



Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 11, 2024

THE PARISH FAMILY OF SAINT CLARE OF ASSISI

PASTOR

Rev. Msgr. William F. Glosser, V.F., M.A., M.Div.

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Nativity BVM High School 570-622-8110

Immaculate Conception Hall 570-429-0302

Saint Joseph Center for Special Learning <https://stjosephctr.com>

MASS TIMES

(Please check bulletin for changes)

Saturdays: 4:00 PM @ St. Clare
5:30 PM @ Holy Cross

Sundays: 8:30 AM @ St. Clare
10:45 AM @ Holy Cross

Tuesdays: 6:00 PM @ Holy Cross

Wednesdays: 8:30AM @ Holy Cross

Thursdays: 8:00 AM @ St. Clare

Fridays: 8:00 AM @ St. Clare

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Saturdays 3:15 PM to 3:45 PM or call the rectory to schedule an appointment.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

Prospective parents are expected to attend an instruction session. Please call the parish office to make arrangements and schedule an appointment.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:

Preparations should be made one year in advance to schedule and plan your wedding.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:

PREP/CCD classes are offered for our public grade school children. Classes are held Wednesday evenings 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM.

PARISH REGISTRATION: Parish registration is recommended for all individual persons and families who worship regularly and who intend to participate actively in the life of our parish by sharing their time, talents and treasure. Registration is necessary for celebrating Marriage and Baptism, as well as for the issuing of Sponsor Certificates.

Director of Religious Education Dorothy Frie

Parish Religious Education Website stcstsprep.weebly.com

Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator

Mrs. Wendy S. Krisak, MA, MCC, LPC Direct: 1-800-791-9209

Secretary for Youth Protection Pamela Russo, MSW, MS
1-610-871-5200 Ext 2204 prusso@allentowndiocese.org

Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service: If you have an allegation of abuse against a bishop, please contact the Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service at www.ReportBishopAbuse.org or by calling 1-800-276-1562

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A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY READINGS

HIS WORD TODAY

by Rev. William J. Reilly

Most Holy Name Catholic Church, Garfield, NJ

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ February 11, 2024

“A leper came to Jesus and kneeling down begged him and said: ‘If you wish, you can make me clean.’ Moved with pity, he stretched out his hand, touched him, and said to him, ‘I do will it. Be made clean.’ The leprosy left him immediately and he was made clean.”

The meeting of the sick man with Jesus reveals several interesting things, both persons violated the law, lepers had to keep safe distances. He drew near to Jesus. Jesus reached out and touched him. The request for healing was met with pity and compassion, as He said, ‘I do will it.’

Recently there has been a rise in the cases of leprosy, but we can use it as a symbol for all diseases, evil and sin. We turn too and ask what the will of Jesus for us is, and we know it is to heal, support and sanctify us. May we have the courage to approach Jesus as did the beggar honestly asking for healing and forgiveness.

Our Parish as a School of Prayer

Monday, February 12, 2024

NO MASS

Tuesday, February 13, 2024

HOLY CROSS CHURCH @ 6:00 PM

Joan Harkins

Wednesday, February 14, 2024

Ash Wednesday/St. Valentine

HOLY CROSS CHURCH @ 8:30 AM

Michael & Sophie Martin

ST. CLARE OF ASSISI CHURCH @ 6:30 PM

Joe & Maryann Stencovage

Thursday, February 15, 2024

Thursday after Ash Wednesday

ST. CLARE OF ASSISI CHURCH @ 8:00 AM

Alex & Helen McDonald

Friday, February 16, 2024

ST. CLARE OF ASSISI CHURCH @ 8:00 AM

Dolores Krull

Saturday, February 17, 2024

Vigil for the First Sunday in Lent

ST. CLARE OF ASSISI CHURCH @ 4:00 PM

Catherine Chiccine

HOLY CROSS CHURCH @ 5:30 PM

Robert Stremick

Sunday, February 18, 2024

First Sunday in Lent

ST. CLARE OF ASSISI CHURCH @ 8:30 AM

Shirley Kantner

HOLY CROSS CHURCH @ 10:45 AM

Ginny Morgan

Eucharistic Devotion



First Monday in March at St. Clare from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM (**March 4th**)

Tuesdays - Holy Cross following 6:00 PM Mass to 7 PM.

Fridays - St. Clare following 8:00 AM Mass until 10:30 AM

From the Pastor's Desk

As we approach Ash Wednesday and the season of repentance and penitence, we hear how Jesus responded to a man who was considered unclean, both physically and spiritually. Over the following forty days, we will approach our Lord as sinners, in need of forgiveness, in need of being "made clean." May Jesus' response to the leper in today's Gospel assure us of His love and mercy for us despite our failings, despite our sinfulness.

As our number of priests continue to diminish and those that we have are asked to take on extra responsibilities, a Parish needs to be able to support their Pastor by alleviating many of the minor details and tasks we have always expected the Priest to do.

With the twinning of Parishes now becoming the norm, as opposed to just an occasion, our Pastors still need someone to assist with Liturgical and Sacramental duties. A lay person can do many of these tasks but the role of a Permanent Deacon can do more.

Two weeks ago, we buried Deacon Jack Quirk from St. Pat's but on numerous occasions every Parish in Schuylkill County needed him to help. Deacon Jack's passing creates a void in the Pastoral and Sacramental Ministry.

As your Pastor I am asking men of the Parish to prayerfully discern a calling from the Lord to serve as a Permanent Deacon in our Parishes of St. Clare of Assisi and Holy Cross.



Sanctuary Candle

For the health of Blazena Radovich

Second Collection

This week's second collection will be for the Building Fund. Next week's second collection will be for Heat and Energy.



Lenten Offerings

During the season of Lent we participate in Operation Rice Bowl. Asking individuals or families to eat one less meal a week and the monetary savings from that meal to be placed in an Operation Rice Bowl envelope. As in

the past, Rice Bowl envelopes may be placed in the collection at anytime during Lent.

Mass Attendance	Week of 2/4/2024
4:00 PM at SCA	191
5:30 PM at HC	90
8:30 AM at SCA	161
10:45 AM at HC	121

WEEKLY FINANCIAL REPORT	Week of 2/4/2024
Contributions - Sunday Envelope	\$ 5,521
Contributions - Other Sunday Giving	\$ 216
Total Plate	\$ 5,737
Needed to meet Church Budget	\$ 5,673
Total Contributions	\$ 168,314
YTD Budget to now	\$ 181,536
Total Over (Under) Budget	\$ (13,222)
OTHER COLLECTIONS	
Building Fund	\$ 175
Candles	\$ 56
Heat & Energy	\$ 1,378
Cemetery	\$ 10

Lenten Adult Formation - Saturday February 17th at ICC Social Hall 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM
“Understanding & Prayer the Mass: The Center of our Prayer” presented by Rev. Philip J. Maas M. Div., M.A. Fr. Maas was ordained in 2021 and currently services as the Parochial Vicar of St. Thomas More Parish Allentown. (RSVP to the Rectory by Feb 12th).



Prayer Tree

As we did with Advent, we will have a Prayer Tree for Lent.



St. Maximilian Kolbe is the Patron Saint for those suffering with drug and alcohol addiction as well as a shining example of loving our neighbor more than ourselves. Father Max bravely challenged the Nazi officer to exchange his life for the life of another prisoner. Father Max informed the Nazi officer that he was a Catholic Priest. So, in addition to being the Patron Saint of Addiction he also represents the

need for our Priests to have courage in protecting their sheep. Father Max was also a Franciscan Priest and so he rightfully belongs in our church in the spirit of St. Francis and St. Clare.

If any individual, families, or a group of people would like to memorialize this statue, please contact the Rectory.



PIEROGI SCHOOL CONTINUES THIS WEEK!

Peelers – Monday @ 5:30 PM
 Pinchers – Wednesday @ 9:00 AM

St. Clare of Assisi Pierogi Sales for 2024 will begin on

Ash Wednesday, February 14th.

All **cooked** sales are **preorder** only.

Prices are: Frozen uncooked \$9.00

Cooked (butter only or butter & onions) \$10.00

Please call one of the following numbers to order your pierogies.

570-429-0863 570-429-0071 570-429-0343

Pick up time is between 11:00 AM and 1:00 PM

We will also have homemade Rice Pudding each week—
 1st come basis (no pre-orders) \$3.50/ lb.

PLEASE CUT OUT AND SAVE

Order by 7:00 PM on	Pick up on between 11:00 AM and 1:00 PM
Monday, February 12 th	Ash Wednesday, February 14 th
Wednesday, February 21 st	Friday, February 23 rd
Wednesday, February 28 th	Friday, March 1 st
Wednesday, March 6 th	Friday, March 8 th
Wednesday, March 13 th	Friday, March 15 th
Wednesday, March 20 th	Friday, March 22 nd
Monday, March 25 th	Holy Week, March 27 th

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES FOR ST. CLARE OF ASSISI PARISH HOLY CROSS PARISH

- February 17** Lenten Adult Formation
“*Understanding & Prayer the Mass: The Center of our Prayer*” presented by Rev. Philip Maas. ICC Hall 8:30 – 12:30
- February 17** Confirmation Retreat @ Nativity
10:00 AM – 2:30 PM
- February 17** Knights of Columbus Soup Sale
9:00AM – Noon @ SCA Hall
- March 2** HC Meatloaf Dinner 4pm-7pm
Pre orders only
- March 3** Breakfast at ICC Hall 8:00 AM – 11:30 AM
- March 11 – 13** Parish Mission
- March 16** 1st Penance SCA & HC @ St. Clare of Assisi @ 10:00 AM
- March 16-17** HC Candy Pick up
- March 22** HC Bleenie Sale
- March 25** Lenten Penance Service @ St. Clare of Assisi @ 7:00pm
- April 4** HC Kitchen
- April 20** HC Spaghetti & Meatball Dinner
- April 25** Confirmation @ 4:30 St. Pat’s
- April 27** 1st Communion Retreat @ HC
- April 28** 1st Communion at SCA 10:45 AM
- May 5** 1st Communion at HC 10:45 AM
- June 10 – 13** 1st week of Boot Camp
- June 24-27** 2nd week of Boot Camp

Knights of Columbus Soup Sale will be held on Saturday, February 17th from 9:00 AM – Noon in the church hall.

PREP EVENTS

- January 31 – March 6^h** 1st Penance students begin class at SCA (both parishes) from 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM.
- March 10** 1st Penance Retreat @ SCA 2:00 PM
Both Parishes
- March 11 -13** Parish Mission
- March 20 – April 24** 1st Communion students begin class from 6:00 – 7:30 each at their own parish.
- March 20 & April 3** Confirmation students begin class from 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM at SCA for both parishes.
- April 10 & April 17** Confirmation students will have class from 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM at HC for both parishes.
- April 21** SCA 1st Communion Retreat
- April 25** Confirmation at St. Pat’s at 4:30 PM
- April 27** HC 1st Communion Retreat
- April 28** SCA 1st Communion at 10:45 AM
- May 5** HC 1st Communion at 10:45 AM
- June 10-13 & June 24-27** Boot Camp



ST. CLARE OF ASSISI PARISHIONERS

*We’re excited that the Disciple Maker Index survey officially goes LIVE on Wednesday, February 14th. The survey will ONLY be available from February 14th at 12:00 AM to March 27th at 11:59 PM. To complete your survey, visit <https://portal.catholicleaders.org/d/b3bg3b>. If you prefer a paper copy, you can find them in the back of the church. You may submit your completed paper survey by dropping it off in a sealed envelope to the Rectory where it will be forwarded to the Catholic Leadership Institute. All responses will be confidential and the parish will ONLY receive information about the community as a whole. *We really need your help in making this a success, so please participate!**

LOVE YOUR PASTOR

According to recent studies... 4,000-5,000 pastors quit each year. They don't quit because they have a lack of faith in God. They don't quit because they don't believe in the calling God has placed on their life. Most don't even quit because of financial reasons.

Pastors quit because they are overwhelmed with mental exhaustion.

Until you're a pastor you'll never fully understand what it's like to carry spiritual burdens for people. Getting up in the middle of night, praying for your family of faith. Awakened in the middle of night with someone on your heart. Overwhelmed with concern by a person's absence or distance.

Your mind continually occupied with the presentation of the upcoming Sunday message - how to preach it, what to teach on, how do we apply it? Getting critiqued on a continual basis.

Being told you need to do better or that some areas of the church simply need to be better.

Pastors invest their whole life into people and yet people will turn their backs on their pastor at the first sign of a storm, usually without a conversation.

Pastors stand in the middle of disputes.

Pastors stand in the middle of gossip.

Pastors council broken marriages.

Pastors comfort those who have suffered loss. Pastors navigate the waters of imperfect people with a desire to see each one thrive in their faith.

They long for spiritual breakthroughs. Your pastor craves the very best for you. All of this, while trying to battle their own flesh and grow in their own relationship with God.

Pastors see the posts.

Pastors hear the whispers.

Pastors endure the negativity.

Pastors are continually caring for the sheep while fending off the wolves.

Pastors pour out and pour out - rarely being poured into. What keeps a pastor going? YOU!

You - the person who is genuinely hungry.

You - the person who worships with passion and freedom.

You - the teenager who is striving to be a follower of Jesus.

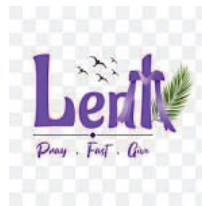
You - the single mom who understands the beauty of the hope found in Christ.

You - the one who walks through the door for the first time because you're in search of peace, hope, and community.

Pray for your pastor. Serve with your pastor.

Talk with your pastor. Encourage your pastor.

They are human. They need You more than you think!



2024 Lenten Schedule

Ash Wednesday-

SCA – 6:30 PM Mass
w/Distribution of Ashes.

HC – 8:30 AM Mass w/
Distribution of Ashes.

Daily Mass Schedule – SCA Thursday & Friday
8:00 AM.

HC – Tuesday 8:30 AM, Wednesday 8:30 AM
(Special Mass Schedule March 13)

Lenten Adult Formation - Saturday February 17th
at ICC Social Hall 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM

“*Understanding & Prayer the Mass: The Center of our Prayer*” presented by Rev. Philip J. Maas M. Div., M.A. Fr. Maas was ordained in 2021 and currently services as the Parochial Vicar of St. Thomas More Parish Allentown. (RSVP by Feb 12)

Stations of the Cross – 6:00 PM Tuesdays both churches

Date	SCA	HC
2/20	Fr. Bill	Knights of Columbus
2/27	John Matulevich	Fr. Bill
3/5	Fr. Bill	TBD
3/19	TBD	Fr. Bill

Confession Schedule following Stations of the Cross

Tuesdays SCA – 2/20; 3/5 HC – 2/27

Saturdays SCA 3:15 PM HC after 5:30 PM
Mass

Communal Penance Services

3/21 6:00 PM St. Joseph the Worker, Frackville
(3-4 Priests)

3/25 7:00 PM St. Clare of Assisi (5-6 Priests)

3/27 6:00 PM St. Mary's Byzantine, Mahanoy
City Pre-Sanctified Liturgy
7:00 PM Confession (Fr. Jim & Fr. Bill)

Communal Anointing of the Sick

SCA 7:00 PM Parish Mission Wednesday,
March 13

HC 6:00 PM Mass with Anointing of the Sick,
Tuesday, March 26



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