



Mission Statement

We as members of the Body of Christ, through our thoughts, words and deeds, celebrate the presence of God in all people. As a community of believers, we answer Christ's call to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, shelter the homeless and love one another.

April 7, 2019

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Immaculate Conception Church

Holy Redeemer Church

Parish Office

605 Luzerne Avenue

West Pittston, PA 18643

Phone (570) 654-2753

Fax (570) 654-9244

Msgr. John J. Sempa, Pastor

Mr. James Meizanis, Deacon

Mrs. Joyce Cecconi,

Pastoral Associate

WEEKEND CELEBRATION

OF THE EUCHARIST

Sat 4:00PM Immaculate Conception

Sat 5:30PM Holy Redeemer

Sun 7:30AM Immaculate Conception

Sun 9:00AM Holy Redeemer

Sun 10:30AM Immaculate Conception

WEEKDAY CELEBRATION

OF THE EUCHARIST

7:30AM Immaculate Conception

8:30AM Holy Redeemer

5:30PM Immaculate Conception (Lent)

CONFESSION

Saturday 3:00PM - 3:30PM

Mondays 5:45-6:45PM (during Lent)

Immaculate Conception

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Wednesdays 9:00AM - 10:00AM

Holy Redeemer

Gluten Intolerant?

If you cannot tolerate gluten, please receive communion on the tabernacle side of the church and let the person distributing communion know you need gluten free.

April 7, 2019

Readings/Responsorial # 1030

Gathering: #480 Mercy, O God

Offertory: # 641 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Communion: # 784 Only This I Want

Recessional: # 964 The Master Came to Bring Good News

Weekly Collection

March 31, 2019

Collection **\$7,156.66**

E Giving **1,016.92**

Total **\$8,173.58**

Second Collection **\$1,153.83**

Care & Ed of Priests (March 2019)

\$734.50

The Light is on for You

On Monday, April 8, Msgr. will be in the confessional at Holy Redeemer from 6:00PM to 7:00PM.

Lenten Soup & Scripture

Tuesday, April 9th is the last in our Soup & Scripture series for this Lent. Our guest speaker this week is Rabbi Larry Kaplan. Thank you to all the parish groups for your participation and for providing the delicious array of soups & sandwiches every week. This week's session is hosted by Heavenly Hosts, Religious Ed Teachers, Money Counters and our Senior Group.

Deanery Penance Service

7:00PM on Monday, April 15th at St. John Evangelist, William St, Pittston

Social Concerns News

► **Help for Easter** If you or someone you know is struggling and could use help with food and Easter baskets for their children, please call the rectory or e-mail jcecconi50@gmail.com.

► **Easter Food Drive** We will gladly accept monetary donations or any non-perishable foods which will be used to fill Easter food baskets for local families..

► **Easter Baskets for Kids** If you can help, we would appreciate donations of Easter candy, Dollar Store toys or anything suitable for Easter basket gifts for children of all ages. Donations may be left in the vestibules or at the rectory.

► **Drivers Needed** On Saturday, April 13 at 10:00AM we need volunteers to deliver blessed palm and Easter gifts to nursing homes and the homebound.

► **Volunteers Needed** We welcome adults and teens needing service hours to join us on Sunday, April 14 at 5:00PM in IC hall to fill Easter Food Baskets and Easter Baskets for kids. On Monday, April 15 from 5:00PM to 6:00PM, volunteers are needed in IC hall for distribution of Easter baskets.

► **Drivers Needed** On Saturday, April 20 at 12:00PM at Holy Redeemer Church to deliver blessed basket to our homebound parishioners.

Organ Fund Envelope

For the month of March, the monies collected from our organ fund envelopes totaled **\$1,069.50** which has been deposited back into our diocesan savings account bringing our account balance to **\$31,115.00**.

The Sacrament of Confirmation

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated in our parish on Pentecost Sunday, June 9, 2019. The Sacrament will be administered by Monsignor Sempa. He will be assisted by Deacon Jim Meizanis. This year 31 boys and girls who are in 8th grade will be Confirmed. Next week a letter with paperwork will be mailed to these families. If your child is a member of our parish, in 8th grade and does not receive a letter, please call the rectory. Thank you to the members of our St. Clare Sewing Ministry who are designing red stoles for the boys and white stoles for the girls which they will wear when they are confirmed. Thank you to the Holy Name Society for underwriting the cost of the stoles.

Altar Servers, Cantors, EM's, Lectors

The new ministry schedules are in the sacristies of the churches. Please take one home today. For your convenience, the schedule can be found on the website.

Please contact your coordinator by April 8th with your availability to serve for the Triduum and Easter Masses. The schedule is as follows:

4/18 Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper...7:00PM
4/19 Good Friday Service.....1:00PM
4/20 Easter Vigil & Mass.....8:00PM
4/21 Easter Sunday Masses..... 7:30AM & 9:00AM
4/21 Easter Sunday Family Mass.....10:30AM

Lectors: Rosalie Cullagh 570-430-7319 rosan814@comcast.net
EM's: Teresa Crossin 570-357-3985 tacross5@comcast.net
Altar Serv: Donna Mason 570-903-9142 mmson8589@aol.com

Family Mass.....Make Your Own Sundae, Sunday

Our last family mass for this school year will take place at **10:30AM on Sunday, April 28**. Boys and girls who are in Kindergarten and 1st grade will participate as lectors, heavenly hosts, and gift bearers. Following this Mass everyone is invited to join us in the church hall for our annual "make your own sundae, Sunday." Our youth choir will sing. If your child would like to participate, please contact one of the following coordinators:

Lisa Falzone 237-2739 mybudget1@aol.com
Sara Konopka 498-9304 skono1683@yahoo.com
Mary Ann Oliveri 357-1778 mare0912b@epix.net

Graduation Mass & Brunch

Our annual Graduation Mass and Brunch honoring our 2019 high school graduates will be held on **Sunday, May 5th at 10:30AM**. Following the Mass the graduates and their families are invited to a brunch in the church hall. An invitation will be sent to our high school graduates next week. If you do not get an invitation, please call the rectory. We don't miss anyone. Thank you.

8th Annual Car Show..... May 19, 2019

This year we are kicking it up a notch!! Some new features at the car show will include: Display of historical military vehicles sponsored by Northeast Military Vehicle Group; Antique & Collectible vendors will be on site with some unique finds; a vendor with a display of nostalgic tin signs. For more information contact Mike @ 570-760-5704.

Youth Group Events

► **Youth Group Members** are asked to meet in **ICC hall at 5:00PM on Sunday, April 14, 2019** to help fill Easter baskets for kids.

► **Living Stations of the Cross** Our youth group's annual production of Living Stations of the Cross will be held on **Good Friday, April 19, 2019 at 7:00PM in Immaculate Conception Church.**

► **Living Stations Practice** will be held in IC Church at **7:00PM on Sunday, March 24, April 7, and April 14 and dress rehearsal is Wednesday, April 17 at 7:00PM.**

► **Easter Egg Hunt** Our annual Easter Egg Hunt will take place on **Saturday, April 20, 2019 at 12:15PM on the grounds of Holy Redeemer Church.** Youth Group members are asked to be there by 11:00AM to set up for the Easter Egg Hunt.

Diocesan Annual Appeal

DAA 2018 Parish Goal: \$32,000.00
Total Raised: \$27,747.22
Over (Under) (\$4,252.78)

Altar Candles at ICC Which will burn this week in loving memory of **Lola & John Rindgen** are donated by their daughter Patricia.

Holy Family Candle at ICC Which will burn this week in loving memory of **Mary Dente Denisco** is donated by her children.

Parish Bazaar 2019

Our annual parish bazaar will be held Thursday thru Saturday, **June 20, 21, & 22** on the grounds of Immaculate Conception Church.

Let's Play Ball!!

All boys and girls are reminded that once you have completed your weekly task, bring it in and place it in the bucket on top of your team's dugout! Your "Corpus Christi bat" will determine what team you are on...Team Sempa Saints or Team Alco Angels. As good deeds are brought in, your team will advance the bases. On Easter Sunday at the Family Mass, we will see who makes it to home plate. Always remember to have fun, play hard and Let's Play Ball!

Rail Riders Faith & Family Night

Our Holy Name Society is sponsoring this event on **Saturday, April 27th at 4:05PM at the SWB RailRiders PNC Field**. Our seating is the field reserved seats in the seating bowl and are \$5.00 each. There will be live music, a pregame sermon on the field and our group's name in lights on the big board in the middle of the 4th inning!! Field gates open @ 2:30 pm. Please contact Dave Palovchak @ 570-763-5616 or see him after ushering at the 4:00PM Mass to sign up. We need to know how many are attending. Transportation to and from the ballpark is up to the individuals. Please make reservations early.

Mass Intentions

April 8 thru April 14, 2019

Mon	7:30AM	Joseph & Teresa Cravatta By Daughter, Phyllis
	8:30AM	Dr. Peter Andrews, Sr. By M/M John Kozerski
	5:30PM	Mary Ann O'Boyle By Lori Hearst
Tues	7:30AM	Carl, John & Carolyn Cenera By Family
	8:30AM	Raymond Anthony Yunkunis By Dr William & Suzanne Yunkunis
	5:30PM	Mafalda Baldini By Family
Wed	7:30AM	Dino Pieri By Patty Lepore Morgan
	8:30AM	Raymond Saporito By Cheryl & Gary Liples
	5:30PM	Joseph McDonnell By Margaret Grimes
Thurs	7:30AM	Anita Prula By Son, Joseph
	8:30AM	Pamela Smith By Val Zurla
	5:30PM	Dec'd Membs of Giambra Family By Family
Fri	7:30AM	Mary Hensley By Patrick Murphy
	8:30AM	Joseph L. Venetz, Jr. By M/M Brian Jaworski & Family
	5:30PM	Helen Harzinski By Norma Pascucci
Sat	4:00PM	Angelo Alfano & Family By Grand & Great Grandchildren
	5:30PM	Genevieve Sidorowicz By Grandson, Walleye Grieskiewicz
Sun	7:30AM	Anna Sokach By Judy & Family
	9:00AM	James Kozloski By Family
	10:30AM	Dec'd Membs of Capizzi Family By Betty Ann & Mike Capizzi

THE PASCAL TRIDUUM

This is your invitation to follow Jesus' journey from Holy Thursday through Good Friday to the telling of salvation's story at the Vigil. Do this and you will have an Easter like no other. The Triduum—the three days beginning on the evening of Holy Thursday and ending on Easter Sunday—is an opportunity to experience the essence of Lent and more. The high point of the liturgical life of the Church, The Triduum, allows us to walk with Jesus in his mission of salvation from suffering and death to glorious resurrection. As we do so, we are moving from death to life in our own lives, just as we did in baptism. God is holy. This week is holy. Lent only makes sense and reaches its fullness in our participation in The Easter Triduum.

Holy Thursday, APRIL 18, 2019

Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:00PM

Night Prayer 10:00PM

This is the night when we remember how God freed his people enslaved in Egypt. It is the Passover of the Lord. At the Last Supper, Jesus washes the feet of the disciples as a sign of servanthood and commands us to do likewise. We hear again Christ's command (mandatum) to love and serve one another. We give thanks for the gift of Christ's presence in the Eucharist. All Extraordinary Ministers of Communion are called forth to be re-commissioned. There is no dismissal; we leave in silence; the story continues tomorrow. After communion the blessed sacrament is placed on the altar and remains there until Night Prayer at 10:00PM.

Good Friday, April 19, 2019

Passion of our Lord 1:00PM

This is the day of our salvation! The service commemorating Christ's passion and death is the most somber and solemn liturgy in our church year. All who enter the church should feel a deep silence settle over them and be struck by the barrenness of the church. The Church comes together to read from Scripture and to pray for the whole world. Veneration of the Cross is a common custom and is done through a simple touch or a kiss. This is not only a time to mourn the death of Jesus on the Cross, but a moment to remember that through his death on the Cross, we are given eternal life with him.

Living Stations of the Cross

Good Friday, April 19, 2019

7:00PM Immaculate Conception Church

All are welcome to attend this beautiful presentation of "Living Stations of the Cross" which is hosted annually by our parish youth group. Music is provided by our parish youth choir. Following the presentation, all are welcome to join the kids in the church hall for pizza.

Holy Saturday, April 20, 2019

Blessing of Baskets 12:00Noon

Holy Redeemer Church

Immediately after the Blessing of the Baskets, Easter baskets which will be prepared by members of Social Concerns, will be delivered to our homebound parishioners. Volunteers who are delivering these baskets are asked to pick them up at Holy Redeemer Church at the "Blessing of the Baskets."

Easter Egg Hunt 12:15PM

Holy Redeemer Church Grounds

All boys and girls are invited to our annual Easter Egg Hunt. Members of our youth group will be scattering hundreds of eggs on the grounds of Holy Redeemer Church. There will be a special section for toddlers and prizes for everyone!! Of course, we will expect a visit from the Easter Bunny!!

Easter Vigil & Mass 8:00PM

This is the most sacred night in the church's liturgical year. We remember that the death and darkness of the tomb does not triumph. It is shattered in the celebration of the Paschal Mystery. The service begins with the lighting of the new fire. We hear salvation's story. We renew our baptismal vows. We sing Alleluia. We ring bells. Sing the Gloria. Eucharist is shared. We rejoice! The Lord is risen!!

Easter Sunday, April 21, 2019

Mass 7:30AM.....Immaculate Conception Church

Mass 9:00AM.....Holy Redeemer Church

Family Mass 10:30AM.....(Family Mass/Youth Choir) ICC

At this Easter Sunday Family Mass, our youth choir will sing and children of the parish will participate as lectors, heavenly hosts, and gift bearers. The Easter Bunny just may join us with delicious treats for everyone. Finally, now that our Lenten journey is over, we will find out what team made it to home plate.....Team Alco's Angels or Team Sempa's Saints!!