

# FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT



## Anticipating Emmanuel

Loving Father and King of Glory,  
you accept us with all of our flaws.  
As we anticipate the nativity of our Lord,  
we are reminded that we should  
seek to model the humility  
of Mary and Joseph  
and obey God's will.  
Help us find the serenity  
to ready our hearts to welcome others,  
as Mary and Joseph welcomed Jesus.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Sunday, December 21, 2025**

**Submitting to God's Will**

*Today's readings: Isaiah 7:10–14; Psalm 24:1–2, 3–4, 5–6; Romans 1:1–7; Matthew 1:18–24.* In the second reading, St. Paul is referred to as “a slave of Christ Jesus.” The word *slave* to Paul means “one who is devoted to the service of another.” The apostle emulates what we are called to do and to become as Christians. In serving God, we submit to a duty that stems from our baptism.

Numerous works of art beautifully reflect Mary's yes at the annunciation. Today, we hear of St. Joseph's yes. When an angel appears to Joseph in a dream, telling him not to be afraid “to take Mary your wife into your home,” Joseph responds with action. “When Joseph awoke,” the

Gospel tells us, “he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him and took his wife into his home.” As another account of the nativity, this is a wonderful story to share with children and teenagers. Becoming the foster father of Jesus was not something that was done to Joseph; he accepted his role with eyes of faith.

This week pray for stronger faith to continue to ponder the mystery that is God-among-us. The Lord is here, and he is yet to come. Salvation is promised, and it is near. Joyful expectation, indeed. The second “O” antiphon is prayed today, moving us closer to Christmas: “O sacred Lord . . . Come . . . to set us free.”

**St. John Baptist de La Salle**  
497 Athena Drive  
Delmont, PA 15626  
(724) 327-0647

**Saint Mary, Our Lady of Lourdes**  
5900 Kennedy Avenue  
Export, PA 15632  
(724) 327-0647

**Mother of Sorrows**  
4202 Old William Penn Highway  
Murrysville, PA 15668  
(724) 733-8870

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

Sunday Mass 9:00 AM

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

**Each a parish of the Diocese of Greensburg**

**+**

**Each a Pennsylvania Charitable Trust**

## Sunday, Dec 21, 2025

### Oh, what a beautiful morning!

Today we name the Messiah “O Radiant Dawn, Sun of Justice, Splendor of Eternal Light!” Anyone whose morning commute includes a sunrise or who has risen early to watch the sun come up knows why primitive peoples and even our oh-so-sophisticated selves find godliness in a sunrise. At the Easter Vigil we sang “May the Morning Star which never sets find this flame still burning!” While Christmas lights have been shining for weeks, today we can think of them explicitly as a reminder of God’s gift of Light to the waiting world. We remember poet Gerard Manley Hopkins’ wonderful “Oh!” at the sight of “God’s grandeur” and this great renewal: “Oh, morning, at the brown brink eastward, springs / Because the Holy Ghost over the bent / World broods with warm breast and with ah! bright wings.”

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (O RADIANT DAWN)

Isaiah 7:10-14; Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-24 (10). “*O Radiant Dawn, splendor of eternal light, sun of justice: come, shine on those who dwell in darkness.*”

## Monday, Dec 22, 2025

### A real superpower

Remember when we were kids and we used to play king of the hill? It was an important part of our social learning that the strongest among us would dominate. The same game is played out in world politics as nations rise and fall. The story of Christmas reminds us that Jesus is the world’s only real superpower, though the nations play their games of supremacy for a time. History reduces all empires to dust, but the reign of God endures forever. “Christ has dominion over all creatures,” says Doctor of the Church Saint Cyril of Alexandria, “a dominion not seized by violence nor usurped but His, by essence and by nature.” Pay homage to the King of All by humbly serving others as he would.

ADVENT WEEKDAY (O KING OF ALL NATIONS)

1 Samuel 1:24-28; Luke 1:46-56 (198). “*O King of all nations and keystone of the Church; come and save man, whom you formed from the dust!*”

## Tuesday, Dec 23, 2025

### Embrace the gift of love

We end our observance of the O Antiphons today with praise for Emmanuel, our savior. “God is not distant: he is ‘Emmanuel,’ God-with-us. He is no stranger: he has a face, the face of Jesus,” proclaims Pope Benedict XVI in his 2010 Christmas address. “This message is ever new, ever surprising, for it surpasses even our most daring hope.” The one who is to come satisfies all of our greatest longings. We need look no further. All our fretting and straining for answers comes to an end with the birth of Christ. Are we ready for such good news? Can we let go of all the things we often think will bring us happiness—money, recognition, power, beauty, health—and embrace the simple, searing gift of love?

ADVENT WEEKDAY (O EMMANUEL)

Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24; Luke 1:57-66 (199). “*O Emmanuel, our King and Giver of Law: come to save us, Lord our God!*”

## Wednesday, Dec 24, 2025

### Final preparations

It is no accident that scripture references the birth of John the Baptist on the day before we commemorate the birth of Jesus. John represents the culmination of Jewish prophetic hope for the Messiah, and his birth offers a fitting climax to the Advent season. John’s father, Zechariah, sings praises on the occasion of his son’s

birth. Zechariah’s song, or canticle, is recited daily during the morning prayer of the church’s Liturgy of the Hours. It serves as a lovely closing refrain to the Advent season, our time to prepare for the coming of the Lord. Have you made yourself ready to be guided by God’s compassion “into the way of peace”?

ADVENT WEEKDAY

Morning: 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Luke 1:67-79 (200).

“*You will go before the Lord to prepare his way.*”

## Thursday, Dec 25, 2025

### Live in the moment of Christmas

Today we celebrate the day God entered God’s own creation by becoming human. How can we authentically honor this day? One way is to notice and truly relish our own experience of being human. So often we hurry through the hours, heedless of the many sensations to be enjoyed. This Christmas may we wake up appreciating the delicious warmth of our beds, the sparkle of our decorations, the aroma of our holiday meals, the laughter of family and friends gathered, the words and music of Christmas liturgy, the taste of the Word made flesh, the glory of the child in the manger, the everlasting embrace of love. At the end of the day, we will know something of what Emily Dickinson meant when she wrote, “To live is so startling it leaves little time for anything else.”

SOLEMNITY OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD (CHRISTMAS)

Night: Isaiah 9:1-6; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-14 (14); Day: Isaiah 52:7-10; Hebrews 1:1-6; John 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14 (16). “*Today a Savior is born for us, Christ the Lord.*”

## Friday, Dec 26, 2025

### The power and the glory

Saint Stephen’s Day, commemorating the first Christian martyr, is celebrated the day after Christmas, serving as a reminder that just as the naked cross looms above the empty tomb, so also its shadow falls across the crib—Jesus’ and our own. It is into human experience that the Christ is born, an experience that knows death, violence, and cruelty but a humanity also capable of love so true as to lay down life for a friend. Stephen was “filled with grace and power.” It was a power we often forget we possess. It is the power of love, our greatest gift, that gives us the wisdom and strength to endure the worst that life can bring. How will you use your power in the coming year?

FEAST OF STEPHEN, FIRST MARTYR

Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Matthew 10:17-22 (696). “*Stephen, filled with grace and power, was working great wonders and signs among the people.*”

## Saturday, Dec 27, 2025

### Lend an ear

When we receive a piece of news, often our first impulse is to think “I can’t wait to tell ... !” We are social creatures, hardwired to live in community with other people, sharing our sorrows and our joys. Moreover, sharing has mathematical properties: It divides and multiplies. When we share bad news, our burden is lessened, and when we share good news, our happiness increases. Of course, the reverse is also true: When we don’t have someone with whom to share our stories, sorrows increase and joys are diminished. As Saint Teresa of Calcutta once observed, “Loneliness is the most terrible poverty.” Who do you know to be lonely? Take time to listen to their good news.

FEAST OF JOHN, APOSTLE, EVANGELIST

1 John 1:1-4; John 20:1a, 2-8 (697). “*We are writing this so that our joy may be complete.*”

*Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time*



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# STAFF DIRECTORY

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## MOTHER OF SORROWS

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

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### Office Hours

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

### Mother of Sorrows Outreach

724-594-5297 or [mos4outreach@gmail.com](mailto:mos4outreach@gmail.com)

## ST. JOHN AND ST. MARY

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### St. John Finance Council

David Alderson, David Bauersox, & Linda Livengood

### St. Mary Finance Council

Bill McHugh, Jerry Soles & Diana Tranchini

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### Office Hours

Monday through Thursday 9:00 AM-1:00 PM



**Mother of Sorrows Regional Catholic School**

**Darcie Gatti, Principal**

*dgatti@mosschool.org*

724-733-8840

TOPS scholarships available:

[www.catholicschoolsguide.org](http://www.catholicschoolsguide.org)





We commend to your prayers Adrienne Heinrich, who died recently. May God welcome her to the joys of Paradise and bring comfort and peace to her family.

### SERVICE PROJECT

All Faith Formation students are invited to participate in a service project on **Sunday, December 28** in the Social Hall after the 9:30 AM and 11:30 AM Masses.

### BAPTISM PREPARATION CLASS



If you are planning to have your baby baptized at MOS, St. John or St. Mary, join us for our upcoming Baptism Preparation Class on **Sunday, January 11** at 10:30 AM in the Ave Maria Room at Mother of Sorrows Parish.

### FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

The next Family Faith Formation sessions will take place **Sunday, January 11** at 4:30 PM or **Wednesday, January 14** at 6:30 PM.

### WEDDING WORKSHOP

All engaged couples planning a 2026 wedding are encouraged to attend this year's Wedding Workshop on **Saturday, January 10** from 10:00 AM to 12:30 PM in the Social Hall.

Information will be provided that is needed to plan a beautiful, sacramental wedding. Please RSVP to Brooke in the Parish Office at [btognarina@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:btognarina@dioceseofgreensburg.org) or 724-733-8870.

## MOS LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

### Saturday 12/20

12:00 NN		<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation at St. John</b>
4:30 PM	†	Steven Wakefield ( <i>Linda Wakefield</i> )

### Sunday 12/21 Fourth Sunday of Advent

7:30 AM		For the Parish 50th Anniversary Blessing for Dan & Sue Skena
9:30 AM	†	Trish Koval ( <i>Husband, Ray</i> )
11:30 AM	†	Joe Purdue ( <i>Mom, Dad, Nick &amp; Kate</i> )
6:00 PM	†	Jose & Fabiana Portacio ( <i>Nick &amp; Maria Grado</i> )

### Monday 12/22

8:00 AM	†	Charles & Laverne Taddonio ( <i>Lee &amp; Barbara Taddonio</i> )
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### Tuesday 12/23

8:00 AM	†	Marc Delissio ( <i>Family</i> )
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### Wednesday 12/24

4:00 PM		For the Parish
4:00 PM		For the Parish
6:00 PM		For the Parish

### Thursday 12/25 The Nativity of the Lord

12:00 MN		For the Parish
9:30 AM		For the Parish
11:30 AM		For the Parish

### Friday 12/26 Saint Stephen

8:00 AM	†	Leo Rihn ( <i>Gary &amp; Louise Corpora</i> )
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### Saturday 12/27 Saint John

9:00 AM		<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation</b>
4:30 PM	†	Anne-Marie Bliss ( <i>Glen, Maria &amp; Mia</i> )

### Sunday 12/28 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

7:30 AM	†	Ed Peduzzi ( <i>Nancy Murawski</i> )
9:30 AM		For the Parish <b>Sacrament of Baptism</b>
11:30 AM	†	Walter & Fr. Anthony Kliche ( <i>Joseph &amp; Christine Gurski</i> )
6:00 PM	†	Paul Mercurio ( <i>Mercurio Family</i> )

## OUR WEEKLY NUMBERS

### December 6 and 7

#### MOTHER OF SORROWS

Attendance 1,715  
Offertory \$49,369.61  
Outreach \$ 5,369.00



**Mother of Sorrows Outreach aid  
distributed in November 2025:  
\$17,065.17**

#### ST. JOHN

Attendance 328  
Offertory \$ 12,975.00



#### ST. MARY

Attendance 214  
Offertory \$ 12,378.70



### END OF YEAR GIVING

Many people enjoy using Christmas and the year's end as a special time to give to the church and also positively impact their federal and state income taxes. Christmas and year-end giving provide many advantages to the donor:

- All gifts made are tax deductible.
- This is a final opportunity to make that special gift or increased gift that you've wanted to make all during the year.
- A gift to the church celebrates the joy of Christmas by giving in the spirit of the season.
- Your gift will assist in advancing the mission of the Church.
- Most importantly, your gift provides the opportunity to make a return to God for His blessings at Christmas.

We are all given just a few short years on earth. Sharing your blessings through a generous gift at Christmas will make this world just a little better because you made a difference. Remember that God is never outdone in His generosity.

## EXCITING NEWS - STAY TUNED!

Plans are currently underway to replace the carpeting at MOS in the church and narthex early next year. We will also be replacing the sanctuary floor as many of the tiles are broken. The good news is that we have funds for these projects from our DLA rebate from the Diocese! Thank you for your generous support.

The challenging news is that we will once again be celebrating our parish Masses at St. Mary and St. John churches as we did during the installation of the new lights this past fall. More details of the project will be shared as the New Year dawns. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

## A PEEK AT THE WEEK...

### Sunday

December 21

8:30 AM	MOS	Faith Formation for those with special needs, Ave Maria Room
4:30 PM	MOS	Becoming Catholic, Ave Maria Room

### Saturday

December 27

7:00 AM	SM	Catholic Men's Fellowship, St. Mary Social Hall
9:00 AM	MOS	Men's Renewal Group, Ave Maria Room

### Sunday

December 21

8:30 AM	MOS	Faith Formation for those with special needs, Ave Maria Room
10:00 AM	SJ	Christmas Cookie Pick-up, St. John Social Hall
10:30 AM	MOS	Service Project, Social Hall
12:30 PM	MOS	Service Project, Social Hall

## SECOND COLLECTION ON CHRISTMAS

Poverty never takes a holiday. Somewhere there is a child at risk, a breadwinner out of a job, an elderly person who needs a helping hand. That's why Catholic Charities has so many programs to help people of any race, faith or age get back on their feet.

You don't have to be Catholic to receive our help, or to help others. Your help is needed. Please consider a generous gift to the Children and Family Services Appeal on Christmas.

## FAITH FORMATION

Faith Formation will return on Sunday, January 4. Have a blessed and safe Christmas and New Year!

## DECORATORS NEEDED

Come decorate for the King! Let's fill our church with light, warmth and wonder as we prepare to welcome Christ this Christmas. Decorating at St. John will take place **Tuesday, December 23** after the 8:30 AM Mass.

## LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH CHILDREN



The next Liturgy of the Word with Children will take place

Sunday, **December 28, January 11 and January 25** during the 9:00 AM Mass at St. Mary.

## FUNERAL MINISTERS NEEDED

Are you retired, or a stay-at-home parent with free time and looking for a meaningful way to fill your time, just once in a while?

Consider becoming a Funeral Minister. St. John and St. Mary are in need of sacristans, greeters, lectors and altar servers to help at parish funerals. Training will be provided. If you are interested in joining this fulfilling ministry, please call the Parish Office at 724-327-0647.



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](http://www.stjohnstmary.net)

## ST. JOHN AND ST. MARY LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

### Saturday 12/20

12:00 NN SJ **Sacrament of Reconciliation**  
4:00 PM SJ † Joseph Tomkovicz  
(*Jean Tomkovicz & Family*)

### Sunday 12/21 Fourth Sunday of Advent

9:00 AM SM † Carl & Geni Casale & Mary Gregory  
(*Family*)  
11:00 AM SJ For the Parish

### Monday 12/22

8:30 AM SM Special Intention  
(*Alice Tranchini & Family*)

### Tuesday 12/23

8:30 AM SJ † Fred Dipre  
(*Jacob and Courtney Gindhart*)  
12:00 NN SM Eucharistic Adoration  
5:00 PM SM **Sacrament of Reconciliation**  
6:00 PM SM Benediction and Reposition

### Wednesday 12/24

4:00 PM SJ For the Parish

### Thursday 12/25 The Nativity of the Lord

12:00 MN SM For the Parish  
9:00 AM SM For the Parish  
11:00 AM SJ For the Parish

### Friday 12/26 Saint Stephen

8:30 AM SM † Betty Walters (*Margaret Gebrosky*)

### Saturday 12/27 Saint John

12:00 NN SJ **Sacrament of Reconciliation**  
4:00 PM SJ † Robert Staub Jr. (*Fr. Dave Slusarick*)

### Sunday 12/28 The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

9:00 AM SM For the Parish  
11:00 AM SJ † Helen Opsitnick (*Denise Lotinsky*)



## Where is GOD calling *YOU*?

### Mother of Sorrows:

- Sunday, January 4<sup>th</sup> following 7:30, 9:30 and 11:30 am Masses
- Social Hall during Donut Sunday

### St. John:

- Saturday and Sunday, January 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>, following 4:30 pm and 11 am Mass
- Parish Hall

### St. Mary:

- Sunday, January 25<sup>th</sup>, following 9 am Mass
- Parish Hall during Donut Sunday

Event hosted by Pastoral Council

**MANY HANDS MAKE  
THE WORKLOAD LIGHT**

## FORMED

Our parishes are now subscribed to FORMED, a Catholic Streaming Platform, and now so can you!

Go to [formed.org/individuals](https://formed.org/individuals) and simply enter your email address, search for "Mother of Sorrows," and you will have access to countless hours of movies, documentaries, Bible studies, devotionals, children's TV shows and more. Think Disney+ or Netflix, but totally Catholic!

### **This week on FORMED:**

*The Story of Christmas* | *Benjamin Cello* Christmas Special  
In this special hour-long television event, Benjamin Cello and his friends travel to Pennywhistle Park for a spectacular shadow puppet retelling of "The Story of Christmas" by Brother Joseph and "The Shadow of His Wings" puppet theater.



## FAITH FORMATION AT ST. MARY

On December 7, St. Nick made a special trip to the children at Faith Formation at St. Mary.



### FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

This weekend usually is one of the busiest travel times of the year. Airports, bus terminals, train stations, and, of course, highways will be filled with people laden down with gifts, all trying to make it home for the holidays.

Home with their loved ones is where people want to be, if at all possible. And so they are willing to withstand all sorts of incredible trials and tribulations to get to where they want to go. If some snow is added to the mix, it is guaranteed to snarl everything up. But year after year people do it.

Scripture tells us nothing of Mary's journey to her cousin Elizabeth's home. We are given only vague details telling us that it is somewhere in the hill country and that Mary hurries there because of Elizabeth's pregnancy. It probably was a grueling trip for her to make.

But Mary does it willingly to be where she is needed, with her aged relative who is pregnant. And when her own pregnancy nears completion, Mary will take another difficult journey, this time to Bethlehem to fulfill the words of the prophets.

Mary brings to Elizabeth the presence of the Christ, God's Anointed One. And it has a dramatic effect on Elizabeth and on the baby John in her womb. Neither would ever be the same again.

With Christmas only a day away, we are challenged to bring that very same presence to all whom we meet. Mary has become the embodiment of what we are called to be and to do as Christians in our daily lives. May we follow Mary's example, and bring the presence of Christ to others in all we say and do.

### THE COMPANIONS OF CHRIST

In the days following Christmas, the Church's liturgy celebrates the *Companions of Christ*. These feasts have long been associated with the incarnation because they celebrate the saints of the New Testament. Stephen (December 26) died as a perfect image of the Lord and so bore witness to the Son of Man, raised up in the glory of God. John (December 27), the beloved disciple, went to the tomb. He saw and believed, seeing in faith what the eye cannot grasp. Even before they were able to speak, the children of Bethlehem (December 28) were called to join Christ in the mystery of love that is victorious even in suffering and death.

Simeon recognized the Messiah and sang in praise of the Light that his eyes had seen, even though they were already half-closed with age. Anna rejoiced that "her hope had been fulfilled." During this season of Christmas, we are all called to live as companions of Christ. May we be faithful companions of Christ in this life, that we may share the life of the saints in the world to come!



### HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

The Parish Offices will be closing at noon on **Tuesday, December 23** and will be **closed December 24 through December 28**.

The Parish Offices will reopen on **Monday, December 29**.

## BLESSING PRAYER FOR CHRISTMASTIDE MEALS

God of great gentleness, in love you give us this  
Christmas feast to be our joy and delight.

Hold us close to each other. Unite us in spirit  
with those who have died and with those who are  
distant. Gather all your children in Bethlehem  
where we will join with Mary and Joseph, with the  
angels, with the cattle and the sheep and with all the stars of  
heaven in singing your praise:  
*Glory to God in the highest  
and peace to God's people on earth.*  
Amen.



## CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

<b>December 24</b>	Vigil of Christmas	4:00 PM (Church) & 4:00 PM (Hall) - MOS
	Vigil of Christmas	4:00 PM - St. John, Delmont
	Vigil of Christmas	6:00 PM - Mother of Sorrows
<b>December 25</b>	Mass at Night	12:00 MN - Mother of Sorrows
	Mass at Night	12:00 MN - St. Mary, Export
	Mass at Dawn	9:00 AM - St. Mary, Export
	Mass at Dawn	9:30 AM - Mother of Sorrows
	Christmas Mass	10:00 AM - St. John, Delmont
	Christmas Mass	11:30 AM - Mother of Sorrows



The 2026 March for Life in Washington D.C. will take place on **Friday, January 23, 2026**. The bus will leave Mother of Sorrows Parish at 5:30 AM. The trip will include Mass at the National Basilica in the Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapel at 10:30 AM celebrated by Bishop Larry Kulick. A quick stop will be made on the

way to Washington D.C. and a stop will be made on the way home for dinner at the Valley Mall in Hagerstown, MD. The bus should arrive back to MOS around 11:00 PM.

Register soon, as the bus fills up quickly! Email Barb Koury at [barbkoury@gmail.com](mailto:barbkoury@gmail.com) with your name and a your cell phone number. The cost is \$35 for adults and \$25 for students and is payable on the bus or in the Parish Office.



### BOOMERS AND BEYOND

Join us on **Tuesday, January 13** at 11:30 AM in the Mother of Sorrows Parish Social Hall for a presentation on "What is a Therapy Dog?" presented by Jan and Frank Mallak and featuring LiLi.

Come and learn what Therapy Dogs do and how they differ from other "working dogs." Jan and Frank Mallak are approved Alliance of Therapy Dog Handlers and dog owners for over 50 years. Meet LiLi of the Laurel Highlands - Certified ATD/AKC Therapy Dog and AKC Trick Dog. Hear about how LiLi has been bringing comfort and joy to humans for almost 10 years.

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 AM and are encouraged to bring a 'brown bag' lunch and a friend. Presentations follow from 12:00 - 1:00 PM.



All women of MOS, St. John and St. Mary Parishes are invited to the annual Women's Retreat **January 16 to 18, 2026** at St. Paul of the Cross Retreat Center in Pittsburgh.

This year's theme is Pray Always/ Pray All Ways. This Women's Retreat provides a wonderful opportunity to step away from your busy life and spend a weekend focused on God.

The Retreat begins with a Friday evening Mass and ends Sunday at noon. Activities include daily Mass, speakers, and workshops or you may choose to spend solitary time in prayer and reflection. You will have the opportunity for Reconciliation, Adoration and fellowship.

To register, call 412-381-7676 or visit our website at [motherofsorrowschurch.org](http://motherofsorrowschurch.org) and click on the image of the ad under the 'Upcoming Events' section.

## MOS OUTREACH

### WINTER CLOTHING DRIVE

The Catholic Men's Fellowship of Western PA is organizing a winter clothing collection for homeless men. Items needed include men's jeans, hoodies, boots, winter coats, wool caps, socks and gloves. Donations will benefit homeless men served at the Red Door at St. Mary of Mercy Catholic Church in Pittsburgh. Please place the men's clothing in the deck boxes outside the Social Hall **until December 22.**

### PEN PAL MINISTRY

Do you enjoy writing letters? Would you like to make a difference in someone's life? The MOS Pen Pal ministry is in need of 8 individuals or families to send a monthly note or card to a local nursing home resident. For more information, contact Raissa at [rsvpfederline@gmail.com](mailto:rsvpfederline@gmail.com) or 412-953-8206.

## MINISTRY OF CARE

What is the Ministry of Care? It is a group of people who have been trained and commissioned to visit with, pray with and bring the Eucharist to those in our parish who are sick and unable to attend Mass; those who are homebound, in the hospital or in a nursing home.

We have several Ministers of Care available to bring Holy Communion to the homebound. For more information, please contact Brooke at [btognarina@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:btognarina@dioceseofgreensburg.org) or 724-733-8870. Some other opportunities to minister include joining the Nursing Home Ministry or visiting parishioners for a social visit.

Mother of Sorrows Family Fellowship Presents

# COUPLES NIGHT OUT

If you had fun at last year's  
"Not So Newlywed Game Night," then you  
won't want to miss

## MINUTE-TO-WIN-IT GAME NIGHT

\$30/couple  
Childcare limited,  
Register today!

**Mother of Sorrows  
Social Hall  
Saturday, February 7th  
5:30 PM**



Scan the QR code to register and for more information  
Questions? email Erin Patterson: [erinaepatterson@gmail.com](mailto:erinaepatterson@gmail.com)



### Blood Drive Murrysville Community Mother of Sorrows Church

Church Hall  
4202 Old William Penn Highway  
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**Tuesday, December 30<sup>th</sup>  
11:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

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- Monday - Team Building @ St.Emmas
- Tuesday - Catholic Kennywood day (returning around 8:30 pm)
- Wednesday - Celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the Diocese of Greensburg with a trip to the Cathedral
- Thursday - Kayaking and Service Project Day
- Friday - Mega Party and Closing Mass

**REGISTER NOW**

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\$200/Camper

## HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY

Last Sunday, High School Youth Ministry celebrated the coming of Christmas in the Social Hall, festively decorated with twinkle lights, garland and a roaring fire in the fireplace! The students began on a serious note by sharing how their Advent commitments to prayer, discipline and service were progressing. The fun that followed featured a gingerbread house decorating competition, a jumbo marshmallow snowball fight and a crazy gift exchange. The evening concluded with prayer intentions for the new year.

All High School Youth are invited to join us on **Sunday, January 11** in the MOSS gym from 7:00 to 9:00 PM for the New Year kick-off. There will be Moe's, nine-square-in-the-air, good music and get-to-know-you bingo. Bring a friend or two!

## LOST AND FOUND

Have you left a coat behind? Misplaced your child's toy or blanket? Please check in the MOS vestibule Lost and Found box or call the MOS Parish Office at 724-733-8870.



Mother of Sorrows has a parish-wide subscription to Catholic Brain, an online Catechetical resource for children (K-8). Information about how to sign-up and use this resource is available at [motherofsorrowschurch.org/religious-education](http://motherofsorrowschurch.org/religious-education).



### STEWARDSHIP NOTES

*“When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home.”*

*Matthew 1:24*

Putting our complete trust in the Lord without expecting anything in return. Striving to put God first in all things and follow Him wherever He may lead us. Joseph was a model of these pillars of our faith. As we prepare for the birth of our Lord, pray for the strength and courage to be a model of discipleship, just as Joseph was.



## MOTHER OF SORROWS CATHOLIC SCHOOL



These beautiful nativity scenes were handmade by fifth graders for MOSS's annual Light-up Night. They used many creative materials to represent the Holy Family and the manger.



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