



**St. Mary Parish**  
312 Clark Street  
Hollidaysburg, PA 16648

**Parish Email:**  
stmaryhburg@dioceseaj.org

**Director of Music:**  
Ms. Anna Podoletz

**Facility Managers:**  
Greg & Shari Figurelli

**St. Mary Cemetery:**  
814-695-0622  
newstmarycemeteryhburg@gmail.com

**St. Mary & St. Michael Parishes**  
*One Body in Christ*

**Pastor**  
Very Reverend Alan E. Thomas, VG  
814-695-0912  
athomas@dioceseaj.org

**Deacon Charles R. Ahern**  
cahern@dioceseaj.org

**Deacon Allan F. Duman**  
aduman@dioceseaj.org

**Fourth Sunday of Lent**  
**March 15, 2026**

**Mass Schedule**

**Saturday:**  
Vigil - 4:00 PM - St. Mary

**Sunday:**  
7:30 AM and 10:00 AM - St. Mary  
10:00 AM and 11:30 AM - St. Michael

Daily and Holy Days: See inside

**Confessions:**  
Saturday: 1:00 PM - St. Michael  
Wednesday: 5:30 PM - St. Mary  
Thursday before the First Friday of the month: 4:00 PM - St. Mary

**Bulletin Publisher:** George Mollish gmollish@volunteerdaj.org  
**Parish Administrative Assistant:** Melissa Ringkamp mringkamp@dioceseaj.org  
**Parish Business Manager:** Lisa Julian LJulian@dioceseaj.org  
**Bereavement Facilitator:** Debbi Chapman 912-713-5412  
**Director of Faith Formation:** Sue Teske 814-695-0912 or 814-934-2180

**Christian Initiation (OCIA):**  
Interested in becoming a member of the Catholic faith?  
Contact Deacon Allan F. Duman aduman@dioceseaj.org

**Joint Parish Website:** www.stmichael-hldg-pa.org  
**Joint Facebook page:** www.facebook.com/StMaryandStMichael

814- 695-0912  
Mon. to Fri. 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM (St. Michael)  
Closed Holy Days and Holidays

**Marriage & Baptism:**  
Call the church office to schedule an appointment.  
A notice of 9 months is required for marriage  
and a notice of **at least 1 month** is required for Baptism.



**St. Michael the Archangel Parish**  
301 Spruce Street  
Hollidaysburg, PA 16648

**Parish Email:**  
stmichaelhburg@dioceseaj.org

**Music Coordinator:**  
Lisa Surkovich - Contemporary Choir  
Sandy Harteis - Traditional Choir

**Building Supervisors:**  
J. Terry Wilt & Mel Link

**Facility Manager:**  
Tyke Dodson

**Greenlawn Cemetery:**  
greenlawncemeteryhburg@gmail.com

**St. Michael**




VIRTUAL TOUR

**St. Mary**



VIRTUAL TOUR

**“I came into this world for judgment,  
so that those who do not see might see,  
and those who do see might become blind.”**

MASS INTENTIONS FOR ST. MARY AND ST. MICHAEL PARISHES Saturday, Mar. 14th. to Sunday, Mar. 22nd.			
DAY	TIME	PARISH	INTENTION
SAT	4:00 PM	St. Mary	✠ Bishop Mark Bartchak
SUN	7:30 AM	St. Mary	✠ Joseph Boley
	10:00 AM	St. Mary	✠ Natalia Ubac
 <b>Little Lamb's Ministry St. Michael Church 10:00 AM Mass</b>			
SUN	10:00 AM	St. Michael	✠ John Waibel and Susan Waibel
	11:30 AM	St. Michael	People of the Parish
MON	7:45 AM	St. Michael	✠ G. William Ward
TUES	7:45 AM	St. Michael	✠ Jan Kinney
WED	6:30 PM	St. Mary	✠ Raymond Treon
THUR	7:45 AM	St. Michael	✠ Nathan J. Stehle (birthday remembrance)
FRI	7:45 AM	St. Mary	✠ Robert J. Allen
SAT	4:00 PM	St. Mary	✠ Janella Corl
SUN	7:30 AM	St. Mary	✠ Arthur Benton, Sadie Benton & Philip Benton
	10:00 AM	St. Mary	✠ Dorothy Stephens
SUN	10:00 AM	St. Michael	✠ Kathleen Schmittle
	11:30 AM	St. Michael	People of the Parish

**Catholic Ministries Drive**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Like many young boys, Liam Clyma enjoyed playing with LEGOs or building blocks. He also enjoyed imitating his parish priest. Liam's grandfather supported his interest by carving a wooden chalice and paten as a gift for Liam. It made Liam's family notice the early signs of a potential vocation to the priesthood. In recent years, some of Liam's fellow parishioners at Saint Mark Parish in Altoona recognized Liam's devotion to the Lord and they encouraged him to consider the priesthood as his calling. They were not surprised when Liam officially became a seminarian for the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown last fall. Now they are praying for him every day as Liam continues his first year of college seminary at the Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio. Liam has been SENT there to learn what it means to be SENT TO SERVE.

My first memory of a vocation to the priesthood came during Mass when I was an altar server. I was in 3rd grade. The Sisters of St. Joseph who trained us to serve, also reminded us to pay attention to what the priest was doing at the altar.

As Liam is embracing and discerning a call to the priesthood, I am pleased to share with you that other young men are in various stages of discerning a call to the priesthood. And there are a number of men in formation or discernment of a vocation to the diaconate. In order to support Liam and other young men and women who are called to serve the Church, I need your help. Every one of us is called to build up the Church by using the gifts that God has generously given to us.

Together, we are on a mission. Together, we are called. Together, as members of the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown, we are SENT TO SERVE. I humbly ask you to be generous in your gift to the 2026 Catholic Ministries Drive. It supports many vital ministries in the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown that strengthen parishes, families, and individual persons who need our support as they discern how and when they will be SENT TO SERVE.

Liam still has the chalice and paten his grandfather made years ago, and he does not regret playing Mass instead of playing with blocks. He was building something greater back then, and he is doing so today. Please join me in building the future of our Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown. There is much more going on in our diocese. Thank you for your generous help in responding to God's call to serve. With prayers and best wishes, I am

Sincerely in Christ,

  
 + Most Rev. Mark L. Bartchak  
 Bishop of Altoona-Johnstown

LITTLE LAMB'S LITURGY WINTER/SPRING SCHEDULE LEARN, GROW, SHARE IN THE LOVE OF GOD	
Date	Theme
Mar. 15th	Moses and the 10 Commandments
Mar. 29th	Palm Sunday!
Apr. 12th	David and Goliath: Wearing the Armor of God
Apr. 26th	Daniel and the Lion's Den
May 10th	Honoring Our Mother Mary
May 24th	Learning About Our Baptism
Sept. 13th	Fall Schedule Starts
<b>Contact: Andrea Wilk at andrewilk12@gmail.com 412-480-0940</b>	

**Support The Advertisers  
That Support Our Bulletin!**

**PLEASE NOTE - SCHEDULE CHANGE**

**Wed., March 25 - daily mass** at St. Mary will be **7:45 AM** - there will be **NO** evening mass on March 25. There will be **NO** confession at St. Mary on March 25.

Confessions will be heard at The Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament Penance Service Wed., March 25th, 6:00 PM.

**Please continue to pray for the Candidates and Catechumens in our OCIA Program as they prepare for full initiation into the Church:**

**Candidates:**  
Emily Glatt  
Sherri Kenny  
Aden Leonard  
Stacy Weyant

**Catechumens:**  
Joel DelBiondo  
John Evans  
Brandi Weikel



**Blessing of Easter Baskets**  
**Saturday, April 4th**  
**Noon in St. Mary Church**

Families are invited to bring a basket of food that will be shared and eaten among your family and friends on Easter to St. Mary church on April 4th at Noon for a blessing. The types of food found in the baskets vary according to the custom of what is served at the family Easter Meal. No matter what culture, everyone is invited to bring a basket of food to be blessed.



Stewardship of Time and Talent - Liturgical Appointment Schedule

	READER * 3 Needed	EMHC * 3 or 4 Needed	ALTAR SERVER 2 Needed	HOSPITALITY 3 needed	SACRISTAN 1 Needed	AUDIO/VIDEO 3 Needed
<b>Saturday, March 14th</b>						
St. Mary 4:00 PM	Debbie Sault (1) JoAnn Propcheck (2) Deacon Allan Duman (3)	Lawrence Savino (H) Deacon Allan Duman (C) Michael Mollish (C) Lisa Michelone (Choir)	Grace Muriceak	NOT FILLED NOT FILLED NOT FILLED	Michael Mollish	
<b>Sunday, March 15th</b>						
St. Mary 7:30 AM	Craig Mauk (1) Claudia Montero (2) Deacon Allan Duman (3)	Kay Benton (H) Deacon Allan Duman (C) Jeff Boley (C) Jodie Feath (Choir)	Travis Mauk	Ray Gregorchik Susan Henry Jim Zimmerman	Connie Curfman	
St. Mary 10:00 AM	David Madden (1) Beverly Buterbaugh (2) Deacon Chuck Ahearn (3)	James Popp (H) Deacon Chuck Ahearn (C) NOT FILLED (C) Sharon King (Choir)	Shealyn Riley	Kevin Corl Rodney Feather Diane Madden	NOT FILLED	
St. Michael 10:00 AM	Mass1 Children (1) Mass2 Children (2) Dave Lanzel (3)	Mary Jo Lanzel (Main) Brianna Iachini (C) Mark Krepich (C) Alicia Lombardo-Jordan (choir)	Carter Jordan	Mass1 Children Gregory Olsavick	Marty Culp	Barry Craig Leigh Ann Craig
St. Michael 11:30 AM	Jeff Johnson (1) Carole Swope (2) Kimberly Merritts (3)	Ginny Harrington (Main) Kimberly Merritts (C) NOT FILLED (C) Bill Farnan (Choirloft)	Terry Wilt	Susan Wells NOT FILLED	Andy Weyant	NOT FILLED NOT FILLED
St. Michael Weekday Sacristan (March 15th - March 21st): Ramona Shrift						

\*The Deacon will be the ordinary minister of communion and read the Universal prayers, if he is present.

Stewardship of Time and Talent - Liturgical Appointment Schedule

	READER * 3 Needed	EMHC * 3 or 4 Needed	ALTAR SERVER 2 Needed	HOSPITALITY 3 needed	SACRISTAN 1 Needed	AUDIO/VIDEO 3 Needed
<b>Saturday, March 21st</b>						
St. Mary 4:00 PM	Carol Hallberg (1) Bruno Felus (2) Joseph Hurd (3)	Deborah Hipp (H) Richard Books (C) Paula Kustenbauder (C) NOT FILLED (Choir)	Michael Mollish	Shirley Books Meagan James Rick Pulcino	NOT FILLED	
<b>Sunday, March 22nd</b>						
St. Mary 7:30 AM	John McKeegan (1) Ramona Shrift (2) Jeff Muriceak (3)	Shawn Sullivan (H) Bob Anthony (C) Kathy Balconi (C) Michael Fiore (Choir)	NOT FILLED	Tim Balconi Dave Shrift NOT FILLED	Vinnie Pietrolungo	
St. Mary 10:00 AM	JoAnn Propcheck (1) Mike Metzgar (2) Deacon Chuck Ahearn (3)	David Madden (H) Deacon Chuck Ahearn (C) John McIntyre (C) Sharon King (Choir)	Gabe Bueno	Matt Clapper Beth Clapper Kathy Moran	NOT FILLED	
St. Michael 10:00 AM	Annette Lewis (1) Paul Dennis (2) Anna McClain (3)	Greg Sweeney (Main) Marty Culp (C) Marcia Riley (C) Brian Sweeney (Choirloft)	Liam Wilk	Mary Jo Lanzel Roy Leister	Cate Burger-Leister	Emilee Elder Leigh Ann Craig
St. Michael 11:30 AM	Kimberly Merritts (1) Lisa Georgiana (2) Jeff Johnson (3)	Lisa Georgiana (Main) Ginny Harrington (C) Talena Swander (C) NOT FILLED (Choirloft)	Dean Pochak	Susan Wells NOT FILLED	Mel & Patty Link	NOT FILLED Greyson Swander
St. Michael Weekday Sacristan (March 22nd - March 28th): Ginny Harrington						

**Bereavement Support**  
Regular gatherings are held in the St. Michael Convent twice monthly:  
2nd Wed. 9:30 to 11:00 AM  
4th Tuesday 6:30 to 8:00 PM  
Next meeting - March 24th

Our gatherings are Christian based. All denominations are welcome! For more information call/text  
Debbi Chapman:  
912-713-5412

**The Legion of Mary** meets at 1:00 PM on Wednesdays in the Library of the Adoration Chapel at St. Mary. The Legion of Mary is a world-wide Catholic organization glorifying God through Mary. You are welcome to come see if the Legion of Mary is for you. We welcome active and auxiliary members.

Please call Ginny for information 814-935-1820.



**4th Tuesday of the Month**  
1:30-3:30 PM in St. Michael's Church cafeteria  
Next meeting - Mar. 24  
Questions - call Emilee:  
814-215-2869

**Prayer Shawl Ministry**  
Meets on the second and fourth Monday of each month at 5:00 PM and the second and fourth Wed. of each month at 11:30 AM in the St. Michael Convent.

**Next meeting Mar. 23rd**  
If you or someone you know would benefit from the gift of a shawl or if you want more info about the group, please contact:  
Kathy 814-312-7048

**Women's Club Meetings**  
are the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 2:00 PM. All meetings are at Diane Madden's home,  
504 Hickory St., Hollidaysburg.  
814-502-8052  
Next meeting Tuesday, Mar. 24th

**CATHOLIC COMPASS**  
Guiding Youth Through Life's Journey

Come hear inspiring speakers share about our Catholic faith, then enjoy activities that will bring laughter, connection, and community. We look forward to walking this journey of faith together!

Grades 6-12  
Maria Parish Center  
St. Rose of Lima Church  
April 19th, May 17th, June 14th, and July 19th  
4-6 pm

For more information, please visit  
Catholic Compass

**Lenten Service Project**  
Saint Mary & Saint Michael Faith Formation Classes are collecting supplies for Easter Buckets to be distributed at the St. Vincent DePaul Food Pantry.

**HAPPY EASTER**

Donations are being collected at both Churches. Children are allowed to bring up candy as part of the Offertory Procession during the 10:00 AM. Mass.

**Collection Dates:**  
March 14-15 & 21-22

**Knights of Columbus**

For tickets see any Knight or call:  
Matt Gromiller 1-202-450-1961 or Bob Huzenstab Jr 1-814-935-4562

**Saturday April 11, 2026**  
East Freedom Fire Hall  
139 Municipal Street  
East Freedom, PA 16637

Doors open at 5:30 PM  
Small Games/Basket Raffles start at 5:30 PM  
Dinner at 6:00 PM

Last Ticket Pulled Wins \$600!!

**\$50 Per Ticket**

Includes 2 Dinners, Beverages and 1 Entry in the Drawing  
MUST BE 21 OR OLDER TO ATTEND

**This Sunday**

**Pork & Sauerkraut Dinner**  
Also featuring: Hot Dogs, Kielbasa, Mashed Potatoes, Applesauce & Roll  
Sunday, March 15, 2026  
Time: 12:00 PM  
Eat In or Take Out Meals are \$15 per person  
Children 12 & under are \$5 per child

St. Catherine of Siena Church  
308 Old Rte. 22  
Duncansville, PA 16635  
814-696-4126  
www.DuncansvilleCatholic.org

**Stations of the Cross**  
At St. Mary and St. Michael

Each Friday of Lent, we follow Jesus in his final footsteps by praying the Stations of the Cross.

St. Mary at 12:00 - Noon  
St. Michael at 6:30 PM

MINISTRY 2 PARENTS INVITES YOU TO...

**FAITH & FAMILY NIGHT**

LOCATION: ACTIVITY BUILDING @ ST. MICHAELS

Sun., Mar. 22nd 5 to 7 PM

Come enjoy fellowship and family time with other parents and their children in the surrounding parishes! Just bring drinks, dessert, or a side dish to share and we will supply the pizza as well as fun, family friendly activities. Families with children of all ages invited!

FOR MORE INFO OR RSVP CONTACT:  
Andrea Wilk @ 612-480-0960 or andrewilk12@gmail.com

**WAY OF THE CROSS**  
FOR LOVED ONES  
WHO HAVE LEFT THE FAITH  
On Friday, March 20th at 6:30 PM  
St. Michael Church.  
FR. JEFFREY KIRBY, STD

**Soda Club Social Dance**

Taking a Brief Hiatus

Watch for Future Announcements in Bulletin

Questions?  
Call Stacy Pollock  
202-486-0129

**Remember To Pray**  
for the protection & safety of all serving in the Armed Forces.

**Pray the Rosary Every Thursday**  
6:00 PM at St. Michael Church

**PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY**

11 Days: November 9-19, 2026

Hosted by FR. JEREMY MOHLER & ST. CATHERINE'S PARISH, DUNCANSVILLE

\$4399 FROM NEWARK  
(Airfare, meals, and other expenses are extra)

VENICE \* FLORENCE \* ASSISI \* ROME

For a Detailed Color Brochure  
Call: 814-696-4126

**Christian Outreach WEEKLY COLLECTIONS**

To Support the Hollidaysburg American Rescue Workers Next Week's Requested Donations:

**Flour**  
**Powdered Milk**  
**Shelf-stable Milk**

Collection bins are at the church entrances

We are deeply thankful to our volunteers, donors, and prayer supporters whose generosity and dedication bring comfort, dignity, and hope to those in need.

Saint John the Baptist Catholic Church Presents

Vatican International Exhibition  
**EUCCHARISTIC MIRACLES OF THE WORLD**

By Saint Carlo Acutis

Friday, April 10 - Sunday, April 12  
at New Germany Grove Hall

Friday, April 10 2:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
Saturday, April 11 11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.  
Sunday, April 12 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

stjc@comcast.net www.stjc.org 814-495-5242  
New Germany Grove Hall | 1635 New Germany Road | Summerhill, PA 15958

**The Gabriel Project**

This is a Catholic Pro-Life Ministry dedicated to helping moms and babies in the Altoona area with supplies of diapers, wipes, and other baby items, as needed.

The current needs are:  
★ Summer Clothes Size 0-3 Months to 4T  
★ Boy & Girl Diapers Size 4 & 5  
★ Strollers need not be new  
★ Yard Sale finds okay  
★ Pack & Plays

Donations to purchase these larger items are appreciated.

Any mom needing assistance should call 814-440-1021.

**St. Rose of Lima** is sponsoring a **Holy Thursday Pilgrimage to Seven Churches**, a traditional Holy Thursday devotion credited to St. Philip Neri in 1553. Each church corresponds to the seven "stops or stations of the Way of the Cross" that were made by Jesus on his way to Calvary. These Holy Thursday visitations are an excellent grace filled way to end Lent and enter into the Triduum. We will visit: St. Catherine of Siena, the Adoration Chapel at St. Mary, St. John - Lakemont, Sacred Heart, The Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, Our Lady of Mount Carmel, and St. Rose of Lima. The bus will depart from St. Rose at 7:45 PM and is at no charge. Please call St. Rose of Lima to sign up: 814-944-8509 Thank you.

**The Legion Of Mary** Will meet at St. Michael Church on Sun., March 22nd at 2:00 PM



for Aciés - an annual Legion of Mary function for members to renew their consecration to Mary. All are invited! Call Ginny for information 814-935-1820

**St. Clement Church** is hosting a Centering Prayer presentation, prayer session and Q&A follow-up on Sat., March 21st from 2:00 - 3:00 PM in the Church first floor classroom. Centering Prayer was designed to facilitate the development of contemplative prayer by preparing our faculties to receive this gift. It presents ancient Christian wisdom teachings in an updated form. If you would like to learn more about the Centering Prayer method or, if you already practice Centering Prayer, we invite you to participate. All are welcome. Please register by calling the parish office (814-255-4422). All are welcome to attend Mass at 4:00PM after the session.

**FREE SOUP SATURDAY**  
11:00 AM to 1:00 PM  
March 21st  
Hollidaysburg Church of the Brethren  
Penn & Hawthorne Streets  
All meals will include hot soup, bread, butter, beverage & dessert.  
Donations Accepted.

**CRS Rice Bowl** is the Lenten program of Catholic Relief Services, the official international humanitarian agency of the Catholic community in the United States. Cardboard Rice Bowls, for our Lenten almsgiving, are available at church entrances.

THE 61<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL  
**NOVENA IN HONOR OF THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS**

**MONDAY, March 16 to TUESDAY, March 24, 2026**

Sacred Heart Church  
6th Avenue and 20th Street  
Altoona, PA

Opening Mass on Monday, March 16, at 7:00 p.m.  
Bishop Mark L. Barchak, Celebrant and Homilist

A complete schedule will be available on the first night of the Novena.

Catholic speaker, singer, songwriter and recording artist, Paul Koleske, will offer a parish mission, 'IGNITING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST WITHIN YOU' March 22, 23 and 24 at 4 PM each day at St. John the Evangelist Church, Lakemont. He will give inspirational direction to experience an increased presence of the Holy Spirit in your life! This mission will empower you to live a more successful spiritual life! For additional information on Paul's ministry visit: [www.paulkoleske.com](http://www.paulkoleske.com). Contact St. John's parish office at 814-942-5503 with questions. This Mission is free and all are invited to attend. Please join us!

**This Weekend**

**REVEAL YOUR LOVE**

SUPPORT THE CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES COLLECTION

**March 15th**

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops  
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**Remember The Deceased Of Your Family.**

Memorials now being accepted for the Easter Season.

Please use your Easter Memorial Envelope or an envelope identified as "EASTER MEMORIAL"

**Please return memorials by Sunday, March 22nd.**

**St. Mary Parish Stewardship of Treasure**

March 8	Source
\$7537	Adult Collection
351	Loose
750	Maintenance
94	Candles
40	Catholic Relief Services
2607.80	Ordinary Donation
70	Memorials
1320	Easter Flowers
203	Alpha

**Thank You For Your Generosity and Faithful Stewardship**

**St. Catherine of Siena Parish**  
308 Old Route 22, Duncansville, PA 16635  
Office 814-696-4126  
[www.duncansvillecatholic.org](http://www.duncansvillecatholic.org)

**Divine Mercy Sunday**  
SUNDAY, APRIL 12

8:00 AM & 11:00 AM Mass on Sunday  
Donuts/refreshments available in morning  
12:00 Noon until 5:00 PM Food Available  
1:30 to 2:45 PM Confessions  
3:00 to 4:00 PM Divine Mercy Holy Hour

Basket raffle available all day with drawing at 4:30 PM

**Food For The Soul Ministry** provides a catered meal for funerals - which is no easy task for our parishes. We also prepare and serve food for the Valentine's Social, the St. Andrew's Social, the Nativity Festival and we provide breakfast for the Confirmation class as well as the meal for priests following our communal Penance Services. We are looking for volunteers to assist with dinner preparation and serving. Please call the office: 695-0912

Meetings are held **Wednesdays at 7:15 PM in St. Mary Meeting Room**

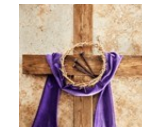
Meeting dates: **April 1 & May 6**

**LENT MESSAGE SERIES "HEAL"**

Sunday @ 8:45 AM St. Michael Meeting Room In Convent	
Date	Topic
Mar. 15	Doing Our Part March
Mar. 22	Releasing the Bonds

Tuesday @ 1:30 PM St. Mary Meeting Room	
Date	Topic
Mar. 17	Doing Our Part March
Mar. 24	Releasing the Bonds



**Lenten Message from Father Alan**

During the holy season of Lent, we are encouraged to engage in acts of penance. Heeding the teaching of Jesus himself in the Sermon on the Mount, we make an effort to detach from food and drink (fasting), from needlessly spending resources on ourselves which should go to others (almsgiving), and from self-will (prayer). One very significant form of detachment to which Jesus calls us is forgiveness. Recall that Jesus gave us the Lord's Prayer in the same Sermon on the Mount. In teaching us this prayer, he called our attention in a special way to our need to forgive others just as we ask the Father to forgive us.

Over the course of our lives, we can be hurt quite badly. Sometimes the hurt inflicted by others is death-dealing. So, some people have to cope with the willful death of a loved one through murder or some other act of violence. Others deal with the death of vital family relationships through adultery and unfaithfulness. Others face the death of their own reputation through false accusation and malicious speech. Still others experience the death of their faith through scandal.

Death-dealing situations call in a special way for forgiveness. Yet, they are among the most challenging areas of our lives in which to forgive others. The temptation instead is to resort to revenge, to anger, to hate, to grudge holding, and to denial of a perpetrator's very humanity. Forgiveness seems weak, unjust, and often unloving. Yet, we are called to forgive even those who have grievously offended us, recalling that God has forgiven our grievous sins against him. Forgiveness is detachment on a heroic scale!

Pope St. Gregory the Great served as the Successor Peter from 590 to 604. It was a time of constant barbarian invasions and turmoil in Italy and western Europe. Influential families vied for power in the vacuum created by the fall of the western Roman Empire. At times they carried out acts of vengeance toward each other. Pope Gregory, a Benedictine monk who reluctantly became pope, had earlier in his life written a multivolume work entitled *Moral Reflections on the Book of Job*. In *Moral Reflections*, Pope Gregory considered our tendency to strike out at those who have offended us, seeing this as repeating the vengeance of the blood of Abel which cried out against Cain, his brother who killed him. But, Gregory notes, there is a yet more significant blood which cries out a different message altogether. Using the Letter to the Hebrews, Pope Gregory asks whether that blood of Abel, the blood of vengeance, is the most eloquent. Let me offer you Pope Gregory's own words:

Paul speaks of the sprinkled blood that calls out more eloquently than Abel's. Of Abel's blood Scripture had written: *The voice of your brother's blood cries out to me from the earth*. The blood of Jesus calls out more eloquently than Abel's, for the blood of Abel asked for the death of Cain, the fratricide, while the blood of the Lord has asked for, and obtained, life for his persecutors.

**LENTEN MESSAGE FROM FATHER ALAN - Continued**

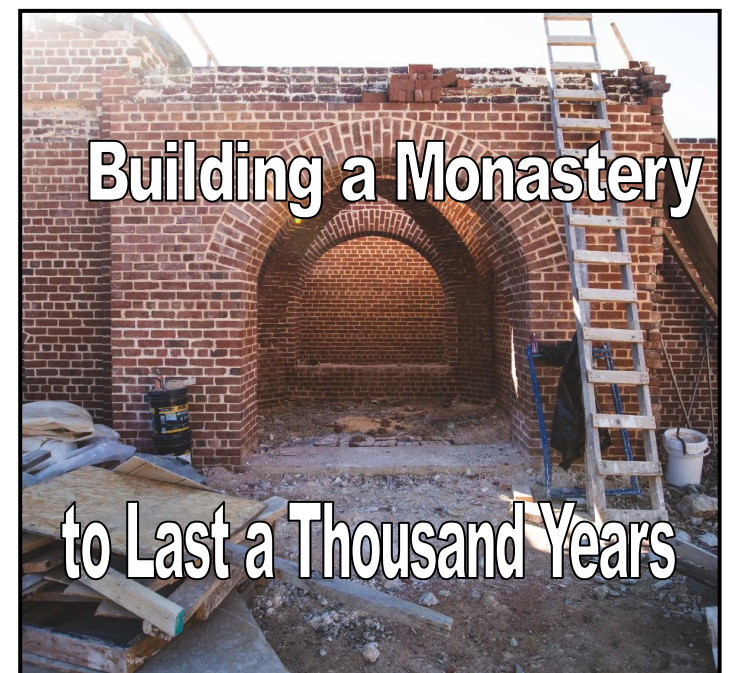
Gregory reminds us that during Christ's own suffering, he prayed for his persecutors: *Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing*.

Perhaps we can consider the areas of our lives where we need to grant forgiveness to others. Left unaided, we will never detach from the blood of Abel which cries out for vengeance. But, in the blood of Christ, we will find the power we lack to forgive those who do not deserve our forgiveness and to pray for the salvation of those who have no right to ask such prayer.

**GOD'S GIFT OF FORGIVENESS**  
Come to the Lord and experience the extraordinary grace of his forgiveness!

**AREA LENTEN PENANCE SERVICES**

Mar. 15th	4:00 PM	Sun.	St. John the Evangelist
Mar. 23rd	7:00 PM	Mon.	Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Mar. 25th	6:00 PM	Wed.	The Cathedral, Altoona
Mar. 26th	5:30 PM	Thur.	Our Lady of Lourdes
Mar. 29th	4:00 PM	Sun.	St. Mary, Hollidaysburg
Mar. 30th	6:30 PM	Mon.	St Mary, Altoona



Parents of High School Junior and Senior students who are interested in participating in the Faith Formation Mission Trip to Gettysburg, to assist the Fairfield Carmelite Community in the efforts to build and maintain a beautiful monastery designed to last 1,000 years, are asked to attend an important information meeting on: **Sunday March 22nd at 1:00 PM in the St. Michael Activity Building.** Junior and Senior High School students are encouraged to attend this meeting as well. Important details about the overnight Mission Trip (June 5th- - 6th) will be provided and questions will be answered at this meeting.

FAITH FORMATION SCHEDULE	
Mar. 22	Jr. High Youth Day 11 AM - 4 PM Bishop Carroll High School
Mar. 29 Apr. 5	<b>NO Sessions</b> Palm & Easter Sunday
Apr. 12	Right of Sending Gr.11 10 AM Mass - St. Michael
April 15	First Communion Practice 5 PM - St. Mary
April 17	First Communion Practice 5 PM - St. Michael
April 18	First Communion - 10 AM St. Michael
April 19	First Communion - 10 AM St. Mary
April 20	Confirmation Practice 6 PM - Cathedral
April 21	Confirmation Celebration 7 PM - Cathedral
May 3	Outdoor Rosary May Crowning 10 AM - both churches



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ADULTS \$20 STUDENTS \$10

**K**nights of Columbus Meeting changed to Wednesday, April 1st from Holy Thursday, April 2nd.

**Mass Intentions Needed**  
Having a Mass said for the needs of a special person, for a special request, or in thanksgiving has a long history in the Catholic Church. We are honored to pray with you for your intention.

Mass intention forms are available in the parish office and at the church entrances.

St. Michael Parish Stewardship of Treasure	
March 8	Source
\$15,428	Adult Collection
193	Loose
40	Candles
565	Maintenance
1500	BG Academy Rent
245	Catholic Relief Services
625	Easter
185	Holy Thursday
185	Good Friday
500	Easter Memorials
10	Ash Wednesday
410	Twin Parish
80	Gabriel Project
100	Home Missions Appeal
45	Holy Spirit Ministry

**Thank You For Your Generosity And Faithful Stewardship**

**The Basilica** of St. Michael the Archangel, Loretto will hold their 64th Annual Men's Turkey Dinner this Sunday, March 15th, 11AM - 3PM or until sold out.

Turkey dinner with all of the trimmings. Dine in for \$14 or take-out for \$15. Two lines this year for faster takeout service! Please stop by for a dinner!

**HOLY SPIRIT MINISTRY Night of Worship**

**Tuesday, March 17th 7:00 to 8:00 PM**  
St. Michael Church

Join us as we Praise our Lord

Prayer Ministry will conclude the evening

**Lenten Penance Service**  
Our annual Lenten penance service is scheduled for **Sunday, March 29th at 4:00 PM at St. Mary.** Please use this opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. There will be a number of visiting Priests present to assist with this important preparation for Easter.

Week at a Glance: Mon., March 16 to Sun., March 22	
Pray the rosary after the 7:45 AM week day Mass	
TUES	Lent Message Series "Heal" St. Mary Meeting RM. 1:30 PM
TUES	Holy Spirit Ministry - St. Michael 7 PM
WED	Legion of Mary Adoration Chapel 1:00 PM
THUR	Rosary at St. Michael 6:00 PM
FRI	Abstinence No Eating Meat
	Stations of the Cross St. Mary at 12:00 - Noon
	Stations of the Cross St. Michael at 6:30 PM For Loved Ones Who Have Left the Faith
SAT and Sun	Lenten Service Project Candy for Easter Buckets
	Deadline for Easter Memorials
	Rice Bowls Available
	Gabriel Project Collection
SUN	American Rescue Workers Collection
	Lent Message Series "Heal" St. Michael Convent 8:45 AM
	Legion of Mary Acies St. Michael Church 2:00 PM
	Faith and Family Night St. Michael Bldg. 5:00 PM

**Altar Servers Practice for the Easter Triduum**


**Holy Thursday Practice**  
Thursday, April 2nd at 3:15 PM  
at St. Michael

**Good Friday Practice**  
Friday, April 3rd at 10:00 AM  
at St. Mary

**Easter Vigil Practice**  
Saturday, April 4th at 1:00 PM  
at St. Mary

**OCIA Candidates & Catechumens Practice for the Easter Vigil - Sat., April 4th, 2:00-3:30 pm at St. Mary.**

**Easter Egg Hunt**  
Saturday, April 4th - 10:00 AM at St. Mary.  
Volunteers needed to help with the egg hunt at 8:30 AM on April 4th.



Contact Jess Long 814-935-7641 or Carissa Baumgartner 814-327-2402 with questions.

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**Our Parish Cemeteries**

New St. Mary: 814-695-0622  
newstmarycemeterymburg@gmail.com  
Greenlawn Cemetery:  
greenlawncemeteryburg@gmail.com

St. Mary & St. Michael Adoration Chapel  
712 Allegheny St. Hollidaysburg, PA.



The chapel is currently open  
Monday thru Thursday 7:00 AM - Midnight  
and Friday 7:00 AM - 5:00 PM

All are invited to spend time  
in the presence of Our Lord

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