

Holy Trinity Polish National Catholic Church

200 Grace Street McKees Rocks, PA 15136

Visit our website: htpncc.org

Mass Intentions

Third Sunday of Lent, March 3, 2024

8:00 AM **Pam Austin** (Birthday)

Remembered by Margie and Family

10:00 AM **Dorothy Gasior** (23rd Anniversary)

Remembered by Bob

Institution of the PNCC

Fourth Sunday of Lent, March 10, 2024

8:00 AM **Donna Albert**

Remembered by the Ruane Family

10:00 AM **Jean R. Lauck** (Anniversary)

Remembered by Joe and Family



THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT For the Third Sunday of Lent we read the Ten Commandments and witness Jesus driving the money changers out of the temple. He says, "Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up." John's Gospel tells us the point: "Therefore, when he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they came to believe the Scripture and the word Jesus had spoken."

This is a pivotal week of Lent. We can solidify the patterns we have begun or we can make a new start, if we haven't been able to get started yet. If we have begun to recognize what needs realigning in our lives and have begun to fast and abstain from some things that get in the way of our relationship with the Lord, then we are engaging in a struggle. We are likely uncovering resistance and experiencing our personal sinfulness face-to-face.

This is all preparing us for a deeper conversion, a readiness for reconciliation with God and the graces that will allow us to be a source of reconciliation with others. This is the time when we begin to see and experience how much God loves us at a new and more personal level. These graces prepare us to keep our eyes focused on Jesus in the weeks ahead - to learn from him, to fall in love with him more deeply and to be drawn to imitate him more completely. If we are just getting started with our Lenten journey, renewing our desires for these graces will be all we need to begin with a renewed openness. God does not need a lot of time to convince us of his love for us.

This is a week about God's love for us and our call to love others the same way. We request the Lord's help and our consciousness of the need for God's grace will help us make the choice we desire to make, to let go of what we need to let go of, to add what we need to add. This will take us deeper and deeper into self-awareness and a sense of our need for a Savior, who is right there to embrace us and to fill us with his grace.

THE SEASON OF LENT. On Friday March 8 we will join with All Saints Parish in Carnegie and pray together the traditional Bitter Lamentations of Jesus and his mother, Mary. Mark your calendars now for Friday, March 15 for our annual Youth and Family Stations of the Cross which will be followed by a Pizza Social with the pizza provided by Dough Boys! We will begin at 5:00 PM to walk with Jesus as we pray the Stations of the Cross. This mini pilgrimage allows us to reflect more deeply on his life and the salvation that the Son of God brought to the world. All are invited to participate!

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING Last Sunday the Parish met for its annual Parish Meeting. The new Parish Committee was elected and a budget was approved for 2024. We acknowledged the work of Mary Nosal on the committee for the past 8 years and there was a motion made to acknowledge the dedication of Paulette Beliuas for her over 40 years of service to the parish in a variety of roles, but most especially as our Financial Secretary. Her service will be marked by the addition of a new stone to our Memorial in the entrance to our church. We also outlined key initiatives for the new year including a summer vacation Bible school for our youth and families, a database for all parishioners, new flooring in the Sanctuary, a permanent place for the AED and training,, improvements to the audio features in the hall and AV functionality in the classrooms for our School of Christian Living. We will also work to complete a vital cemetery project that was begun in 2023. We will look into the purchase of the properties behind the church. We will also have a social outreach activity each quarter in 2024. The new Committee will be installed on Sunday March 17 at the 10 AM Mass. Thanks to all for your dedication and commitment to Holy Trinity Parish!

PNA COUNCIL 305 LENTEN FOOD DRIVE As we begin to think about the Lenten season, in an effort to build the spirit of fraternalism within sister parishes of our Polish National Alliance Council 305, we are invited to participate in the Council's food drive, "Roll Away the Stone of Hunger". There will be a bin for donations from Wednesday, February 14 until Passion Sunday, March 17. All non-perishable foods will be donated to a local food bank. Please see this as a way that we can share with those in our community who are in need and in no way in a position to return this act of love at this time. Through our generosity we sow the seeds of love and kindness in the lives of others who are in need. Thank you for your generosity!

MEMORIAL LIFE CELEBRATION FOR JOSEPHINE "NUNE" POSCH A memorial Service will be held on Saturday March 9, 2024 at 11:00 AM for Josephine "Nune" Posch at Holy Trinity. All are invited to joining the family in this time of prayer and remembrance.

CEMETERY CLEAN UP As we prepare for Easter we are asking that all old decorations be removed from the cemetery by Sunday March 17. After this date all Christmas and older decorations will be removed. Thank you for helping the parish prepare for the celebration of Easter!

MASS INTENTIONS FOR 2024 Mass intentions are available for Sundays and other Holy Days throughout the year. Often the intention is for all of the living and deceased members of our Parish community. The Mass intention could also be offered in thanksgiving for a special blessing received, anniversary or birthday, a special prayer request for healing or in honor and remembrance of someone who has passed away. If you would like to schedule a Mass intention for 2024 please schedule with Fr. Mike.

BENEDICTION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT HOLY HOUR As a Eucharistic people, adoration of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament focuses our attention on the love of God that permeates our lives and our world. On Saturday, April 6, our parish will host a Holy Hour beginning at 10:00 AM. During this special time of prayer we will also pray for healing of body, mind and spirit as we celebrate the Sacrament of Anointing. All are invited to participate in this monthly prayer experience and to bring along your family and friends!

We give Thee thanks, O most merciful Lord and Redeemer of our souls, for this day Thou hast made us worthy by means of these immortal and heavenly mysteries. Direct our way; keep us in fear of Thee; guard our lives; and make our steps firm through the prayers and intercessions of the glorious and holy Mother of God and ever-Virgin Mary. Be exalted above the heavens, O God, and above all the earth, Thy glory, now and forever and ever. Amen.
Prayer of St. John Chrysostom

PARISH COMMITTEE MEETING The Parish Committee will meet after the 10:00 AM Mass today, March 17, 2024

RUTH, one of Sight & Sound's most beloved productions at the Ohio Star Theatre in Sugarcreek Ohio on **Thursday, May 16, 2024**. This day trip, sponsored by Findlay Township, is \$145/person which includes the show, bus, gratuities, and lunch. Departure is at 9am from the Findlay Township Activity Center in Imperial and the return is at 7:30pm. Registration and payment is due by March 28, 2024. To register, contact Sue or Laura at Findlay Township at 724-695-0500.

SUPPORT FOR HOLY TRINITY Thanks to all who generously support Holy Trinity parish. On Sunday, February 25th, the parish received \$898 in the Sunday collection. In addition, the parish received \$96 for the PNCC Fund, and miscellaneous cash and checks \$55. The total deposit was \$1,049. The Enhancement Fund received \$0. Your generosity is greatly appreciated! If you would like to have a set of envelopes for your contributions please see Paulette or Fr. Mike.

PRAY FOR THE SICK Please pray for all those who are infirmed or home bound. In a special way we pray for Adam, Alan, Beverly, Bobbi, Bob and Carol K., Carrie, Darlene, Dolores, Donald, Jeanne, Jim, Joann, Kathy, Kimi, Knox, Linda, Nick, Melinda and Shelby Lorraine.

THE COMMUNION PRAYER *In union, O Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your Church where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. present to you my soul and body with the earnest wish that I may always be united to you, and, since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself with you, and embrace you with all the love of my soul. Let nothing ever separate you from me. May I live in you, and may you live in me, both in this life and in the life to come. Amen. Julian of Norwich*

