

30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

OCTOBER 27, 2024



New members are always welcome.
Please call the Parish Office to register.

SACRAMENTS

Baptism:

Please contact Ellen Mady at MOS or Joann Giuffre at St. John and St. Mary at the Parish Office four months before the birth of your child.

Reconciliation:

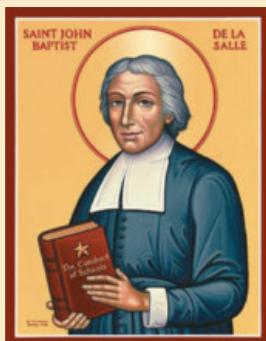
Saturdays at 9:00 AM at MOS and 12:00 NN at St. John;
Tuesdays at 5:00 PM at St. Mary;
OR by appointment.

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.



St. John Baptist de La Salle

497 Athena Drive
Delmont, PA 15626
(724) 327-0647

Saturday anticipated Mass 4:00 PM
Sunday Mass 11:00 AM



Saint Mary, Our Lady of Lourdes

5900 Kennedy Avenue
Export, PA 15632
(724) 327-0647

Saturday anticipated Mass 6:00 PM
Sunday Mass 9:00 AM



Mother of Sorrows

4202 Old William Penn Highway
Murrysville, PA 15668
(724) 733-8870

Saturday anticipated Mass 4:30 PM
Sunday Masses 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 AM & 6:00 PM

Each a parish of the Diocese of Greensburg

+

Each a Pennsylvania Charitable Trust



Invest time each week to expand your vocabulary and deepen your faith.

27 October 2024

WORD OF THE WEEK

Responsorial Psalm

*\rē-spān-sō-rē-ʼəl
'sālm*

Part of the Liturgy of the Word proclaimed in the Mass drawn from the Psalter (the Book of Psalms) or, more rarely, from biblical canticles. Sung responsively between the lector/cantor and the assembly. Follows the First Reading and corresponds thematically to the day's scriptures.

Pronunciation: <https://tinyurl.com/Take5-responsorial-psalm>

CONTEXT

Through the singing of the **Responsorial Psalm**, we assent to how God's word heard in this particular liturgy is reshaping our identity.

—*Kathleen Harmon*, *New Developments in Understanding the Responsorial Psalm*

The **Responsorial Psalm** stimulates reflection upon God's saving deeds and serves both as a prolongation and reiteration of the scriptural text it accompanies.

—*Elizabeth Harrington*, *Liturgy Brisbane*

WHY IT MATTERS

In the **Responsorial Psalm**, we repeatedly chant a phrase to enable it to sink deeper into our being: "Taste and see that the Lord is good" (the most frequently used response); "The Lord hears the cry of the poor"; or "I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me." Across a lifetime, these internalized phrases become prayers that rise to consciousness for solace, contemplation, and instruction.

From the *General Instruction of the Roman Missal*: The table of God's Word is spread before the faithful, and the treasures of the Bible are opened to them. . . . After the First Reading comes the **Responsorial Psalm**, which is an integral part of the Liturgy of the Word ... because it fosters meditation on the word of God (57-61).

RELATED WORDS

Psalter | Canticle | Prayer | Liturgy of the Word

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

What's the difference between a psalm and a canticle?

Psalm comes from the Greek for the twanging of a harp or plucking of a stringed instrument. *Canticle* derives from the Latin for a little song. The main difference isn't style, but placement. Psalms are found entirely within the Book of Psalms, or Psalter. Canticles are located elsewhere in scripture.

The Psalter contains musical directions. A third of these 150 poems and hymns suggest stringed, flute, or harp accompaniment. Some were set to melodies everyone knew. Seventy-three psalms are internally attributed to King David, and he may have sponsored the whole collection. Canticles have a broader authorship. Song of Songs, ascribed to King Solomon, likely had multiple writers. Old Testament canticles include those of Miriam, Moses, Deborah, Hannah, and Judith. New Testament canticles include Zechariah's Benedictus, Simeon's Nunc Dimittis, and of course Mary's Magnificat.

—*Alice Camille*, from *Questions Catholics Ask* <http://tinyurl.com/QCA-psalm>

REFLECTION OF THE WEEK

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (OCTOBER 27)

With a psalm in our hearts

Asked what liturgical song most fostered and nourished their spiritual life, the majority of respondents in a 2006 online poll cited "On Eagle's Wings" by Father Michael Joncas. The song, inspired by Isaiah's prophecy and Psalm 91, contains the beautifully crafted refrain:

And He will raise you up on eagle's wings,
Bear you on the breath of dawn,
Make you to shine like the sun,
And hold you in the palm of His Hand.

READINGS: Jeremiah 31:7-9; Hebrews 5:1-6; Mark 10:46-52 (149 <https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/102724.cfm>). "The LORD has delivered his people."

FAITH IN ACTION

Remember those words of solace whenever your burden feels too great.

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Marcia Nelson, Erin Patterson, Donald Spaeder,
& Linda Wakefield

Mother of Sorrows Finance Council
Holly Magister, Christine Pacifico, Paul Rockar
& Lloyd Wolf

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

ST. JOHN AND ST. MARY

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Dina Colangelo, Kirra Mediate, & Kate Stevens

St. John Finance Council
David Alderson, David Bauersox,
& Linda Livengood

St. Mary Finance Council
Bill McHugh, Jerry Soles

Office Hours
Monday through Thursday 9:00 AM-3:00 PM



Mother of Sorrows Regional Catholic School

Darcie Gatti, Principal

dgatti@mosschool.org

724-733-8840

TOPS scholarships available:

www.catholicschoolsguide.org





BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN

The Knights of Columbus would like to wrap up their donation campaign for the Women's Choice Network. Please return your baby bottles, even if you were not able to donate, to the Parish Office. The Women's Choice Network has to purchase these bottles at a cost. Your generosity and cooperation are deeply appreciated.

FUNDRAISER BENEFITING LAND OF PEACE

Next weekend, **November 2 and 3** following all Masses at Mother of Sorrows, Roni Salsa, representing the Bethlehem Christian Families, a nonprofit organization through Land of Peace, will be with us to speak about the Christian situation in the Holy Land. Crucifixes, rosaries, and religious articles, all made of olive wood, which is native to the Holy Land, will be available to purchase.

The goal of this mission is to help Christian families in the Holy Land and churches in the Middle East who have been affected by the continuous violence and the lack of tourism to the area.

Please browse and buy some articles for a good cause. For more information, please see www.bcfmission.com.

FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

Family Faith Formation will take place **Sunday, November 3** at 4:30 PM or **Wednesday, November 6** at 6:30 PM.

MOS LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Saturday 10/26

9:00 AM **Sacrament of Reconciliation**
 4:30 PM † John Stramat (*Barb & John Koury*)

Sunday 10/27 **Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

7:30 AM † Michael & Joey Goda (*Donahoe Family*)
 9:30 AM For the Parish
 11:30 AM † Joe Purdue (*Mom, Dad, Nick & Kate*)
 6:00 PM Lindsay & Alan Tomko 20th Anniversary

Monday 10/28

8:00 AM † Donald Rendulic (*Bucan Family*)

Tuesday 10/29

8:00 AM † Lou Rostand (*Mary Lou Rostand*)

Wednesday 10/30

8:00 AM † Don Nixon (*Fran Nixon*)

Thursday 10/31

8:45 AM † John Kardes (*Kardes Family*)
 10:30 AM Prayer Service
 11:00 AM Eucharistic Adoration
 7:00 PM Benediction and Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Friday 11/1 **All Saints**

8:00 AM † All Souls
 10:30 AM † All Souls

Saturday 11/2 **All Souls' Day**

8:00 AM † **All Souls Mass at St. John**
 9:00 AM **Sacrament of Reconciliation**
 4:30 PM † All Souls

Sunday 11/3 **Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time**

7:30 AM † All Souls
 9:30 AM † All Souls
 11:30 AM † All Souls
 6:00 PM † All Souls

OUR WEEKLY NUMBERS

October 19 and 20

Mother of Sorrows

Attendance 1,320

Offertory \$ 32,712.59

Outreach \$ 1,505.00



Catholic Institute Loan Payment:
\$ 30,660.00

St. John

Attendance 406

Offertory \$ 7,814.50



St. Mary

Attendance 256

Offertory \$ 4,559.75



30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

“And Jesus said to him, ‘Go your way; your faith has made you well.’ And immediately he received his sight and followed him on the way.”

(MARK 10:52)

Faith is believing in something even though you may not be able to physically see it. Many people think that miracles don't happen anymore. This is hard, but try to focus on the positive and not the negative things in your life. When you focus on your blessings instead of your hardships, miracles will seem common. You will see God's active presence in your daily life. You will begin to develop an attitude of gratitude.

ST. JOHN AND ST. MARY

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Saturday 10/26 Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

12:00 NN SJ **Sacrament of Reconciliation**

4:00 PM SJ For the Parish

6:00 PM SM † Joanne M. Kuchar
(Connie Kidney & Daughters)

Sunday 10/27

9:00 AM SM † Michele Hoffmann *(Regina Schrello)*

11:00 AM SJ † Louis Bartot *(children)*

Monday 10/28

8:30 AM SJ † Bishop Ronald Gainer *(Peggy Ciccocioppo)*

Tuesday 10/29

8:30 AM SM † Shirley Canterna *(Rege & Mary Lukacs)*

12:00 NN SM Eucharistic Adoration

5:00 PM SM **Sacrament of Reconciliation**

6:00 PM SM Benediction and Reposition

Wednesday 10/30

8:05 AM SJ Novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help

8:30 AM SJ † Ronald Smith *(Fritz Family)*

Thursday 10/31

8:10 AM SM St. Joseph Novena

8:30 AM SM † Les Johnson *(Marie & John Shimshock)*

Friday 11/1 All Saints

8:30 AM SM † All Souls

12:00 NN SJ † All Souls

Saturday 11/2 All Souls' Day

8:00 AM SJ † All Souls

12:00 NN SJ **Sacrament of Reconciliation**

4:00 PM SJ † All Souls

6:00 PM SM † All Souls

Sunday 11/3 Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 AM SM † Harry Whyel Jr.
(wife, Theresa & Family)

11:00 AM SJ † Marian O'Leary *(Family)*

WITH SYMPATHY

We commend to your prayers Kristen Bell and Raymond Crane, who died recently. May God welcome them to the joys of Paradise and bring comfort and peace to their families.



ADULT FAITH FORMATION BACK TO BASICS

The Back to Basics adult faith formation series will continue monthly. Join us in the Social Hall from 7:00 to 8:30 PM on **Sunday, October 27**. Fr. Dave Slusarick will be presenting on the Nicene Creed - why we say it, what it means and how it introduces many aspects of the Catholic faith. We hope to see you there.

ALL SAINTS DAY

All Saints Day is **Friday, November 1** and is a Holy Day of Obligation. The regional Mass Schedule is as follows:

8:00 AM Mother of Sorrows
8:30 AM St. Mary
10:30 AM Mother of Sorrows
12:00 NN St. John

ALL SOULS DAY MASS

A Mass will be celebrated for All Souls Day on **Saturday, November 2** at 8:00 AM at St. John Parish.

OFFICES CLOSED

Parish Offices will be closed on **Friday, November 1** in observance of All Saints Day.

A PEEK AT THE WEEK...

Sunday

October 27

8:30 AM	MOS	Faith Formation for those with special needs, Ave Maria Room
10:00 AM	SM	Faith Formation, Parish Center
12:00 NN	SJ	All Saints Party, Social Hall
7:00 PM	MOS	High School Youth Ministry, Social Hall
7:00 PM	MOS	Back to Basics, Church

Tuesday

October 29

10:00 AM	MOS	Staff Meeting, Conference Room
6:30 PM	MOS	Bible Study, Social Hall
7:00 PM	SJ	Handbell Choir, Church

Wednesday

October 30

9:30 AM	MOS	Women's Bible Study, Social Hall
6:30 PM	MOS	Confirmation Preparation meeting, Social Hall

Saturday

November 2

7:00 AM	SM	Catholic Men's Fellowship, Social Hall
9:00 AM	MOS	Men's Renewal Group, Ave Maria Room
12:00 NN	MOS	Rosary Rally, lower parking lot

Sunday

November 3

8:30 AM	MOS	Faith Formation for those with special needs, Ave Maria Room
10:00 AM	SM	Faith Formation, Parish Center
4:30 PM	MOS	Family Faith Formation, Church
7:00 PM	MOS	High School Youth Ministry, Social Hall

DONUT SUNDAY

Donut Sunday will be held at St. Mary after the 9:00 AM Mass on **Sunday, October 27** in the Social Hall. Please join us for good fellowship, donuts and coffee.

Join us at MOS for Donut Sunday after all morning Masses on **Sunday, November 3**.



JESUS IS INVITING YOU...

We invite children to become altar servers and teens and adults to join our team of lectors. Altar serving is a wonderful way for young children to actively participate in the Mass, develop a deeper understanding of their faith and grow in responsibility.

Lectors play a vital role in proclaiming God's Word; helping to bring Scripture to life for our parish community. Both ministries offer a chance to serve, deepen your faith, and connect with our parish.

Please consider signing up and becoming part of these meaningful ministries. If you are interested, please contact Joann at jgiuffre@dioceseofgreensburg.org or call 724-327-0647.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS SCHEDULE

If you did not receive an email with the Liturgical Minister Schedule for November and December, please contact Joann at 412-327-0647. The schedules are also located in the back of the church.

CONGRATULATIONS

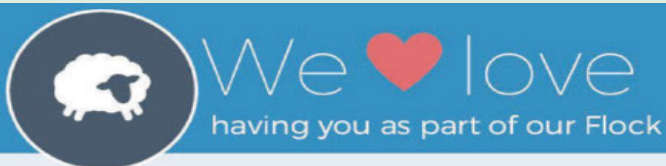


Congratulations to Audreyanna who served her first Mass last weekend. May God Bless all our servers.

SUPPORT MINISTRY FOR WIDOWS

Support Ministry is a group of widows who have experienced a deep loss. The group gathers monthly to share a meal, have conversation and build friendships. All widows who have lost a spouse are welcome.

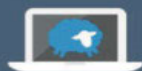
The next luncheon will be held at North Park Lounge in Murrysville on **November 9** at 1:00 PM. Please RSVP to Sandy Martin by calling 724-787-9305 or at sandymartin112@gmail.com.



Keep in touch with us via email and text!

Text **JBM** to 84576 OR

Connect with us online at:



StJohnStMaryParishes.flocknote.com

Text STOP to 84576 to stop txt notifications at any time. Text HELP for help. There is no charge for this service, but your carrier message and data rates may apply. View full privacy policy & terms at flocknote.com/txt.



In need of material assistance? Contact the St. John St. Mary St. Vincent DePaul Conference. Call (724) 575-9888

ONLINE GIVING OPTION NOW AVAILABLE, VISIT OUR PARISH WEBSITE

www.stjohnstmary.net

LECTIO EUCHARIST BIBLE STUDY

Join us on **Tuesday, October 29** at 6:30 PM in the Ave Maria Room at Mother of Sorrows Parish for "Lectio Eucharist," a video and discussion-based Bible study that focuses on our Scriptural understanding of the Eucharist. All are welcome!

MASSES OF REMEMBRANCE

We will celebrate our annual Mass of Remembrance at MOS on **Monday, November 4** at 7:00 PM and at St. Mary on **Tuesday, November 5** at 7:00 PM. At this Mass we will pray for the souls of the faithful departed and especially the souls of our beloved parishioners who have died this past year.

We especially invite all those grieving the loss of loved ones to join us in praying for the dead. All are welcome.

HONORING OUR FAITHFUL DEPARTED

In anticipation of the Commemoration of All Souls on **November 2**, we would like to honor family members who have died by displaying their photos during the month of November at Mother of Sorrows Parish.

Please bring a framed photo of your deceased relative to the MOS Parish Office by **October 31**. Please label the back of the frame with your name and phone number. The photos will be available for pick up after Thanksgiving.

ANNUAL
Christmas
COOKIE
FUNDRAISER
ATTENTION ALL BAKERS!
WE NEED YOU:

FOR OUR COOKIE FUNDRAISER WE ARE BAKING 8 TYPES OF COOKIES:

CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIES
PEANUT BUTTER BLOSSOMS
GINGERBREAD
SUGAR COOKIES
LADY LOCKS
OATMEAL COOKIES
SNICKERDOODLES
THUMBPRINTS



****PROCEEDS BENEFIT
PARISH ACTIVITIES****

*WE NEED YOUR HELP BY BAKING A MINIMUM OF 4 DOZEN OF ANY OF THE COOKIES LISTED. PLEASE LET ME KNOW WHAT TYPE OF COOKIES YOU ARE MAKING SO I CAN KEEP TRACK ON A MASTER LIST.

*YOU CAN VOLUNTEER FROM THE COMFORT OF YOUR HOME.

*YOU CAN USE YOUR OWN RECIPE OR I CAN PROVIDE ONE.

*BAKING SHOULD HAPPEN BETWEEN 11/20-12/20.

*YOU CAN BAKE THEM FRESH FOR 12/20 OR I CAN MEET YOU IN ADVANCE AND THEY'LL BE STORED IN THE ST JOHN'S SOCIAL HALL FREEZER. PLEASE BRING THE COOKIES IN A CONTAINER OR WRAPPED IN SOMETHING THAT YOU DOES NOT NEED TO BE RETURNED.

*ASSEMBLY OF PLATTERS OCCURS THE MORNING OF 12/21 (IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN ASSEMBLING, THAT IS A SEPARATE SIGNUP)

BONUS ANYONE WHO BAKES CAN PURCHASE A DISCOUNTED COOKIE PLATTER OF 4 DOZEN COOKIES FOR \$10.

Contact Dina Colangelo to volunteer or for more info
dina.colangelo@gmail.com or cell 410-300-1244

ROSARY RALLY

Our next outdoor Rosary Rally sponsored by America Needs Fatima will be held on Saturday, **November 2** at 12:00 NN in the Mother of Sorrows lower church parking lot.

Please come join us! Bring a folding chair, an umbrella and your rosary with you. It will be held rain or shine. If you have any questions, please call or text Mary Rita Turka at 412-848-5105. Be sure to bring a friend.

BOOMERS AND BEYOND

Join us on **Tuesday, November 12** at 11:30 AM in the Mother of Sorrows Parish Social Hall for a presentation on "Westmoreland County Area Agency on Aging" presented by Danielle McMahan, Aging Care Manager, Westmoreland County Area Agency on Aging.

The Westmoreland County Area Agency on Aging has been providing services and opportunities to older adults since 1967, yet many are unaware of the services offered. Danielle McMahan will be discussing general benefits available for older adults in Westmoreland County.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will take place at Mother of Sorrows on **Thursday, October 31 from 11:00 AM until 7:00 PM**. To become a weekly adorer, go to <https://adorationpro.org/mosmurrysville>.

Eucharistic Adoration at St. Mary takes place on **Tuesdays** from 12:00 NN until 6:00 PM.



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY



The ladies of our Prayer Shawl Ministry made 75 hats that will be distributed at the Winter Cost Giveaway sponsored by the Knights of Columbus.

MERRY MITTENS



The holidays are approaching and we are getting ready for the Merry Mittens program - gifts to be given to the children of our Food Pantry families and to residents of local nursing homes.

Tags will be available at all Masses on November 9 and 10. Please take a tag, purchase one or more gifts listed on the tag, and return the unwrapped gifts to the deck boxes by November 24.

If you are not able to pick up a tag, you may still participate by buying something for a child or an elderly nursing home resident. We will make sure that it goes to someone in need.



WINTER COAT GIVEAWAY

Second Saturday in November

10:00AM-3:00PM

Laird Hall/ First Presbyterian Church
3202 North Hills Rd Murrysville

Introductory Note



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)

As Catholics and Americans, we are blessed to be able to participate in our nation's political and public life. Our freedoms 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 hope. 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 rhetoric 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 trending on social media. Instead, it reflects the perennial role of the Church in public life in 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 Tutti*, 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:

Never let evil talk pass your lips; say only the good things men need to hear, things that will really help 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 Tutti*, 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

to make wise judgments about candidates and government actions.

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 www.faithfulcitizenship.org.

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¹ *Gaudium et Spes* (*The Church in the Modern World*), no. 16. See also, *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, no. 1785.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY



On **Sunday, October 27**, we will welcome Deacon Brandon Feikles, who will speak to us on living out our vocation as Children of God and how our faith can help us through periods of anxiety or depression. Deacon Brandon will share his own vocation story and the power of faith in his life.

All High School Youth are invited to join us on **Sunday, November 3** for the second annual Team Saint Scavenger Hunt! Bring your friends for a great time as the teams compete for the glory of first place.

Last week in High School Youth Ministry we talked about the four principles of Catholic Social Teaching: Human Dignity, The Common Good, Subsidiarity, and Solidarity, and why they help us to flourish living in community with others.

We also had some good, competitive fun with a puzzle challenge race, and a game called "Shapes on the Floor," where the teams were tasked with using their bodies to create a number of given things. Jacob judged the best of each round, and as a tie-breaker, he asked the final two teams to create a monstrosity!

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MEN'S RETREAT

All men of MOS, St. John and St. Mary are invited to the annual Men's Retreat **November 15-17** at St. Paul of the Cross Retreat Center in Pittsburgh. This year's theme is Pilgrims of Hope. For more information, contact Kevin Bohner at 724-327-5457. To register, please visit stpaulsretreatcenter-pittsburgh.org.



The Delmont Christmas Pilgrimage needs your help this holiday season!

When: 3-hour shifts on Saturday, December 7 (4:30-9:30 PM) & Sunday, December 8 (1:30-7:30 PM).

Volunteer opportunities include:



- **Speaking & non-speaking Actors** to portray Christmas-story characters in our live, walk-through nativity.
- **Bus Guides** to ride on shuttle buses, greet guests, answer questions, & sing Christmas carols.
- **Path Guides** to lead visitors on the outdoor live nativity walk-through at Shields Farm in Delmont.
- Help is also needed with **costume prep, baking cookies, assisting those in wheelchairs, & more.**

I want to help. How do I volunteer?

▶ Scan the QR code to submit your contact information online. We will follow up with you!

I want to learn more before I commit.

▶ That's okay too! Please scan the QR code, enter your inquiry & info, & we will follow up!



Call (724) 454-1535 with questions.

www.delmontpilgrimage.com

This week on FORMED:



The Catholic Take on Halloween

Remembering the dead in purgatory, celebrating the Saints, and the Catholic perspective on Halloween.

Brother Francis - All Souls Day

In this episode of Brother Francis, kids can learn about All Souls Day and how we take time to remember those who have passed away.

Who is St. Jude?

Catholic Saints

Dr. Tim Gray and Dr. James Prothro discuss this lesser-known apostle St. Jude.



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Happy students play on the new school playground. There is much fun to be had climbing, sliding and jumping!



Middle school students had a great time at the recent Halloween Dance in the cafeteria. Music, dancing, snacks and costumes created a memorable evening.

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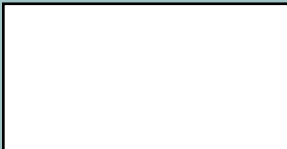
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