends as storage space is limited. The SVDP store is very thankful for all items that they receive, but they are especially in need of **winter clothing for boys, sizes 2T through 12.** Thank you for your generosity and continued support. Contact Julie McNamara for more information at 412-310-1505.

Introductory Note

FORMING CONSCIENCES FAITHFUL CITIZENSHIP

Let us look to the example of the Good Samaritan. Jesus' parable summons us to rediscover our vocation as citizens of our respective nations and of the entire world, builders of a new social bond. This summons is ever new, yet it is grounded in a fundamental law of our being: we are called to direct society to the pursuit of the common good and, with this purpose in mind, to persevere in consolidating its political and social order, its fabric of relations, its human goals.

(Pope Francis, Fratelli Tutti, no. 66)

A s Catholics and Americans, we are blessed to be able to participate in our nation's political and public life. Our reedoms respect the dignity of individuals and their consciences and allow us to come together for the common good. Election seasons, therefore, should contain a sense of gratitude and aope. Our love for this country, our patriotism, properly impels us to vote.

But increasingly, it seems, election seasons are a time of anxiety and spiritual trial. Political thetoric is increasingly angry, seeking to motivate primarily through division and hatred. Fear can be an effective tool for raising money. The most heated arguments online often get the most clicks. Demonizing the other can win votes.

We propose once more the moral framework of Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship precisely as pastors, inspired by the Good Samaritan, with the hope of binding these wounds and healing these bitter divisions. This document is not based on personalities or partisanship, the latest news cycle, or what's rending on social media. Instead, it reflects the perennial role of the Church in public life n proclaiming timeless principles: the infinite worth and dignity of every human life, the common good, solidarity, and subsidiarity. Not sure what these mean? We invite you to read a copy of Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship and learn more.

Allowing your conscience to be stretched and formed by these reflections can give you peace! They point to Jesus' challenge to show mercy to those in need, just as the Good Samaritan. As Pope Francis writes, "Here, all our distinctions, labels and masks fall away: it is the moment of truth. Will we bend down to touch and heal the wounds of others?" (Fratelli Tiatti, no. 70). Let this be in our hearts when we talk about politics and make political choices.

Some might be tempted to say: yes, of course, we will be the ones who help by promoting good and opposing evil. But when confronted with so much good at risk and so much evil, it is a great challenge to avoid fear and anger. The threat of abortion remains our pre-eminent priority because it directly attacks our most vulnerable and voiceless brothers and sisters and destroys more than a million lives per year in our country alone. Other grave threats to the life and dignity of the human person include euthanasia, gun violence, terrorism, the death penalty, and human trafficking. There is also the redefinition of marriage and gender, threats to religious freedom at home and abroad, lack of justice for the poor, the suffering of migrants and refugees, wars and famines around the world, racism, the need for greater access to healthcare and education, care for our common home, and more. All threaten the dignity of the human person.

So precisely how we promote good and oppose evil is an essential part of answering the Lord's call, of being a disciple. As St. Paul reminds us: them. Do nothing that will sadden the Holy Spirit with whom you were sealed against the day of redemption. Get rid of all bitterness, all passion and anger, harsh words, slander, and malice of every kind. In place of these, be kind to one another, compassionate, and mutually forgiving, just as God has forgiven you in Christ (Eph. 4:29-32).

Thus, Pope Francis exhorts us to "genuine dialogue and openness to others," by which we may "be frank and open about our beliefs, while continuing to discuss, to seek points of contact, and above all, to work and struggle together" (Fratelli Titti, no. 203). This applies to the faithful both as voters and as candidates—we must consider not only candidates' positions on these issues, but their character and integrity as well.

How can we meet this challenge? Again, St. Paul gives us a way: Put on "the mind of Christ" (1 Cor. 2:16). Take time away from social media and spend time with Holy Scripture and the Blessed Sacrament. Turn off the TV and the podcast, and listen in silence. Volunteer at a soup kitchen, a homeless shelter, a crisis pregnancy center. Serve the poor, the needy, the outcast. Pray often, letting faith inform your political participation.

Participation in political life also requires judgments about concrete circumstances. While the bishops help form the laity in accordance with basic principles, they do not tell the laity to vote for particular candidates. On these often complex matters, it is the laity's responsibility to form their consciences and grow in the virtue of prudence to approach the many and varied issues of the day with the mind of Christ. Conscience is "a judgment of reason" by which one determines whether an action is right or wrong (see Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 1778). It does not allow us to justify doing whatever we want, nor is it a mere "feeling." Conscience-properly formed according to God's revelation and the teaching of the Church-is a means by which one listens to God and discerns how to act in accordance with the truth.1 The truth is something we receive, not something we make. We can only judge using the conscience we have, but our judgments do not make things true.

It is our responsibility to learn more of Catholic teaching and tradition, to participate in Church life, to learn from trustworthy sources about the issues facing our communities, and to do our best We must also seek wisdom, as Holy Scripture instructs:

> Wisdom from above is first of all innocent. It is also peaceable, lenient, docile, rich in sympathy and the kindly deeds that are its fruits, impartial and sincere. The harvest of justice is sown in peace for those who cultivate peace (Jas. 3:17-18).

The teachings of the Church, moreover, offer a vision of hope, where justice and mercy abound, because God is the infinite source of all goodness and love. With this wisdom and hope, we can find a way to bend down as the Good Samaritan did, through the fear and divisions, to touch and heal the wounds.

May God bless you as you consider and pray over these challenging decisions. May God bless our nation with true wisdom, peace, and mutual forgiveness, that we may decide together, through our democratic processes, to uphold the dignity of life and the common good.

This bulletin insert along with five others was approved by the body of U.S. bishops in November 2023. Find this and more complementary resources at *unsu* (aithfulcitizenship org.

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I Gaudium et Spes (The Church in the Modern World), no. 16. See also, Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 1785.

FATHER'S MIKE' MESSAGE

Loving God and Neighbor —

We have all heard the expression "you can't see the forest for the trees." This expression sums up what our liturgy is about today. Sometimes we look so hard to find answers to life's questions, and they are right in front of us. We do this so often when we talk about God and religion; we make it so difficult, when in reality the solutions are right in front of us. Over the years of my priesthood, people have asked how they can become better Catholics. They think that the answer is found by studying about the church and learning more about its rules and regulations. This may help us better understand the Church, but it won't necessarily make us better Catholics. Today, Jesus sums up in a very simple way what we need to do to better ourselves as people and as Catholics: "You shall love the Lord your God with all your hearts...and you shall love your neighbor as yourself." If we live by this, then we will have eternal life.

In reality, what links us and our relationship to God, neighbor, and self is love. Sometimes we focus our attention so much on law that we absolutely forget about love. It is not being able to recite the law that is important; it is being able to relate the law to God's command of love. If we do that then we understand what it means to be a disciple. The Jewish people in the days of Jesus were so focused on knowing the law of their faith, but they did not understand what it meant to live the law. Today, we, too, can get caught up in just following laws without much thought. We somehow feel justified when we obey the commandments. Jesus, however, is reminding us that it is not as easy as just obeying a given law that counts; what really matters is how the laws we follow lead us to a deeper relationship with one another. For example, if I go to liturgy on Sunday simply because it is a law, am I really doing what is being asked of me? My reason for being at liturgy should be to share my presence and God's love with the people that are present. Again, we see that it is not about us; rather it is about us in relationship with God and the people in our world.

The commandments, as well as the laws of our faith, are to be simple; showing us how to be a child of God. Their purpose is much more than to give us a list of do's and dont's in life. Their purpose is to help us realize that life is about relationship; ours to God and to one another. We cannot be attentive to one and at the same time ignore the other; they are connected. In linking love of God to love of neighbor, Jesus appears to want to remove morality and ethical behavior beyond the narrow, legalistic interpretation of religious practices which had crept into the Judaism of his time. The link between keeping the commandments and the nearness of God's kingdom is love of God, neighbor, self. Only then can we offer fitting sacrifice to God.

QUEEN OF ANGELS' NEWS



We are seeking a passionate and energetic Pre-kindergarten teacher who is dedicated to Catholic education at Queen of Angels. Candidates should be a certified teacher in Early Childhood Education or Elementary Education. The ideal candidate will have the ability to foster a positive and inclusive classroom environment that reflects Catholic values and teaching; plan, prepare, and deliver engaging and dynamic lessons; implement effective classroom management strategies to maintain a conducive learning environment; assess and monitor student progress, providing feedback and support to ensure academic and social/emotional growth; communicate effectively with students, parents and colleagues to support student learning; participate in school events, professional development and religious activities; collaborate with fellow teachers and administration to enhance the overall educational experience and uphold and promote the mission and values of the school.

Interested candidates should send their resume and cover letter to Jennifer Filak, Principal - jfilak@queenofangelssch.org.

Did you know that you can redirect your Pennsylvania state taxes into scholarships for students attending Catholic schools in the Diocese of Greensburg? It's possible through the Pennsylvania Educational Tax Credit Program (EITC). Select the Catholic school(s) you'd like to support with your contribution and receive 90% of that amount as a tax credit for a two-year commitment. The school(s) will receive up to 100% of your donation to provide tuition assistance for qualified families in the upcoming school year. Visit DioceseofGreensburg.org/EITC to fill out the interest form or contact Bill Barnes in the Office of Catholic Schools at 724-552-2589.

Millions in Catholic school tuition assistance available SPREAD THE NEWS! The 12 Diocese of Greensburg Catholic schools now have millions of dollars in tuition assistance available! Become a TOP Student today. Visit www.CatholicSchoolsGuide.org or call 724-552-2565. St. Anne Home, Greensburg, selling lottery calendars St. Anne Home, Greensburg, is selling lottery calendars. Cost is \$30, with 365 chances to win. To purchase a calendar, call 724-837-6070, email rcramer@stannehome.org or visit

www.stannehome.org. (Available in Parish Office)

Queen of Angels Catholic School's "Pot of Gold" Lottery Calendar

2025 brings us another great *"Pot of Gold"* Lottery Calendar and 365 chances of winning! Proceeds from this major fundraising event are a valuable source of income for Queen of Angels.

Calendars are \$30 each and run from January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025. 365 prizes totaling over \$13,000 and ranging from \$25 to \$200 are available. The three digit daily number of the PA Lottery 7:00 PM drawing (excludes Double Draw second drawings) will determine the winner.

Last year we sold all 1,000 calendars and raised \$11,000!! This year's goal is to sell all 1,000 calendars again. The success of this annual fundraiser is a direct result of your commitment and dedication. Our lottery calendars make wonderful gifts for the holidays; it's never too early to shop. Support our school and give a gift that keeps on giving throughout the year!

The due date for calendar stubs and payment is

November 26, 2024

Any questions, please contact Ruth Ann Noblick, Calendar Coordinator, at

rnoblick@queenofangelssch.org. Please note, <u>all winners must be 18 years of age or older</u>.

MARY'S GARDEN

There will be a brick sale for Mary's Garden starting November 1 through the end of the year. After the engraving, the bricks will be placed in Mary's Garden in the springtime before Easter. As in the past, the bricks will be \$100 for two bricks. The forms are available on the back counters in church as well as in the Seton Center. If there are any questions, please call Karen Benedict at 724 771-0890.

SPAGHETTI DINNER

The Altar Rosary Society at St. Edward Parish, Herminie, will hold a spaghetti dinner Sunday, Nov. 3, from noon-5 p.m. in the church hall. Meals will include salad, bread, beverage and dessert, with wine available. Cost is \$13 for adults, \$5 for children 10 and under. A basket raffle will also be featured. For information, call 724-446-5197.

CHRISTMAS SHOPPE

The Benedictine nuns at St. Emma Monastery, Greensburg, will host their Christmas Shoppe Thursday, Nov. 7, from 2-7 p.m. (early bird admission \$5), Friday, Nov. 8, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., and Saturday, Nov. 9, from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. (50% off most items after 1 p.m.). Food will be available. For information, visit www.stemma.org.