

Sacred Heart Parish

120 Jefferson Street ~ Swedesburg, Pennsylvania, 19405
(610) 275-1750



... suddenly there came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind, and it filled the entire house...

Acts 2:2

Rev. Peter J. DiMaria

Pastor

frdimaria@shswedesburg.org

Rev. James J. Shea, Sch. P.

Weekend Ministry

Sr. MaryAnne Bolger, IHM
Parish Services Director

srmaryanne@shswedesburg.org

Leo Brady
Sacristan

Sacramental Schedule

Holy Mass:

Saturday: Anticipated Mass 4:00 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am & 10:15 am

Monday through Saturday at 8:00 am

Sacrament of Penance:

Each Saturday: 3:00 to 3:45 pm

Wednesdays:
7:30 to 7:50 am & 6:30 to 7:00 pm
or by request

Valerie DiFilippo

Parish Bookkeeper/
Cemetery Manager

vdifilippo@shswedesburg.org

Joanne D'Alessandro

Parish Office Manager

jdalessandro@shswedesburg.org

Joe & Jeff Houseal

Directors of Parish
& Cemetery Facilities

SUNDAY, JUNE 5, 2022 ~ PENTECOST SUNDAY

A Message From The

PASTOR

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Pentecost Sunday is a joyful commemoration of the moment when the Holy Spirit descended upon the Apostles and blessed them with the courage, grace, perseverance, and strength to preach the Gospel throughout the world. More specifically, the Holy Spirit blessed them with the following seven gifts: Wisdom, Understanding, Counsel, Fortitude, Knowledge, Piety, and Fear of the Lord.

The gifts of the Holy Spirit helped the Apostles accomplish what seems then and now like an impossible task: the conversion of the world to faith in Jesus Christ as mankind's merciful Savior, Teacher, and Good Shepherd. For more than two millennia, these Gifts of the Holy Spirit have served as the power and inspiration for the Church and her many apostolic endeavors. For more than two thousand years, these heavenly gifts have inflamed the hearts and lives of the countless good and faithful in the Church.

These faithful are young, old, rich, and poor. They are clergy, religious, and laity. They live in every country in the world. They are confronted with disbelief, skepticism, and persecution. They are tempted by pride, anger, lust, envy, gluttony, greed, and laziness. Sometimes they fall and fall hard into despair and sin. But so many times, they rise up, embrace the cross and their faith, and continue the challenging work of preaching the Good News of Christ by both word and deed. Without them, Our Lord's teachings, the accounts of His Passion, and the testimonials to his Glorious Resurrection would be consigned to the dustbin of history.

Here and now, the beautiful burden of preaching the Gospel falls to each one of us, in our families, neighborhoods, workplaces, and parish. It falls to us to open our hearts and minds to accept and embrace the Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit, to carry the Cross of the Crucified Christ into the darkest corners of our increasingly cynical culture, to spread the Good News of the Risen Christ to the four corners of the world, even if our world barely extends beyond the borders of Bridgeport.

It is easy to preach the Gospel, but it is infinitely harder to live it. It is easy to fulfill our Sunday Mass obligation, but it is infinitely harder to live as a true disciple. It is easy to toss a little cash into the collection basket, but it is infinitely harder to volunteer our time and talent; to reach out to the lonely or the poor; or to reconcile with a friend or family member. It is easy to exchange the Sign of Peace, but it is infinitely harder to refrain from gossip, to resist the temptation to tear down, or to reject the ugly pride of our "reality show" world.

This weekend at Mass, we will pray an ancient and beautiful prayer called the Sequence of the Holy Spirit. In this prayer, we beg the Holy Spirit to cleanse us, comfort us, guide us, heal us, refresh us, strengthen us, and enkindle in our hearts the fire of His divine love and mercy. As the Easter Season concludes and our journey through Ordinary Time resumes, let us rededicate ourselves to lives of true discipleship. Let us pray for each other, for our parish, for our country, and for peace in our world. Let us pray for the courage to whole heartedly embrace the Gifts of the Holy Spirit! And let us cry out united in heart and voice: "Come, Holy Spirit! Come!"





Parish Feast Day Celebrations

Our parish is blessed to be dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The Sacred Heart, pierced by the soldier's lance on Calvary, shows forth the sacrificial love of Christ. It is this love known as "Agape" in the New Testament which is honored in our patronal Name.

While the feast of the Sacred Heart is a movable one as it always falls on the Friday that follows the second Sunday after Pentecost, this year the feast will take place on Friday, June 24th. We will celebrate our patronal feast in the following ways:

1. 8:00 a.m. Mass on Friday, June 24th
2. Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament beginning at 8:30 a.m. and concluding at 5:00 p.m.
3. A short church service at 5:00 p.m. with a sermon preached by the newly ordained priest Fr. Andrew Lane followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.
4. A parish dinner held at Swedesburg Fire House catered by PTG Caterers. Tickets are available after Masses and in the rectory.
5. Music provided by Fasano Entertainment.

Liturgical law also permits parishes to celebrate their patronal feasts on the Sundays closest to their feast. Therefore, so that more people may rejoice in the love of the Heart of Christ, our Saturday 4 p.m. and Sunday 8 a.m. and 10:15 Masses will also be in honor of the Sacred Heart. Special worship aides will be distributed at these Masses.

Following the 10:15 Mass on Sunday there will be a reception in the air-conditioned parish hall so that our people may enjoy one another's company and together rejoice in the goodness of God.

Please consider joining us for these parish community building events!

A Prayer to the Holy Spirit (by Cardinal Mercier)

I am going to reveal to you the secret of sanctity and happiness. Every day for five minutes control your imagination and close your eyes to all the noises of the world in order to enter into yourself. Then, in the sanctuary of your baptized soul (which is the temple of the Holy Spirit) speak to that Divine Spirit, saying to Him:

O Holy Spirit, beloved of my soul, I adore You. Enlighten me, guide me, strengthen me, console me. Tell me what I should do; give me Your orders. I promise to submit myself to all that You desire of me and to accept all that You permit to happen to me. Let me only know Your Will.

If you do this, your life will flow along happily, serenely, and full of consolation, even in the midst of trials. Grace will be proportioned to the trial, giving you the strength to carry it and you will arrive at the Gate of Paradise, laden with merit. This submission to the Holy Spirit is the secret of sanctity.

Amen.

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Parish Sunday Social to celebrate the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart!



On Sunday, June 26, immediately following the 10:15 Mass please join us in the air-conditioned Parish Hall for a light reception to celebrate our patronal feast. Suzy-Jo donuts, pastries, soft pretzels, fruit, etc. and drinks will be provided.

In order to help us plan for the event, please either RSVP by June 19th to Pat Moletzsky at patandy820@gmail.com or return the following RSVP slip to the rectory. We hope many will be able to join us.

Name _____

Number attending _____

Please RSVP by June 19th



June 5, 2022 - PENTECOST SUNDAY

Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson

Eliza Doolittle had reached the breaking point. She is half of the duo, along with the language professor Henry Higgins in the Broadway play and later movie musical "My Fair Lady." By this point in the story she has become sick of words. Why? Because for days now words, words and more words along with their proper and refined pronunciation have been drummed into her head by the professor. All this to win a bet that he could transform a Cockney flower girl into a refined British lady via her speech.

So when Eliza's suitor, Freddy Hill, comes courting her by pouring out his heart to her with his speech she has, as we would say, "had it." She bursts forth with her frustration and demands: "Don't talk of love, show me!"

That whole scene from the musical came to my mind as I reflected on this well known and very touching post Easter appearance of the risen Lord to the disciples. We know that in the divine plan for our salvation Our Savior came among us to display God's all embracing love. True, He did so using words immortal. But oh! Did He ever show us so much also with His actions! Consider the washing of the Apostles' feet.

Here the disciples, huddled in fear of the Romans who had engineered the horror of Jesus' crucifixion, were beyond themselves with joy and wonder that fine evening long ago when Jesus came in their midst. He also offered them His peace and then showed them the scars left behind on His risen body.

Fifty days afterward, and ten days after the Ascension return of Jesus to His Father, the first Novena was done. Now comes the promised Advocate, the Holy Spirit, to these first members of the Church on what will become known as its "birthday." A whole panoply of visitors to Jerusalem hear their sermons in their native languages. Babel reversed.

This story overspreads all the hopelessness of the headlines on this twenty-first century Sunday. It permits us to rejoice that God offers us a powerful "show me" demonstration that wherever Jesus is preached to this day, love of God blooms. Our faith in Him and His Church is rewarded. Our hope is renewed. Our love for Jesus is requited.

Meanwhile, there is a wordless answer we can all make to the cynical demands of the world to "Show me!" It is eminently practical, yet it surely involves daily practice. It is this: A Christian is a person who makes it easier for other people to believe in God."

Summer Time Support



Now that Memorial Day has past many of our parishioners will be away for vacation or take advantage each weekend of their summer homes down the shore or up at the mountains. We pray that you have a relaxing and rewarding summer. Please remember that we can never take a vacation from God, however, so please continue to pray, worship, and receive the sacraments wherever you chose to vacation.

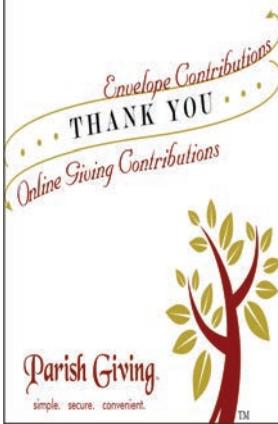
We also ask that you continue to generously support our parish in your absence. Our operational expenses are many and we continue to be dependent upon your generosity.

You may always mail your contributions to the rectory or place them in the mail slot at the rectory front door. You may also wish to consider electronic giving which is easy to

use and has proven to be a reliable source of income for many parishes throughout the country. For more information about our electronic giving program please see the parish website.

May God reward your goodness to the parish!

Parish Stewardship



The Sacred Heart Pro Life Holy Hour

All are welcome to join us at 12:00 pm noon each Wednesday to gather in prayer to ask for God's help on issues affecting our nation and families. All are Welcome!



Saturday, June 4

4:00pm For the People of Our Parish

Sunday, June 5

8:00am For the Intentions of the Members of the Marian Society
Requested by Sacred Heart Marian Society

10:15am Robert Murphy

Requested by The Murphy Family

Monday, June 6

8:00am For the Deceased Members of the DeStefano Family
Requested by Spike & Joan DeStefano

Tuesday, June 7

8:00am Lawrence Maurice Violette

Wednesday, June 8

8:00am Philomena Kurcik
Requested by Anthony Vitacco, Sr. & Theresa Vitacco

Thursday, June 9

8:00am For the Souls in Purgatory
Requested by Susan Cash

Friday, June 10

8:00am Carol Todd
Requested by Irene McNulty

Saturday, June 11

8:00am Annunziata DiNenna
Requested by Kelley & Darian DiNenna

4:00pm Edward & Mary Jane Bowe
Requested by Pat & MaryCatherine Murphy

Sunday, June 12

8:00am For the Living & Deceased Members of the Holy Name Society
Requested by Sacred Heart Holy Name Society

10:15am For the People of Our Parish



Let Us Serve The Lord With Gladness!

The following Ministers are scheduled for our Parish Masses.

Saturday evening, June 11:

4:00pm
Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion:
Pat Moletzsky
Lector: Michelle Efthimiadou

Sunday morning, June 12:

8:00am
Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion:
Karen Hinchee
Lector: Eileen Bralski
10:15am
Lector: John Keidel

Celebrant's Mass Schedule

Saturday evening, June 11:
4:00pm - Father DiMaria

Sunday morning, June 12:
8:00am - Father DiMaria
10:15am—Father Shea



Weekly Report

May 28—29, 2022

\$5,491.00

Feast of the Ascension

\$1,425.00

Thank you for your support of Our Parish!



This week the Sanctuary Lamp in the Church burns

In Memory of
Armando Delmoro

at the Request of
Donna Peroni & Dan Dobratz



Welcome Sister, Servants of the Sacred Heart of Jesus!

We are pleased to welcome

Sr. Mary Joseph, SSCJ, Sr. Jana Paula, SSCJ and Sister Keli Jo Connor who will be with us from June 25 to July 2 to conduct our first children's summer bible camp. There is still room for more children so please encourage your family members, neighbors, and friends to join in the fun!



Hope you can join **Sacred Heart's Caring for Friends** ministry on **Tuesday, June 7**. Doors open at 6:00PM. Come out for an hour of fellowship with a great group of people while helping our neighbors in need!

Homemade soups are needed for distribution at Martha's Choice Marketplace located at St. Paul's parish in Norristown. Just make your favorite homemade soup and bring the pot to the gathering. Soup containers will be provided. After you scoop your soup you can jump in the snack bag line as we assemble 350+ snack bags.

The following donations are needed:

- Feminine hygiene products
- Diapers
- Shampoo, deodorant, body wash

If you can't make the meeting, please consider a monetary donation made payable to Sacred Heart and mark CFF in the memo and just drop it in the collection basket.

You can also have any items shipped to my address: Elisa Pagnotti

335 Kings Ridge Road
King of Prussia, PA 19406



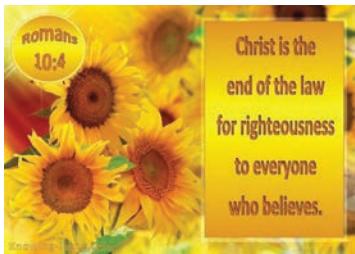
Please Pray For All Who Protect Our Country, especially...

Matthew D. Baxter (*Staff Sergeant, U.S. Air Force*), grandson of Peg Palmer; **John F. K. Benedict** (*Major, USAF ANG*), son of Christine & Vince Benedict; **Anthony C. Brandt** (*CW3 Warrant Officer, U.S. Army Reserves*), son of Eileen & Nesbur Brandt; **Zachary T. Brandt** (*Sergeant U.S. Army*), grandson of Eileen & Nesbur Brandt; **LCDR Matthew J. Capaldo** (*U.S. Navy*) son of John & Connie Capaldo; **Michael DeStefano, Jr.** (*Sergeant U.S. Army*) grandson of Jack & Sue DeStefano; **Darius A. Garey** (*E3, U.S. Navy*), great-grandson of Peg Palmer; **Michael Gutkowski** (*Lieutenant, U.S. Navy*), grandson of Pat Gutkowski; **Noel Irizarry** (*Lance Corporal, U.S. Marine Corps*), son of Patricia Epright; **Shane Jones** (*Sergeant US Marines*), grandson of Fran Toth; **Gregory Kantz** (*Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Air Force*), grandson of Rose Kantz; **Stephen Kantz** (*Commander, U.S. Navy*), grandson of Rose Kantz; **Matthew McNulty** (*Chief Warrant Officer 3 U.S.M.C.*), son of Irene McNulty; **Michael McSweeney** (*Commander, U.S. Navy*); **Rick McVoy** (*Lieutenant Commander, U.S. Navy*) son of Rich McVoy; **Jonathan D. Palmer** (*Sergeant, U.S. National Guard*), grandson of Peg Palmer; **Greg Philips** (*Lieutenant Commander, U.S. Navy*); **Jessica Prostack** (*CW2 Warrant Officer, U.S. Army*), daughter of Richard Prostack; **Jeffrey Seamans** (*Captain, U.S. Army*), son-in-law of Dolores Burton.

In Your Charity, Please Pray For Our Sick

Ayden Boone (*Great Great-Grandson of Armando Delmoro*); Butch Rodenbaugh; Nicholas Janicki; Edith Barbone; Catherine Bankowski; Michael Myers and Melissa (Myers) Sillah (*Grandchildren of Dora & Armando Delmoro*) George Estock; Helen Bednar; Nicholas Yacovelli; Kyle Kolva (*Friend of Kathy Smith*); Barbara A. Burkert (*Daughter of Dora & Armando Delmoro*); Cody Taylor (*Nephew of Michael & Eileen Bralski*); Melonie Mitchell; John Smoczylo; Teddy Swede (*Brother of Gloria Swede*); Laurie Ronan (*Niece of Gloria Swede*); David Degulis (*Brother-in-law of John Puzio, Jr. & Kathy Smith*); Edward Keszczynski; Terry Stephenson (*Brother-in-law of John Puzio, Jr. & Kathy Smith*); Michael Dulaney (*Brother-in-law of John Puzio, Jr. & Kathy Smith*); Kerry Link (*Daughter of Irene McNulty*); Lorraine Farrell; Gary Gutkowski; Rose Coscia; Francis Coscia; *We are happy to keep your loved ones on our Parish prayer list for four weeks. If they would benefit from remaining on our prayer list after this period of time, please call the rectory.*





The Perfective End of Law

By Br. Cornelius Avaritt, O.P.

Unbridled passions. Fiery protests. Sharp rhetoric. These realities characterize our nation as it waits with bated breath for the formal decision of the Supreme Court on the debate regarding abortion. The debate over abortion, however, and its constitutionality leads us to consider a more fundamental question: what is the purpose of law? To answer this question, we can look to the definitions of the eternal and natural law as means of perfection for the human person.

The perfection of the human person consists in the attainment of happiness that comes in knowing the truth and choosing the good. Consequently, every human being seeks this end of happiness when choosing to act. The old adage “everyone wants to be happy” rings true with this understanding of perfection. God has ordained in his loving wisdom that man know and love him as ultimate happiness. If the end of the human person is to know and love God as the term of his perfection, what are the means for attaining this end? Perhaps a definition of law is in order.

Every just law is an ordinance of reason made and promulgated by one who has authority over the community for the sake of the common good. All forms of law—including eternal, natural, and civil law—are ordered toward a common or sharable good, the greatest of which is the happiness that is man’s ultimate end. Let’s look to the eternal law and the natural law to better understand this point.

Eternal law is God’s knowledge of how he directs all of creation toward its good and perfective end. As the Divine Wisdom itself, it is the highest form of law. Since every man is a creature, the eternal law is imprinted in the very act of his existence. Man cannot avoid passively participating in the eternal law because it shapes and directs his human nature. All lower forms of law presuppose the eternal law and derive their character of ‘law’ insofar as they are consistent with it.

Man can understand how his nature is shaped by the eternal law and can govern himself and others accordingly. This active participation by man in the eternal law is called the natural law. God gave man precepts of the natural law written on his heart to aid him in knowing the truth and loving the good that perfects him. The most fundamental precept of the natural law is to do good and avoid evil. Among other precepts, the natural law forbids the deliberate taking of an innocent life. Any civil law that does not conform to the natural law leads away from the perfection of the human person and is no just law. This is the starting point for any debate about a particular law such as abortion in the public square.

As the protests continue and the emotions flare, let us remember that the purpose of every just law, the most fundamental of which is the eternal law, is to guide man to perfection. Man participates in this purpose by following the precepts of the natural law. For us as individuals and as a nation, ruling ourselves in accord with the natural law is not meant to be vengeful or punitive. It is a way to participate in God’s guidance of us to our shared perfective end, our happiness.

Br. Cornelius Avaritt entered the Order of Preachers in 2017. He graduated from McDaniel College with a degree in Neuroscience. Before entering he spent time teaching and working in biomedical research.

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