

# Sacred Heart Parish

120 Jefferson Street ~ Swedesburg, Pennsylvania, 19405

(610) 275-1750



THIS IS MY  
BELOVED SON,  
WITH WHOM I AM  
WELL PLEASED;  
listen to him.

MATTHEW 17:5

© JPPC

**Rev. Peter J. DiMaria**

*Pastor*

[frdimaria@shswedesburg.org](mailto:frdimaria@shswedesburg.org)

**Rev. Thomas A. Nasta**

*Pastor Emeritus*

**Rev. James A. Lyons**

*Pastor Emeritus - Our Lady of Charity  
Weekend Assistant*

## FOCUS Missionaries:

**Caitlyn Sechuk**

[csechuk@shswedesburg.org](mailto:csechuk@shswedesburg.org)

**Thomas Horlander**

[thorlander@shswedesburg.org](mailto:thorlander@shswedesburg.org)

## Holy Mass:

Saturday: Anticipated Mass 4:00 pm

Sunday: 8:00 am & 10:15 am

Monday through Friday at 8:00 am

## Sacrament of Penance:

**Sunday:** 9:30 to 9:50 am

**Wednesdays:**

7:30 to 7:50 am & 6:30 to 7:00 pm

**Saturday:** 3:00 to 3:45 pm

**Linda Moser**

*Coordinator of Religious Education*

[lmoser@shswedesburg.org](mailto:lmoser@shswedesburg.org)

**Leo Brady**

*Sacristan*

**Mary Sue Kilian**

*Parish Bookkeeper*

[mkilian@shswedesburg.org](mailto:mkilian@shswedesburg.org)

**Joanne D'Alessandro**

*Parish Office Manager*

[jdalessandro@shswedesburg.org](mailto:jdalessandro@shswedesburg.org)

**Brenda Turner**

*Cemetery Manager*

*Parish Office Assistant*

[bturmer@shswedesburg.org](mailto:bturmer@shswedesburg.org)

**Carl Gedeik**

*Director of*

*Liturgical Music*

**Joe & Jeff Houseal**

*Directors of Parish*

*& Cemetery Facilities*

**MARCH 1, 2026**  
**SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**



**Eucharistic Adoration During the Wednesdays of Lent**

All Wednesdays of Lent, we will have adoration of the Blessed Sacrament beginning at Noon. There will be a sign-up sheet at the back of the church for people to commit to periods of Adoration.

**Stations of the Cross and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament**

We will have Stations of the Cross and Benediction of Blessed Sacrament beginning at 7:30 p.m. on the following Wednesdays of Lent: March 4, 11, and 18. There will be no Stations of the Cross on Wednesday of Holy Week.



**CEREAL SUNDAY**

DONATIONS FOR  
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**Caring for Friends**  
Sharing food and friendship

**Caring for Friends**  
Wednesday, March 11  
6:00PM – Parish Hall

Please come out and join our Caring for Friends Ministry on **Wednesday, March 11 at 6:00 PM.**

**The need is great!**

Prepare your favorite comfort food which can be scooped into 16 oz. containers, labeled and delivered to Colonial Neighborhood Market. Containers and labels are provided.

We're more than just Soup! Here are some optional suggestions comfort meals:

- Pasta and mini meatballs**
- Chili**
- Franks and beans**
- Mac and Cheese**
- Stew**

Please note meals will be frozen for delivery so make sure they are juicy!

We hope you can join us!





## Thank you, Connelly Foundation

To our great surprise the parish received a letter from the President of the Connelly Foundation, Thomas Riley, notifying us that our parish has been named a recipient of a \$2500.00 discretionary grant program award. We were especially commended by the Foundation for the beauty of our Sacred Liturgy. We are very grateful to Mr. Riley and the Connelly Foundation for the award.



### Friday, March 13<sup>th</sup>

Doors open 6PM

Games at 7PM

Parish Hall

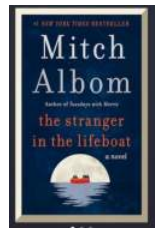


Sponsored by:  
**Knights of Columbus**  
Come on out and have a great time!



The next book club meeting will be on Tuesday, March 17<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 in the Rectory Meeting Room.

We will be discussing The Stranger in the Lifeboat by Mitch Albom.



## Ways to Give



### ONLINE

[give.catholicchurchofphila.org](http://give.catholicchurchofphila.org)



### CASH OR CHECK



### PLANNED GIVING

Contact Office of Stewardship & Development at (215) 587-3900

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## MASS INTENTIONS

### Saturday, February 28

**4:00pm Barbara Bores**  
**Birthday Remembrance**  
*Requested by The Bores & Stalker Families*

### Sunday, March 1

**8:00am Carl Hinchey**  
**Anniversary Remembrance, Feb. 28**  
*Requested by Wife, Karen*

**10:15am Anna Rosa Cilli**  
**Birthday Remembrance**  
*Requested by The Sommerer Family*

### Monday, March 2

**8:00am Stanislaw Niebora**  
*Requested by The Babicz Family*

### Tuesday, March 3

**8:00am Christopher Chimicles**  
*Requested by Vincent & Christine Benedict*

### Wednesday, March 4

**8:00am Joseph "Joey" Battisto, Jr.**  
*Requested by Bill & Bridget Maruszczak*

### Thursday, March 5

**8:00am Richard Kukulka**  
*Requested by Pat Murphy*

### Friday, March 6

**8:00am Richard Stiles, Sr.**  
*Requested by Barbara Papek & Family*

### Saturday, March 7

**4:00pm Daniel Paciello**  
*Requested by Nick DeRosato*

### Sunday, March 8

**8:00am Dolores Simmons**  
*Requested by The Shannon Family*

**10:15am Clorinda Giangiulio**  
*Requested by Barbara Roskos*



## LITURGICAL MINISTRIES



### *Let Us Serve The Lord With Gladness!*

The following Ministers are scheduled for our Parish Masses.

### **Saturday evening, March 7:**

**4:00pm**

**Celebrant:** Father DiMaria

**Extraordinary Minister:** Barbara JanFrancisco

**Lector:** Elisa Pagnotti

### **Sunday morning, March 8:**

**8:00am**

**Celebrant:** Father Lyons

**Extraordinary Minister:** Valencia Zaremba

**Lector:** John Simmons

**10:15am**

**Celebrant:** Father DiMaria

**Extraordinary Minister:** Pat Moletzsky

**Lector:** Rich McVoy

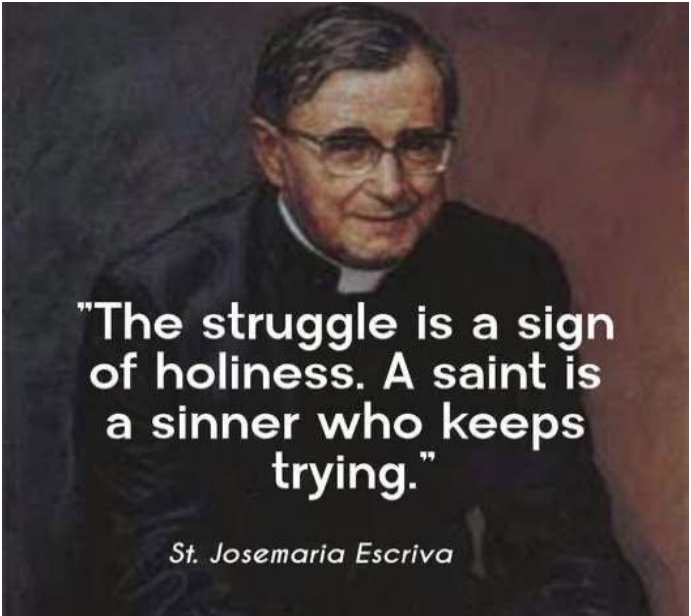


### *Weekly Report*

February 21 - 22, 2026

\$7,848.50

*Thank you for your support of Our Parish!*



**"The struggle is a sign  
of holiness. A saint is  
a sinner who keeps  
trying."**

*St. Josemaria Escriva*

## MDP CYO Beef & Beer Fundraiser

The MDP CYO Board invites all parishioners and friends of the CYO and MDP community to attend a **Beef & Beer Fundraiser on Saturday, March 21, from 5:00 PM to 10:00 PM in Providence Hall** (following the MDP 4 pm Mass). Proceeds from this event will support the **MDP CYO Program**, helping to provide resources for our student-athletes. A portion of the proceeds will also benefit the **Father Cioppi Scholarship Fund**. Parishioners are encouraged to join fellow members of the MDP community for an evening of socializing and fun festivities while viewing the NCAA Tournament in a relaxed setting following the 5:00 PM Mass. The ticket price includes dinner, dessert, music, and beer. Guests are also welcome to bring their own beverages too. Please scan the QR code provided to purchase tickets in advance and this event is only for people who are 21 years of age or older.

### Tickets:

- \$25 in advance
- \$30 at the door

For questions, to volunteer, or to make a donation, please contact: **Drew Heinerichs**

[HeinerA@lmsd.org](mailto:HeinerA@lmsd.org) | 610-724-6481

Link to Purchase: <https://go.teamsnap.com/forms/514405>



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

**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 Brandt; **Zachary T. Brandt** (*Sergeant U.S. Army*), grandson of Eileen Brandt; **Matthew J. Capaldo** (*Commander, U.S. Navy*) son of John & Connie Capaldo; **Michael DeStefano, Jr.** (*Sergeant U.S. Army*) grandson of Jack & Sue DeStefano; **Michael Gutkowski** (*Lieutenant Commander, U.S. Navy*), grandson of Pat Gutkowski; **Samuel Hoey** (*LCpl, U.S.M.C.*), grandson of Leona Cottone; **Noel Irizarry** (*Sergeant, U.S. Army*), son of Patricia Epright; **Shane Jones** (*Sergeant U.S. Marines*), grandson of Fran Toth; **Matthew McNulty** (*Chief Warrant Officer 4 U.S.M.C.*), son of Irene McNulty; **Rick McVoy** (*Lieutenant Commander, U.S. Navy*) son of Rich McVoy; **Greg Philips** (*Lieutenant Commander, U.S. Navy*); **Jessica Prostack** (*CW2 Warrant Officer, U.S. Army*), daughter of Richard Prostack; **Jack Razin** (*1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant, U.S. Air Force*), son of Rich & Julie Razin; **Luke Razin** (*Captain, U.S. Air Force*), son of Rich & Julie Razin; **Jeffrey Seamans** (*Captain, U.S. Army*), son-in-law of Dolores Burton; **Stephanie Zugay** (*National Guard*), granddaughter of Greg & Grace Zugay.



## Suddenly Seniors Bus Trip to Shady Maple Smorgasbord & Hollywood Casino in Morgantown

**Thursday, April 16<sup>th</sup>**

The bus will leave the church parking lot at 11:00 AM and will return at 5:00 PM

Cost is \$85. and gratuity is included with lunch.

Payment is due upon making reservation.

Questions? Contact:

June at [junedidesi@gmail.com](mailto:junedidesi@gmail.com)

Ken at [knsnadwodny@aol.com](mailto:knsnadwodny@aol.com)



Salvatore Salamone	Al Cowling
Francisca Diniz	Mary (Puzio) Stephenson
Lisa Ronan	Mary Boyle
David Reuter	Fran Toth
Bob Bores	Joan Birely
Chas Pires	Martha & John Smoczylo
Julie Burk	Kelly Benedict
Greg Schloth	Patricia Gaffney
William J. Ryan	Angela Desmond
June DiDesidero	Eileen Brandt
Cindy Burke	Denise & Tom Kavanagh
Parker Grey Davis	Michael Martin
Catherine Martin	Ronald Halas
Joseph Puzio	Marge & Stan Leszczynski
Piper Kaplan	Fran & Rob Worrall
Francis Rodenbaugh III	Marion Raup
Karen Braithwaite	Irene Elliott
Elaine Fertal	Butch Rodenbaugh
Barbara Pruskowski	Nicholas Janicki
George Minnis	Laurie Ronan



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Lent Dinners  
Every Friday During Lent  
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***Palm Sunday***  
***Celebrated March 29, 2026***  
**Bridgeport Elks Lodge #714**  
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One sized palm will be available  
at a cost of \$12.00

**Order should be placed by Friday March 6<sup>th</sup>.**

To place an order:

Call Bridgeport Elks Lodge #714 at 610-277-3810

Call Maureen DeStefano at 484-620-2093

Email: [mdalvin@comcast.net](mailto:mdalvin@comcast.net)

### **Martin Saints Classical High School 7th Grade Visitation Day:**

March 10, 2026

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

**Contact:** Ms. Maria Pisano  
([mpisano@martinsaintsclassical.org](mailto:mpisano@martinsaintsclassical.org))

Martin Saints is Philadelphia's newest Catholic high school. If you're a middle school family discerning high schools, come learn more. This is a new kind of Catholic school, emphasizing academic excellence and joyful living. A classical curriculum with outdoor adventure, craftsmanship, and genuine Catholic community. Come learn why MSC is fully alive! Your student is warmly invited to a visitation day especially for seventh graders on Tuesday, March 10, 8:30am-2:15pm. RSVP at [whymsc.org/admissions](http://whymsc.org/admissions)



**The 40 Days for Life Lenten Campaign is a worldwide, life-saving event which runs from 2/18/26 through 3/28/26.**

This effort consists of peaceful prayer vigils outside Planned Parenthood and other abortion facilities. It is a community-based campaign that takes a determined, peaceful approach to showing local communities the consequences of abortion in their own neighborhoods, for their own friends and families. It puts into action a desire to cooperate with God in the carrying out of His plan for the end of abortion. It draws attention to the evil of abortion through prayer. Each day during 40 Days for Life, individuals, churches, families and groups will be asked to join together in prayer for conversion of souls so the entire Body of Christ can unite around a common focus. The prayers seek God's help for; women who are at risk of having an abortion, innocent children who are at risk of perishing, men and women who carry the pain of a past abortion experience, workers at abortion centers, renewal in our churches and the repentance and healing of our nation. Daily devotionals & more information are available at [www.40daysforlife.com](http://www.40daysforlife.com)

**Go any day & anytime with a friend to pray. Our parish will again participate: this Spring on Thursday, March 19<sup>th</sup> at Norristown Planned Parenthood. Please sign up in the back of church. You will not attend alone.**

**An experienced volunteer from Respect Life will join you.**

**6,144 known babies saved  
275 abortion clinic workers quit  
184 abortion centers closed**

*MARCH 1, 2026*

*SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT*

*Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson*

One of the most widely read and highly acclaimed religious books for over twenty years, *God of Surprises*, takes readers on a spiritual journey of discovery and change. Jesuit Gerard Hughes encourages you and me to realize the truth of Jesus' words—"The Kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field"—and suggests ways to find that treasure within ourselves.

We cannot know their inner lives, but we can know for sure that three holy leaders of the early Church, namely the apostles Peter, James and John got a personal invitation from their Master to know Him as "the God of surprises." As Matthew calmly declares, in a matter-of-fact tone: "He was transfigured before them." Forced to awning their eyes, the three men were shocked and in awe. They saw, for a brief time, what we all desire to see for eternity: the Divine Face of Christ.

It is a good thing for us to know, this showing of Christ's divinity. That is so because in this life we are marked men and women, marked, that is, with Christ's favor, that often looks like disfavor when it comes into our lives disguised as pain.

Let us face facts. Our God is a demanding Person. Never asking us to endure hurt and pain that is beyond our strength to do so but suffering any way you care to define it. He has that right. He has made wonderful promises to us if we obey and accept the troubles that are sent our way to test us. He wants us to succeed. And we will. If we remember the transfiguration.

The man Abraham, featured in our First Reading today, certainly learned that God is a God of Surprises. Here he was, at age 75, long past the time to put his feet up and enjoy his grandchildren, when God asks him to pull up stakes, march to a new and strange land, and only set up his tent when he reaches the new landscape.

Abraham, Peter, James, and John all belong to a long line of persons lovingly created to give God glory that includes you and me, are asked to love deeply and "walk humbly with our God." When it is time for us also to see Him "as He is" He has promised us we will be happily surprised.



*Listen to him*

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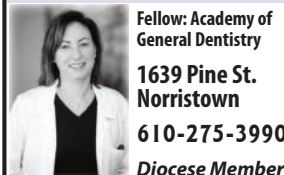
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in remembrance of *samantha josephson*

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