

# SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT



## I Surrender

Loving Father,  
I come before you,  
asking for your mercy.  
May my faith be as strong  
as that of Abraham.  
Grant me steadfastness this Lent,  
in my pursuit of a deeper prayer life.  
Free me from obstacles  
that keep me from you.  
May I find peace in your presence.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Sunday, February 25, 2024**

**Continued Change**

*Today's readings: Genesis 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18; Psalm 116:10, 15, 16-17, 18-19; Romans 8:31b-34; Mark 9:2-10.* In today's Gospel, Peter, James, and John glimpse Jesus' glory as he is transfigured before them on the mountaintop. Peter, intent on staying at the site of their beatific vision of Jesus, Moses, and Elijah, suggests that three tents be made. "Rabbi, it is good that we are here," he tells Jesus.

Each week we participate in a mystery as we take part in Sunday Mass. There, as the Eucharistic Prayer is prayed, the bread and the wine become the Body and Blood of Christ. But the elements of bread and wine are not all that are transformed during the liturgy. In the Eucharistic Prayer, it is also prayed that we "may become one body, one spirit in Christ." When we are especially attentive to the prayers,

songs, and gestures of the liturgy, we may say to ourselves and one another, "It is good that we are here." Transformed by the liturgy, we leave the church to bring the presence of Christ and the Word of God into the world.

Just as the apostles could not stay with Jesus on the mountaintop, the faithful cannot remain in the church. As the Second Vatican Council's *Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy* states, "The renewal in the eucharist of the covenant between the Lord and his people draws the faithful into the compelling love of Christ and sets them on fire." Our mission, as we leave the liturgy, is to testify to God's love, bringing hope to those facing difficult times. We make Christ known as we accompany others.

## PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday through  
Thursday:  
8:30 AM-4:00 PM  
Friday:  
8:30 AM-3:00 PM

Phone: 724-733-8870  
Emergencies:  
724-516-0513

New Members  
Welcome  
Please call the Parish  
Office to register.

## SACRAMENTS

Baptism:  
Please contact  
Ellen Mady in the  
Parish Office four months  
before the birth of your  
child.

Reconciliation:  
Saturdays at 9:00 AM and  
by appointment.

Marriage:  
Please contact  
Monsignor Michael  
Begolly in the Parish  
Office at least one year in  
advance for information  
and scheduling.

Holy Communion for  
those who are  
homebound: Please  
contact the Parish  
Office.

## FEBRUARY 25, 2024



**MOTHER OF SORROWS**  
ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

4202 Old William Penn Highway  
Murrysville, PA 15668  
[www.motherofsorrowschurch.org](http://www.motherofsorrowschurch.org)

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## Finance Council

Holly Magister, Christine Pacifico,  
 Paul Rockar & Lloyd Wolf

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**Patricia Visnick, Interim Principal**  
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 724-733-8840



Altar Servers

Boomers & Beyond

Breaking Bread Supper Club

Centering Prayer Group

Christian Mothers/  
 Ladies Guild

Eucharistic Adoration

Extraordinary Ministers of  
 Holy Communion  
 Food Pantry

Greeters

Guys & God Men's Group

Hearts Ablaze! Young

Hospitality

Knights of Columbus

Lectors

Legion of Mary

Men's Renewal Group

Mercy Meals

Ministry of Care

Outreach

Prayer Chain

Sacramental Prep for  
 those with Special Needs

Spiritual Direction

Ushers

Walking with Moms in Need

Women's Bible Study

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**Sherri Tollari**  
 (724) 396-1274





## THIS WEEK AT HOME

### Monday, February 26 Forgiven

"Forgive and you will be forgiven," Jesus tells his followers in today's Gospel. As Jesus preaches mercy, he explains that the actions of others will reflect our actions. Only if we are willing to forgive will we be forgiven. During this week, consider whom you need to forgive and from whom you need to request forgiveness. *Today's readings: Daniel 9:4b-10; Psalm 79:8-9, 11, 13; Luke 6:36-38.*

### Tuesday, February 27 A Just, Humble Life

Both the first reading and the Gospel today give instructions on how to live. In the reading from Isaiah, the Lord instructs "to make justice your aim," aid the orphan and widow, and right wrongs. Jesus tells his followers to live with humility. "Whoever exalts himself will be humbled; but whoever humbles himself will be exalted." When we do good things, we should not seek recognition. Today, strive to forward the kindnesses you have received. That might be done by buying coffee for a coworker, assisting a friend, or doing another's chore. Such acts can be testimonies of God's love. *Today's readings: Isaiah 1:10, 16-20; Psalm 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23; Matthew 23:1-12.*

### Wednesday, February 28 Distractions

Today we are reminded of what we are preparing for: Jesus' passion, death, resurrection, and ascension. During this season we make promises of things we will sacrifice, yet sometimes we become distracted. We are being called to transform our hearts and our lives for the service of our Lord. Today sit with your family and discuss how all can remain attentive to the message of God. What are some of the distractions in your life? How can you overcome them? *Today's readings: Jeremiah 18:18-20; Psalm 31:5-6, 14, 15-16; Matthew 20:17-28.*

### Thursday, February 29 Making Good Choices

The Gospel from Luke today presents the story of the rich man who ignored the needs of the poor man lying at his door. After death, the poor Lazarus lived in comfort while the rich man was in torment. Our daily choices can lead us to God or away from God. Consider whose needs you ignore while allowing yourself to eat your fill. *Today's readings: Jeremiah 17:5-10; Psalm 1:1-2, 3, 4, 6; Luke 16:19-31.*

### Friday, March 1 Families

In today's account of Joseph, the youngest son of Jacob, we see an example of jealousy building among brothers until they sell Joseph to foreigners. The eleven brothers appreciated neither their father's preferential treatment of Joseph nor their brother's dreams and wanted to be rid of him. Are there unresolved tensions in your family that are eroding relationships? Examine whether you play a part in the harm or healing in this family dynamic. *Today's readings: Genesis 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a; Psalm 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21; Matthew 21:33-43, 45-46.*

### Saturday, March 2 The Love of God

It is no secret the lengths to which God goes to show us his love. We know he wants to be in relationship with us, but sometimes we are reluctant. The moment we say yes to the relationship, God showers us with many blessings. The psalm tells us that God overlooks shortcomings and forgives sins. Today recite the psalm, and with each verse, pause to feel the love and presence of God. *Today's readings: Micah 7:14-15, 18-20; Psalm 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12; Luke 15:1-3, 11-32.*



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**KEEPING THE SEASONS**  
LENT AND EASTER 2024

## WELCOME



We are delighted to welcome you to Mass today, whether you are visiting or looking for a parish to join. Our hope is that your experience today encourages you to join our community.

There are a number of ways to get involved. Become a member of our Faith Community today! All are welcome. Scan the QR code above to register as a new parishioner.



## DIOCESAN LENTEN APPEAL

This weekend, Paul Rockar and Christine Pacifico will be speaking at all Masses about the 2024 Diocesan Lenten Appeal. Letters have been mailed to all parishioners and to date, 22 households have responded to the campaign with gifts totaling \$79,000. All funds over our Diocesan Target of \$209,271 will be returned to Mother of Sorrows Parish to fund major capital projects. Our goal is to raise a total of \$300,000.

## OUR NUMBERS

### February 17 and 18

Attendance 1,386  
Offertory \$ 32,219.71  
Outreach \$ 1,390.00



**Outreach expense for January 2024:**  
**\$ 18,609.00**

## LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

### Saturday 2/24

9:00 AM **Sacrament of Reconciliation**  
4:30 PM For the Parish

### Sunday 2/25 Second Sunday in Lent

7:30 AM † Walter Baczkowski (*Ann Baczkowski*)  
9:30 AM † Rose Marie Dudek (*Hantz Family*)  
11:30 AM † Frances & Chester Hammer (*Helen Wolfe*)  
6:00 PM † Andrew Torick (*David & Sharon Kalmbach*)

### Monday 2/26

8:00 AM † Joseph Kleinert (*Martha O'Connor*)

### Tuesday 2/27

8:00 AM † Mr. & Mrs. Peter Crokus  
(*Anthony & Marguerite Crokus*)

### Wednesday 2/28

8:00 AM † Thomas C. Yost (*Women's Bible Study*)

### Thursday 2/29

8:00 AM † Rose Marie Dudek (*Wednesday Rosary Group*)  
10:00 AM † Lou Rostand (*Frak & Bonnie Babik*)  
11:00 AM Eucharistic Adoration  
6:30 PM Taizé Prayer  
7:00 PM Benediction and Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament



### Friday 3/1

8:00 AM † Lou Rostand (*Marie & John Shimshock*)  
2:15 PM Stations of the Cross  
7:00 PM Family Stations of the Cross

### Saturday 3/2

9:00 AM **Sacrament of Reconciliation**  
4:30 PM Italia Biondo (*Joann Boggs*)

### Sunday 3/3 Third Sunday in Lent

7:30 AM † Fred & Clara Uziel (*grandchildren*)  
9:30 AM † Andrew Torick (*Sydney Perry*)  
11:30 AM For the Parish  
6:00 PM † Mildred Jacko (*Rich & Mary Lynn Jacko*)

A heartfelt thank you to our parishioners and visitors for your gift of stewardship to Mother of Sorrows Parish. Your generosity supports our many ministries and programs helping to advance our mission of bringing people to Christ. Thank you for the gifts you share with our Faith Community.





We commend to your prayers  
Ronald Friebe, who died recently.

May God welcome him to the joys  
of Paradise and bring comfort and  
peace to his family.

## CONFIRMATION

Confirmation students will  
participate in our annual Confirmation  
Retreat on **Sunday, February 25** at  
noon with NET missionaries and  
experience this year's theme: 'Never  
Alone: The Holy Spirit.'



We invite new members to join  
the adult choir to sing for Holy Week  
and the Triduum. Rehearsals will be  
held on **March 14** at 7:30 PM ,  
**March 17** after the 11:30 AM Mass,  
and **March 27** at 7:00 PM

We will sing for the 9:30 AM Mass  
on Palm Sunday and Easter, as well as  
the liturgies at Holy Thursday, Good  
Friday, and The Great Easter Vigil. If  
you are interested in joining the adult  
choir, please email Dr. Tom at  
[toctave@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:toctave@dioceseofgreensburg.org).



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

We wish Fr. Jay a  
very special Happy  
Birthday on  
February 25. Enjoy  
your day!

## A PEEK AT THE WEEK...

### Sunday

February 25

8:30 AM

Faith Formation for those with  
special needs, Ave Maria Room

10:30 AM

Lenten Scripture Study, Social Hall

12:00 NN

NET Confirmation Retreat, Social Hall

7:00 PM

High School Youth Ministry, Lower Narthex

### Monday

February 26

6:30 PM

Cub Scouts, Social Hall

### Tuesday

February 27

10:00 AM

Staff Meeting, Office Conference Room

5:00 PM

CGS, CGS Rooms

6:30 PM

Spiritual Direction, Madonna Room

### Wednesday

February 28

9:30 AM

Women's Bible Study, Ave Maria Room

### Thursday

February 29

5:00 PM

CGS, CGS Rooms

### Friday

March 1

9:00 AM

Legion of Mary, Ave Maria Room

9:00 AM

Centering Prayer, Madonna Room

### Saturday

March 2

9:00 AM

Men's Renewal Group, Lower Narthex

### Sunday

March 3

8:30 AM

Faith Formation for those with  
special needs, Ave Maria Room

10:30 AM

Lenten Scripture Study, Social Hall

1:00 PM

Choir rehearsal, Church

4:30 PM

Middle School Youth Ministry, Social Hall

7:00 PM

High School Youth Ministry, Lower Narthex

## FAITH FORMATION

The next Family Faith Formation sessions will  
take place on **Sunday, March 10** at 4:30 PM or  
**Wednesday, March 13** at 6:30 PM.

## LENTEN TAIZÉ PRAYER

Taizé is a distinctive style of meditation prayer developed by an ecumenical community of monks in rural France. This quiet, moving reflective prayer combines elements of the Church's traditional Liturgy of the Hours with elements of contemplative meditation.

A typical Taizé prayer service incorporates periods of silence with meditative readings from Scripture, prayers of praise and intercession, and the frequent repetition of simple, contemporary chants based on the Psalms or other parts of Scripture. The result is to gradually move prayer from the head to the heart.

Join us for Taizé prayer on **Thursdays in Lent** at 6:30 PM.

## STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Join us for Stations of the Cross each Friday during Lent, through March 22 at 2:15 PM with Mother of Sorrows School students, and also at 7:00 PM.

## LENTEN SCRIPTURE STUDY

Join us for a four-part series based on Wondrous Encounters. The series will use Lenten Scriptural reflections to explore what it means to be in a process of continual conversion and transformation as children of God created in His image and likeness.

Sessions will be held after the 9:30 AM Mass on the following Sundays: **February 25, March 3, March 10 and March 17**. The suggested donation for the book is \$10. Please RSVP to Ellen Mady at [emady@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:emady@dioceseofgreensburg.org) if you are interested in participating.

## LENTEN FASTING & FEASTING

*Fast* from worry, and *feast* by trusting God.

*Fast* from complaining, and *feast* on appreciation.

*Fast* from negatives, and *feast* on affirmatives.

*Fast* from unrelenting pressures, and *feast* on unceasing prayer.

*Fast* from hostility, and *feast* on tenderness.

*Fast* from bitterness, and *feast* on forgiveness.

*Fast* from self-concern, and *feast* on compassion for others.

*Fast* from idle gossip, and *feast* on purposeful silence.

*Fast* from judging others, and *feast* on the Christ within them.

*Fast* from thoughts of illness, and *feast* on the healing power of God.

*Fast* from words that pollute, and *feast* on the phrases that purify.

*Fast* from discontent, and *feast* on gratitude.

*Fast* from anger, and *feast* on optimism.

*Fast* from personal anxiety, and *feast* on eternal truth.

*Fast* from discouragement, and *feast* on hope.

*Fast* from facts that depress, and *feast* on the truth that uplifts.

*Fast* from suspicion, and *feast* on truth.

*Fast* from thoughts that weaken, and *feast* on promises that inspire.

*Fast* from problems that overwhelm, and *feast* on prayer that undergirds.







## Help Form Future Priests

Seminarian Tyler Randolph

Priests bring people to Jesus and Jesus to people. Donating to the Diocesan Lenten Appeal assures an investment in the formation of our seminarians so they can grow in their relationship with Christ, and knowledge of the Catholic Church and her teachings.



**Donate today at [DioceseofGreensburg.org/DLA2024](https://DioceseofGreensburg.org/DLA2024)**



## CHRISTIAN MOTHERS AND LADIES GUILD

The Christian Mothers and Ladies Guild will host a PinTip Batik Easter Egg decorating workshop with Larry Kozlowski on **Wednesday, March 6** at 6:30 PM in the Social Hall. Please bring 6 hard boiled eggs or 6 blown out eggs. Please RSVP Lois at 724-327-8902 by **Monday, March 4** so that we can plan for setup and supplies. All in the Parish are welcome! This would be a good Lenten activity for the entire family.

## BOOMERS AND BEYOND



Join us on **Tuesday, March 12** at 11:30 AM in the Mother of Sorrows Parish Social Hall for a presentation on "Planning Your Legacy" presented by attorneys Jim Creenan and Molly Creenan. They will discuss the importance of having certain estate planning documents in place.



Boomers and Beyond is a ministry serving the 'baby boomers' and all adults of Mother of Sorrows Parish and the surrounding communities. Lunch and learn sessions are held on the second Tuesday of each month. Topics are varied and reservations are not required. Participants

gather at 11:30 and the presentation begins at 12:00 NN. All are encouraged to bring a 'brown bag' lunch and a friend. Beverages are provided.

## Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament



Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on the Mother of Sorrows church altar takes place on **Thursday, February 29** from 11:00 AM until 7:00 PM. Know Jesus is waiting for YOU. **Children and families are welcome.** To become a weekly committed adorer, sign up by using the QR code or go to <https://adorationpro.org/mosmurrysville>.



## COMMUNITY FESTIVAL

We are thrilled to announce that plans for our Community Festival are already in full swing! This event promises to be a highlight of the year, bringing our church family and neighborhood together for two days of fun, laughter, and connection on August 2 and 3.

To make this festival truly spectacular, we are on the lookout for additional talent to join our lineup. If you have any special skills or talents that you would like to share with your community - whether it's face painting, balloon artistry, music, or any other unique talent - we would love to hear from you!

Please reach out to us at [mosfestival724@gmail.com](mailto:mosfestival724@gmail.com) to let us know how you would like to contribute. Your involvement will help make our festival even more memorable and enjoyable for everyone.







## MOTHER OF SORROWS OUTREACH MINISTRY

*We stand by one another with deep compassion...*

### LENTEN “BREAKFAST BAGS” PROGRAM



During Lent, our Outreach Ministry is sponsoring a “Breakfast Bag” program for our Food Pantry families. Parishioners can pick up a market bag and a suggested list of food before or after

Masses on **March 9 and 10** and return it filled with non-perishable breakfast items by **March 26**. Filled bags should be placed in the deck boxes in the Lower Narthex. If you are not able to pick up a market bag but would still like to participate, just buy a couple of non perishable breakfast items and place them in the deck boxes. Thank you for helping to feed the hungry.

### OPEN YOUR HEART TO A SENIOR

Our seniors need transportation assistance! Our Parish office and organizations frequently receive requests to help our elderly parishioners with their transportation needs. We are happy to be able to partner with **Open Your Heart to a Senior**. This organization will screen and train volunteers from Mother of Sorrows Parish. Then when one of our own is in need, these volunteers can respond through OYHS.

Scheduling is flexible. Can you spare a half a day a month? Contact OYHS at 724-205-6282 or [OYHS@wfspa.org](mailto:OYHS@wfspa.org) to learn more about how to connect with the older adults in your community.

### NURSING HOME PEN PAL PROGRAM



Would you be willing to take time out twice a month to brighten someone's life? We are looking for volunteers to become Pen Pals for residents in local nursing homes. The only requirement is a commitment to boost someone's spirit with your correspondence. For more information, please email Susan Sugrue at [supermusicmom@aol.com](mailto:supermusicmom@aol.com).

### MINISTRY OF CARE

Our ministers to those who are sick, homebound, and in nursing homes or care facilities have been busy! We are hoping to add a few more compassionate individuals to our team as we live up to a vital part of our parish mission of standing by one another.

Some ministers visit parishioners in their homes. These parishioners are unable to come to Mass due to a recent surgery, an acute health set back, a long term illness, or advanced age. Other ministers serve three local nursing homes and lead Communion services for the Catholic residents.

This is a very rewarding experience for both the ministers and those they visit. If you feel called to bring Christ's presence to our parishioners who are suffering in this real and recognizable way, please contact Karen Ebert at [kamse66@gmail.com](mailto:kamse66@gmail.com), or Nancy Matteuzzi at [nmatteuzzi@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:nmatteuzzi@dioceseofgreensburg.org).

## HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY

Last Sunday we dealt with the topic of chastity. We began the evening together, talking about the benefits of boundaries, setting expectations, and honest communication in dating. Then we split into guy and girl sessions and continued the conversation. The girls spent time with a journal reflection (by candlelight!) about the hallmarks of real love, while the boys went off to the gym for an epic tug-of-war game and discussed authentic masculinity. We reconvened around the fire and closed the night with Eucharistic adoration.

The Catechism calls the sacraments of Holy Orders and Matrimony "The Sacraments at the Service of Communion," because they are both directed towards the salvation of *others*. It says they confer a particular mission in the Church and serve to build up the People of God. Join us on **Sunday, February 25**, as we learn about the sacrament of Holy Orders with Jacob and Father Jay.

On **Sunday, March 3**, we will look at the sacrament of Matrimony, by which "Christian spouses are fortified and *consecrated* for the duties and dignity of their state." We will play our own version of the "Nearly-Wed Game" with Courtney and Jacob, eat wedding cake, and have lots of time for Q & A. Bring your questions and your friends! We will meet in the Lower Narthex, from 7:00 to 9:00 PM.







You are invited to join other Christians for 40 Days for Life—40 days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion through **March 24**. If you would like to prayerfully fast for one day, you can sign up at <https://signup.com/go/RELOVus>.

You are also invited to stand and peacefully pray during a 40-day vigil in the public right-of-way outside Planned Parenthood, 933 Liberty Avenue, Pittsburgh, and help spread the word about this important community outreach. If you would like more information, please contact Nikki Bruni at [nbruni@40daysforlifepgh.com](mailto:nbruni@40daysforlifepgh.com).

## SPAGHETTI DINNER FUNDRAISER

St. John's and St. Mary's Partner Parishes will be hosting a spaghetti dinner fundraiser at St. John's Social Hall, 497 Athena Drive in Delmont, on **Sunday, March 10** from 12:00 until 4:00 PM, or sold out. Tickets are available at the door for \$10 per person or \$5 for children ages 10 and under.

Try your luck at the 50/50, basket, and cash raffles. Contact Dina Colangelo at [dina.colangelo@gmail.com](mailto:dina.colangelo@gmail.com) with any questions.

## JOB OPPORTUNITY

St. Regis Parish, Trafford is accepting applications for the position of Parish Secretary. This is a part-time position. The individual must be able to work a minimum of three days per week, with a maximum of 28 hours per week. The individual selected must have strong computer skills, knowledge of Word and Excel, strong interpersonal skills, and the ability to communicate effectively both verbally and in writing.

Interested individuals should provide a resume to Fr. Anthony W. Ditto at St. Regis Parish, 517 Homewood Ave., Trafford, PA 15085 or emailing him at [aditto@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:aditto@dioceseofgreensburg.org) to discuss the position.

## NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS

Join fellow pilgrims from the Diocese of Greensburg at the 10th National Eucharistic congress in Indianapolis, Indiana July 17-21. Registration includes one adult five-day ticket, bus transportation to Indianapolis, transportation to the event center each day and a four-night hotel stay.

Financial aid is available through the Francis Fund. For more information, contact Vincent Reilly, Managing Director of Faith, Family and Formation at [vreilly@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:vreilly@dioceseofgreensburg.org).

Catholic Men's Fellowship of Western PA

# Strengthening Masculine Leadership

**YOUNG ADULT  
MEN'S SUMMIT**  
03.23.2024  
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM  
Men age 20's to 40's

Register Free at  
[www.cmfwpa.org](http://www.cmfwpa.org)

**Pastoral Center  
Diocese of Pittsburgh**  
2900 Noblestown Rd, PGH 15205

Dave VanVickle

Fr. John Sweeney

Fr. Joe Freedy





# MOTHER OF SORROWS CATHOLIC SCHOOL



## LENTEN PREPARATION



Monsignor Begolly enlisted the help of the 8th graders, many of whom are preparing for Confirmation, in burning last year's palms to create ashes for Ash Wednesday Masses.



### Mother of Sorrows School Guardian Angel Fund

Please donate to the MOSS Guardian Angel Fund to assist with the growing cost of keeping Mother of Sorrows School students safe while at school. All donations will support the school's safety and security efforts.

**Thank you for your support.**

For more information or to donate, please visit the Mother of Sorrow School website at <https://www.mossschool.org/guardian-angel-fund-donations/>



**Donors** are recognized on the Guardian Angel wall in the school's lobby. **Donations of \$1000 or more** will receive a personalized angel (pictured above) on the Guardian Angel wall in the school's lobby.







# MOTHER OF SORROWS CATHOLIC SCHOOL



Mrs. Malley's kindergarten students celebrate Presidents' day with homemade masks and Valentine's Day with special boxes.



Mrs. Bayer's fifth grade students worked on Lenten promise beads during their Valentine party.

