

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Fr. Michael says.....



Pope Francis, the 265th successor of St. Peter, died on Monday after a long hospital stay and a brief time back in the Vatican. He actually made what would be his final public appearance the day before, on Easter Sunday, giving the “Urbi et Orbi” blessing (a blessing for the city of Rome and the world).

The Church then entered into 9 days of mourning. Pope Francis’ funeral took place on Saturday in St. Peter’s Square. He was buried, at his request, in the Basilica of St. Mary Major - home of the famous Marian image *Salus Populi Romani*, which Pope Francis often visited before leaving and when returning to Rome.

When the pope dies, the College of Cardinals is responsible for running the Church but only to keep necessary things going.

After 15 days, the conclave begins with cardinal electors - those under 80 - moving into the Domus Sanctae Marta and celebrating a Mass for the Election of a Pope.

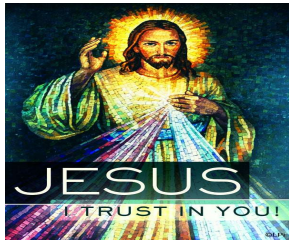
After Mass on the first day, the electors vote once on the first afternoon and then 4 times a day in the following days with a two-thirds majority needed to elect a pope.

The voting continues for three days with a day or prayer taking place is no one is picked. The cardinals continue for seven more ballots if there is no result. After 33 rounds of voting, in the case of a deadlock, there is a run-off vote.

As Catholics, our role is to pray - so please pray for the repose of Pope Francis, for the cardinal electors, and for our next pope.

May God bless you for your goodness to His Church for the week of April 20th, 2025

(BLS) Adult Envelopes	\$5,458.00
Easter Envelopes	\$7,683.00
Good Friday (Holy Land)	\$1,285.00
Children’s Envelopes	\$4.00
Candles	\$184.90
SVdP (Holy Thursday)	\$888.00
SVdP	\$585.00
Improvement Fund	\$195.00
Loose	\$325.00
\$	
(OLL) Adult Envelopes	\$930.00
Easter Envelopes	\$870.00
Good Friday (Holy Land)	\$240.00
Children’s Envelopes	\$0
Candles	\$73.00
SVdP (Holy Thursday)	\$330.00
SVdP	\$20.00
Improvement Fund	5.00
Loose	\$76.00



THIS Sunday, April 27th.
Divine Mercy Retreat

The retreat will take place from **1:00pm to 5:00pm, starting in lower Sargus Hall.** We will have a couple talks and testimonies about God’s mercy and the Divine Mercy devotion itself. We will also pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet. The retreat will conclude with Eucharistic Adoration and confessions at 4:00pm. I encourage everyone to attend!

Prayer at the Passing of Pope Francis
Lord Jesus, you have called Pope Francis to yourself. Thank you for the gift of his papacy. When he was with us, he tirelessly showed the Church your constant mercy toward sinners. Grant him now your mercy and let him rest eternally with you in your Kingdom. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Franciscan Missionaries of the Eternal Word offered this prayer for the Holy Father upon his passing.

WEEKLY MASS INTENTIONS

Sat. 4:30pm	Apr. 26 (BLS)	Divine Mercy Sunday Meg Mackey (daughter, Kaci Chaney & family)
Sun 8:00am	Apr. 27 (BLS)	Divine Mercy Sunday Living & deceased members of our Wintersville parishes
9:30am	(OLL)	Mary Skater (Helen & Jerry Grimm)
11:00am	(BLS)	Beverly Fijewski (husband, Robert & family)
Mon. 8:00am	Apr. 28 (BLS)	Easter Weekday Benita Morelli (Bruce & Toni Morelli)
Tues. 8:00am	Apr. 29 (BLS)	St. Catherine of Sienna Virgin & Dr. of the Church Brian T. Shannon (Family)
Wed. 8:00am	Apr. 30 (BLS)	Easter Weekday Elizabeth Freehling (Mark & Ann Recznik)
Thurs. 8:00am	May 1 (BLS)	Easter Weekday Msgr. Lawrence Luciana (Janet Orler)
5:15pm	(BLS)	Pat Porter (Kathy & Rob DiBenedetto)
Fri. 8:00am	May 2 (BLS)	St. Athanasius, Bishop & Dr. of the Church Dolores Lapinski (Henry & Janet Pietrzak)
Sat. 8:00am	May 3 (BLS)	Sts. Philip & James, Apostles Kathy Corabi (Michael & Toni Gurskey)
Sat. 4:30pm	May 3 (BLS)	Third Sunday of Easter (Mary) Pat Wise (BLS friends)
Sun. 8:00am	May 4 (BLS)	Third Sunday of Easter Bonnie Kaine (husband, Bob)
9:30am	(OLL)	Living & deceased members of our Wintersville parishes
11:00am	(BLS)	Rudy DiCarlo (Yolanda Almonte)

Question:

Where did the feast of Divine Mercy come from?

Answer:

If you were born well before the year 2000, you know the feast of Divine Mercy has not always been celebrated in the Church. In the early 1900s, a young Polish nun began receiving private revelations. Jesus appeared to her during her times of prayer, speaking a message of mercy and love for the world. She received a set of prayers — the Divine Mercy Chaplet — and the request to have a feast day established to remind the Church of the mercy of God.

St. Faustina died in 1938, on the cusp of war and in the midst of one of the most violent centuries in the history of the world.

Her story and her diaries began circulating in Poland and beyond. It quickly became apparent that this was a holy young woman, and the cause for her canonization opened. In the year 2000, she was canonized by the first-ever Polish pope, St. John Paul II. On her canonization day, he established the second Sunday of Easter as Divine Mercy Sunday, “a perennial invitation to the Christian world to face, with confidence in divine benevolence, the difficulties and trials that mankind with experience in the years to come.”

©LPi



Please remember in your prayers the intentions of our Holy Father, Pope Francis

APRIL

(For The Use of New Technologies)

Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.

In the hospital as of April 23:

**Robert Malcolm &
Rosemary O'Brien**





LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

May 3rd & May 4th

Saturday 5/3

4:30pm

Lector: Joe Zoric

EMOCH: Sandy Morelli

Altar servers: Joe Hewitt & Aiden Marrow

Sunday 5/4

8:00am

Lector: Toni Dondzila

EMOHC: Teresa Ossio

Altar servers: Felix Velez & Mateo Vitello

9:30am (OLL)

Lector: David Mayher

Altar servers: (Volunteer)

11:00am

Lector: Kathleen Krivoniak

EMOHC: Jodi Taylor

Altar servers: Krivoniaks

If you are unable to be at your designated ministry when you are scheduled, it is your responsibility to find a replacement. Thank you! Please don't just not show up.

PARISH NEWS / EVENTS



First Communion will be held on **Sunday, May 4**, during 11:00am Mass.

The Catholic Women's Club will sponsor a **reception** to congratulate all First Communicants and their families, **immediately after 11:00am mass** in upper Sargus Hall. All parishioners are invited to attend. The Women's Club will provide gifts for those receiving their First Communion. There will be cake and light refreshments for everyone.



DONUT SUNDAY: Is also next Sunday, May 4, and will be held in conjunction with the reception for the first communicants in upper Sargus Hall after the 11:00am mass. What a wonderful way to gather and share in parish fellowship!



BLS / OLL BUS TRIP:

Though it's pretty far in the future, I'd like to call your attention to a fun opportunity that we haven't tried before (at least since I've been assigned to these parishes).

On Saturday, June 7th, we will be offering a **bus trip to "Holy Pittsburgh"**. Some of the sites

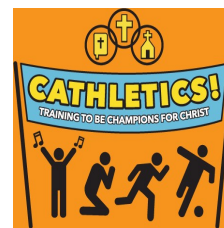


we will visit include the St. Anthony Chapel (home to an enormous collection of relics), Old Saint Patrick Church, St. Stanislaus Kostka Church, and the Historic Strip District.

The trip will cost **\$129 a person** (checks can be made out to Blessed Sacrament or Our Lady of Lourdes) and is organized by Wendt Touring.

A flyer will be distributed in the coming weeks. Please let me know if you have any questions.

VBS CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS!



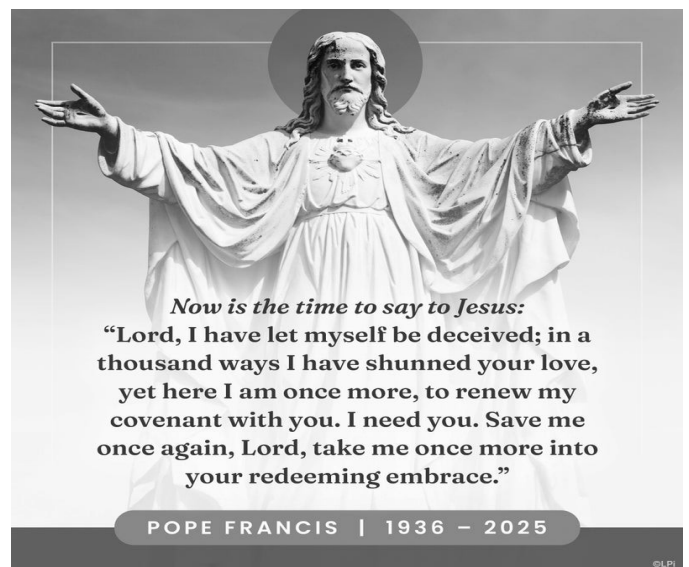
VBS 2025 will be held at the Blessed Sacrament campus on **June 9-13 from 9am - 12pm** each day. This year's theme is: **Catholic!** Training to be Champions for Christ!

Any Adults and older teens interested in leading stations and groups please sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/3rbrn527>

Younger teens interested in helping with stations, participant groups, and/or set up and take down, please sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/y8hf3b9m>

Service hours are available for teens. Participant registration is coming soon.

Contact WintersvilleParishesVBS@gmail.com with any questions. Come join the fun!



Now is the time to say to Jesus:
"Lord, I have let myself be deceived; in a thousand ways I have shunned your love, yet here I am once more, to renew my covenant with you. I need you. Save me once again, Lord, take me once more into your redeeming embrace."