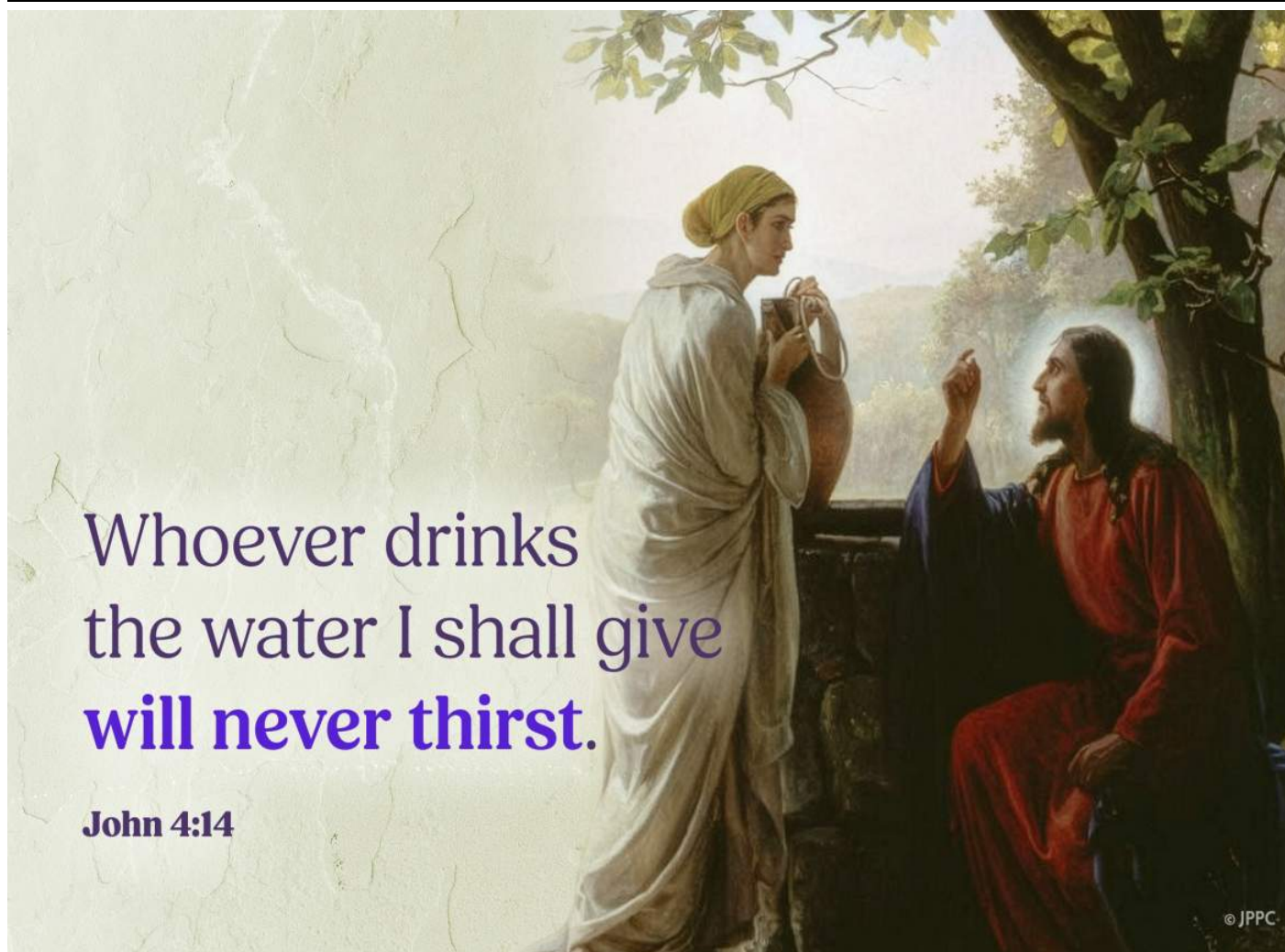


Sacred Heart Parish

120 Jefferson Street ~ Swedesburg, Pennsylvania, 19405

(610) 275-1750



Whoever drinks
the water I shall give
will never thirst.

John 4:14

Rev. Peter J. DiMaria

Pastor

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

Thomas Horlander

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

Leo Brady

Sacristan

Mary Sue Kilian

Parish Bookkeeper

mkilian@shswedesburg.org

Joanne D'Alessandro

Parish Office Manager

jdalessandro@shswedesburg.org

Brenda Turner

Cemetery Manager

Parish Office Assistant

bturner@shswedesburg.org

Carl Gedeik

Director of

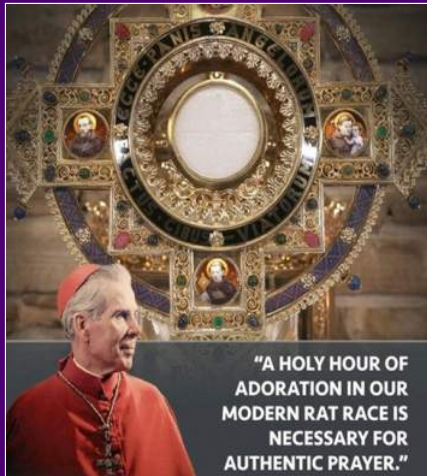
Liturgical Music

Joe & Jeff Houseal

Directors of Parish

& Cemetery Facilities

MARCH 8, 2026
THIRD 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 11, and 18. There will be no Stations of the Cross on Wednesday of Holy Week.



We adore You, O Christ, and we bless You, because by Your Holy Cross You have redeemed the world!

**Alejandro William
Plata**

Baptized on Sunday,
March 1, 2026

Congratulations to Alejandro's Parents:
Alejandro & Joanne
May your Child's Baptism be just the start of a life filled with blessings!

**Registration for
Sacred Heart
PREP
Summer Session is
now Open!**

The session runs from June 15 to June 19, 2026, scheduled daily from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

*If Upper Merion Area School District schedules a makeup day on June 15, the program will begin on June 16, with an extra hour added each day.

PREP registration fees are as follows:

- \$125 for one child
- \$150 for two children
- \$175 for three or more children

Register between February 1 and March 29. Registrations submitted after March 29 will incur a \$50 late fee. If you have questions or concerns, please contact the Pastor or CRE. Registration forms are available at the back of the church or on the parish website.

Children must complete two consecutive years of religious education before receiving a sacrament, which includes attending all required sacrament preparation classes. Furthermore, all students must complete five PREP family activities by the end of each PREP year.

February Poor Box Collection

Thanks to your generosity we collected \$409.00 in our poor box during the month of February which we sent to the Padre Pio Prayer Center in North Philadelphia. (The former St. Joachim Parish)

In addition to offering the Sacraments to the poor within this community, the Capuchin Franciscan Friars also offer social services including food, clothing, NA meetings, prayer and witness on the streets of Kensington.

*Pray,
hope,
&
don't worry.*

PADRE PIO



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

Thursday, April 16th

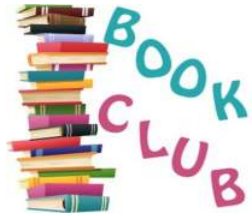
The bus will leave the church parking lot at 11:00 AM and will return at 5:00 PM
Cost is \$85. and gratuity is included with lunch.

Payment is due upon making reservation.

Questions? Contact:

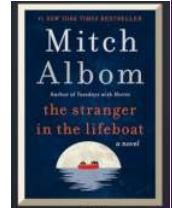
June at junedidesi@gmail.com

Ken at knsadwodny@aol.com



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

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



SACRED HEART SOCIAL EVENT

April 19, 2026 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm

\$5.00 admission

Admission sales will be raffled off!



The more people joining the Bingo Fun, the BIGGER the Jackpot!



- Snacks
- Beverages
- **BYOB**
- School Hall

- Each person brings a \$5 value gift
- Wrap it in a CRAZY/FUN way
- Bring it to the Bingo event
- Instructions & Fun begin there!



Ticket Sales begin after Masses on **March 21st** until **April 11th** and at the Rectory during regular business hours.



NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD DURING EASTER WEEKEND!



Confessions:

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| Saturday, March 28 | 2:30pm - 3:30 pm |
| Tuesday, March 31 | 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm |
| Wednesday, April 1 | 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm |
| Good Friday, April 3 | 10:00 am - 11:00 am |

Holy Thursday

Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:00 pm
The Church will remain open until 11:00 pm for visits to the repository

Good Friday

Liturgy of the Lord's Passion 2:00 pm
The Church opens at 8:00 am for visits to the repository

BLESSING OF EASTER FOOD

HOLY SATURDAY

April 4 @ 1:30 PM

SACRED HEART CHURCH



Holy Saturday
Easter Vigil 7:00 pm

Easter Sunday
8:00 am & 10:15 am



MASS INTENTIONS

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

Monday, March 9

8:00am **Lottie B. Lawler**

Requested by Jo-Ann & Kevin

Tuesday, March 10

8:00am **Jack Grabowski**

Birthday Remembrance
Requested by Wife, Eleanor

Wednesday, March 11

8:00am **Richard Kukulka**

Requested by Carmen Fusco

Thursday, March 12

8:00am **Edward Domenick, Sr.**

1st Anniversary Remembrance, March 6
Requested by Wife, Alice & Family

Friday, March 13

8:00am **Carl & Lorraine Farrell**

Requested by Jerry Pierce

Saturday, March 14

4:00pm **Richard Stiles, Sr.**

Requested by Bob Bores & Family

Sunday, March 15

8:00am **Joseph Patrick McDevitt**

Anniversary Remembrance
Requested by His Family

10:15am **Laura Barainyak**

Requested by Her Family



Let Us Serve The Lord With Gladness!

The following Ministers are scheduled for our Parish Masses.

Saturday evening, March 14:

4:00pm

Celebrant: Father DiMaria

Extraordinary Minister: Andy Moletzsky

Lector: Michelle Efthimiadou

Sunday morning, March 15:

8:00am

Celebrant: Father DiMaria

Extraordinary Minister: Larry Kilian

Lector: Robert Stefanik

10:15am

Celebrant: Father Lyons

Extraordinary Minister: Joan Koeck

Lector: Chris Kilian



Weekly Report

February 28 - March 1, 2026

\$8,148.65

Thank you for your support of Our Parish!

ST. THERESE of LISIEUX

*"Remember that
nothing is small in
the eyes of God.
Do all that you
do with love."*



**ETERNAL REST,
GRANT UNTO THEM O LORD!**

*In your kindness,
please pray for the happy repose of the soul of*

Placida “Mary” DiGenova
*Who was called from this life on
February 25, 2026*

*“May Her soul and all the souls of the
faithful departed Rest in peace.”*



*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** (1st 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.



Swedesburg Vol Fire Co.
Lent Dinners
Every Friday During Lent
February 20 - April 3, 2025
5 PM – 8 PM - Eat in
Or Take Out
See Facebook for info

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 | 610-724-6481

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



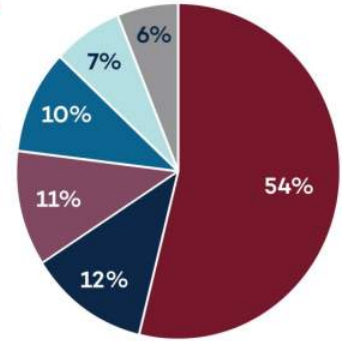
Salvatore Salamone	Al Cowling
Francisca Diniz	Mary (Puzio) Stephenson
Lisa Ronan	Mary Boyle
David Reuter	Fran Toth
Bob Bores	Joan Birely
Chas Pires	Martha & John Smoczylo
Julie Burk	Kelly Benedict
Greg Schloth	Patricia Gaffney
William J. Ryan	Angela Desmond
June DiDesidero	Eileen Brandt
Cindy Burke	Denise & 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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HOW YOUR GIFT IS USED

- Social Services - 54%
- Special Education - 12%
- Mission Parishes - 11%
- Retired and Infirm Priests - 10%
- Cultural Ministries - 7%
- Life, Family and Laity - 6%



The Catholic Charities Appeal (CCA) of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia supports and sustains more than 100 vital ministries and programs that bring Christ's love to those in need. Reaching every corner of the five-county metropolitan area, CCA provides food, shelter, education, and care, bringing tangible hope to those most in need.



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

5th Annual Marriage Enrichment Day
Saturday, April 25, 2026
 8:30 am to 1:00 pm

Speaker: **Steve McClatchy**
 Strengthen your Marriage
 Deepen your Faith &
 Transform the Way You Love

St. Helena's Church
 Empress Room
 Blue Bell, PA

\$85 per couple / \$45 per person
 Includes light Breakfast and Lunch

How to Register: 

<https://bit.ly/MarriagesofGrace2026>

Archdiocese of Philadelphia
 Office for Life and Family



MARCH 8, 2026

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Reflection by Rev. Leonard N. Peterson



Living
WATER

The phrase “Mirror, Mirror on the Wall” is arguably one of the most recognizable lines in the English language, instantly conjuring images of the classic fairy tale, Snow White, but beyond its fairy tale origins, the phrase has permeated our culture, becoming a symbolic representation of vanity, self-perception, and the elusive search for objective truth.

We remember how the evil Queen asks the mirror who is the fairest in the kingdom. She reveals both her vanity and insecurity. The mirror’s response dictates her emotional state, highlighting the dangerous dependence on external validation that many people experience. There is something of the queen in the main character

Jesus met that day at Jacob’s well when He stopped there for a rest. The unnamed Samaritan woman. She meets more than a mirror, but the very embodiment of all Truth in Jesus.

The dialogue between them makes for good drama. She plays little games with Jesus in her responses, but He will not allow it to go on before He confronts her with the whole truth of her present existence. But He does so with loving purpose. He wants to offer her a whole new way of being free from shame and half-truth about herself. She ultimately responds with the comfort and joy of knowing that Jesus is indeed a special Person, and one who loves her into being more of a person herself.

Allow me to choose just one conclusion from this story, namely that our Loving Lord always sees the possibilities in us, and never “writes us off” unless we choose to walk away. In that way, He is like water in the desert to slake our thirst for truth and a sense of purpose in our lives.

We do ourselves no favor if we insist on griping about the trials of our lives, or blame God for their occurrence instead of either on sin in the world or our own failure to call on the grace of God readily available through prayer and the sacraments, especially in the Holy Mass.

God never holds up a magic mirror calculating how best to salve our occasional insecurity. Rather does He let us see the scars left behind on His loving Face from thorns that once dug into His skin. Or those left by nails and sword on His hands, feet, and side. Then we can note our part in His pain at the same time we experience His loving forgiveness.

Meanwhile, so live that when the priest has ended his remarks over your grave, those present will not think they have attended the wrong funeral.

God love you and give you an honest self-perception.

Keith J. Murphy
Supervisor
Funeral Director



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