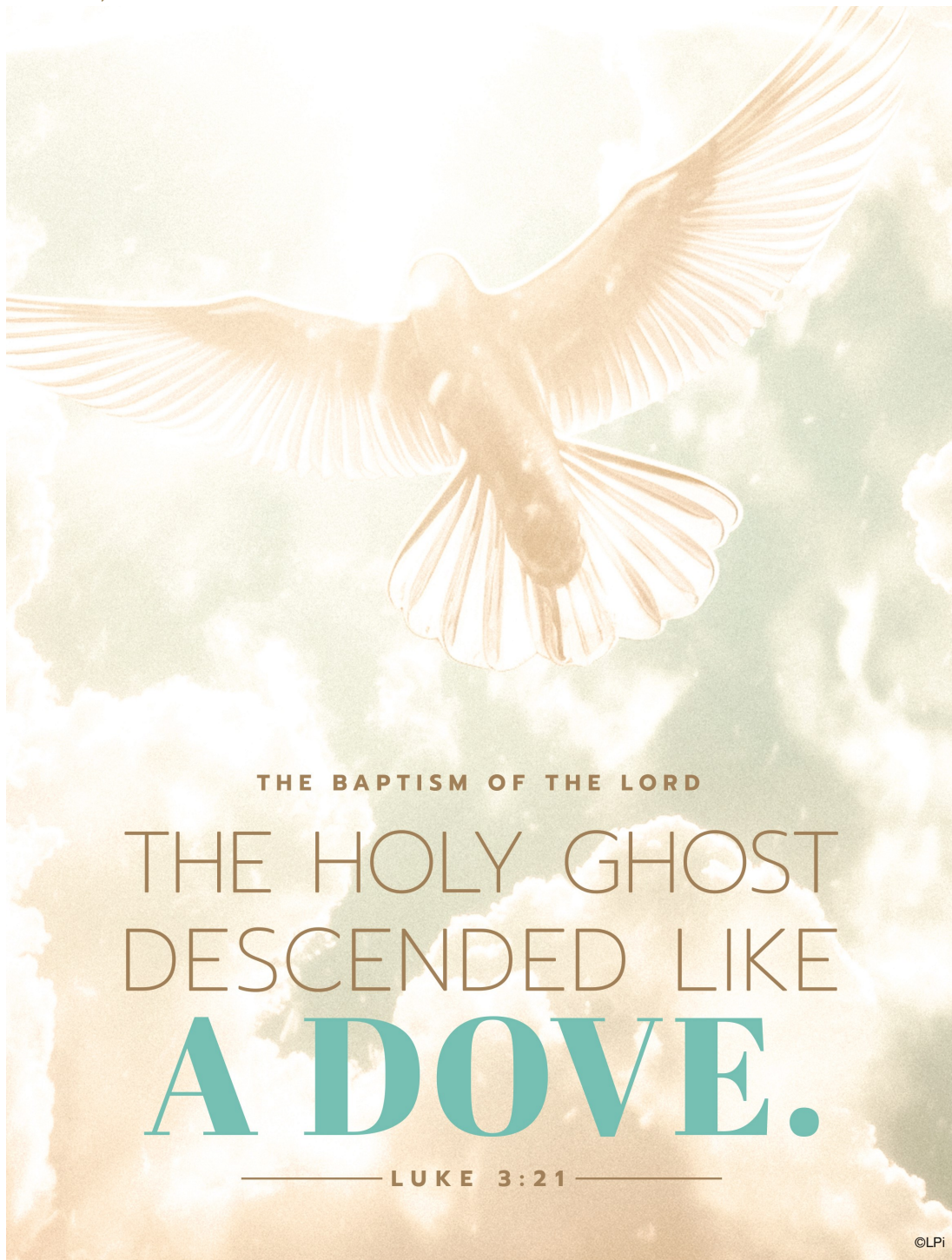




The Baptism of the Lord January 12, 2025

*St. Michael
the Archangel
Catholic Parish*



THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

THE HOLY GHOST
DESCENDED LIKE
A DOVE.

— LUKE 3:21 —

©LPI



Mission Statement

Compelled by the love of Christ,
we love others,
deepen our faith,
and transform our world.



PARISH OFFICE

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By appointment

ST MICHAEL CATHOLIC CHURCH

180 Gilbert St., Johnstown, PA 15906

BISHOP McCORT ELEMENTARY—WEST

Phone: 814 961-3622, Ext. 2

NOTE FROM FR. MARK

One More Christmas Card

On the Feast of the Holy Family, I shared a few notes written on various Christmas cards. I did that to share with everyone that many, indeed, carry very heavy burdens, and this time of the year is particularly difficult. And also, I wanted to remind you that the Holy Family carried heavy burdens as well, and we should not romanticize their difficult and demanding lives. Just this week, I received a "Christmas card." There was no return address, and I have no idea who sent the letter, but I thought I needed to share it with you. As you will see, the letter was very heartfelt and speaks about this suffering I wished to share with all of you. I know many of you share this pain, and we must always be aware of it! Here is the letter:

Dear Fr. Mark,

One More Christmas Card

On December 28th, I was a visitor and attended your 4:00 Mass. The Mass was very beautiful, but not so much for me this Christmas season. When I sat down, I said to myself, "God, please let his sermon speak to me." And, yes, did God come through! Reading those Christmas cards was quite poignant/impressive, not just for me, but I am sure for many others suffering through Christmas without a loved one. You see, I recently lost my beloved wife, leaving me alone with no children or family, the last survivor. The emotional pain is palpable and, at times, unbearable. The inescapable festivities of the holidays flood the senses with lights, food, decorations, music, TV, etc., as they surround everyone for months. It appears as if everyone around you is carefree and happy. But you reading those cards brought everyone to stark reality. It reminded me and the congregation that many others are suffering during the holidays and every day, many sitting in those seats in front of you, as you acknowledged. So, I just wanted to thank you for sharing those Christmas cards.

*I also wanted to thank you for speaking out on behalf of the immigrants, the majority of whom, as you said, want to come to this country with their children to make a better life. **Families!***

*Merry Christmas
From Michael,
A grief-stricken soul.*

Parish Faith Formation

It is a new year and the Jubilee Year of Hope. How can I convince you to come and join us in one of the six Parish Faith Formation (PFF) classes we offer each week? The **Moms and Dads groups** offer their version of support for moms and dads seeking to be better at their vocation. **Michele Varner's** class will be finishing up with the topics of Christmas, especially the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple and the Search for Jesus when He was lost at age 12. **Todd Hillegass** will be doing "**Wild Goose**" and moving on to "**Metanoia**," the idea of "having a mind!" and many other important topics. **Sean O'Dowd and Jerry Clark** are doing **Jeff Cavins' Old Testament walk**. (We really need to learn about that world to understand the Bible.) And I will be doing a course on the Sunday readings: "**The Rest of the Story!**" That is six, you have a lot of choices.

Join us, take your pick. Get some coffee and cookies and enjoy the class you choose.

**IT'S TIME FOR
SERVE OTHERS SATURDAY**



I'm sure many of you are aware that Norman, Mary, and Peyton were the victims of a house fire just before Christmas. They have been working hard to get back to normal and have made much progress. Still, there is much to do! We would love for you to join us in helping a family that devotes much time and energy to the needs of our parish community. The Eds live at 625 Horner Street. Please bring buckets, cleaners, and rags to help wipe down walls, ceilings, furniture, etc., and give the family a boost! Meet at Holy Grounds on **Saturday, January 18, at 9 am** for prayer, goodies, and fellowship. We will head move to our service stations at 9:30 am.

- ◆ Cleaning the Ed's
- ◆ No-sew blankets
- ◆ SVdP Thrift Shop (sort clothing)

THE ALPHA KITCHEN NEEDS YOUR HELP!

It is once again time for Alpha here at OMOS! Meetings will be held on Tuesday evenings starting January 14. Each week, a meal is provided for our guests and helpers, and we need YOU to help us make them happen! If you would like to donate food, please go to perfectpotluck.com and sign up! It is that easy!

Coordinator Last Name: **alpha meals**

Password: **OMOS**

If you have any questions, please contact Michelle St. Clair (814) 322-7163, Janette Cowan (814) 242-2489, or Estelle Milligan (814) 242-9316. Any and all help is appreciated!

**FAITH FORMATION YOUTH
MASSES**

Starting the New Year 2025, families and students of the third, fourth, and fifth-grade classes along with the middle school students, will celebrate with the Wednesday evening Mass once a month. The first Youth Faith Formation Mass will be held on **Wednesday, January 15, 2025**. Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament precedes Mass from 4:30 pm to 5:45 pm, and we will ask God to especially bless all vocations as well as help young people to discern their vocation in life. Following Mass, students will head to Holy Grounds for fellowship and goodies.

SAVE THE DATE: JOIN US FOR

A Celebration of Marriage

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2025

Beginning with 4:00PM Mass

followed by a Buffet Dinner at Anthony's Restaurant

Visit OMOStoday.com for more information

Everyone is welcome to attend

As Catholics we realize that no matter our station in life – married, single or religious – we have all benefitted from the sacred covenant of marriage, the foundation of family, society and our Catholic Church. Families become the domestic church and in so doing are the source of new disciples and new vocations to the priesthood, religious life, marriage and the single life. The point is – marriage is essential to our faith and so Catholic married couples and families must be intentionally nourished, sustained and strengthened by their parish community. ☐



National Marriage Week USA
MARRIAGE IS WORTH IT! • EVERY FEB 7-14

SATURDAY'S KITCHEN

The OMOS day of service at the Saturday's Kitchen of St. Vincent de Paul is **January 25, 2025**. We need 6-8 people to help serve lunch to about 80 individuals, beginning with set-up at 10:30 am and finishing by 1 pm. If you are interested in helping on **January 25**, please contact Julie Sheehan at the Parish Office (814) 535-7646. We also need dessert for the 80 people. Please let us know if you can bake some tasty treats and drop them off at Holy Grounds on **Friday, January 24, between 9 am and 3 pm**. You are living God's mission of caring for those less fortunate. God bless.

PLEASE JOIN US!



The Alpha Course at Our Mother of Sorrows Begins Soon!!

OMOS has been hosting the Alpha Course for ten years. We have yet to find a better program to help you get to know Jesus Christ better. The course is built around an evening sharing a dinner, a conversation, and a video.

Our in-person Alpha Course begins on Tuesday, January 14, at 6 PM and runs through April 1. If Tuesdays don't work for you, Alpha is also being offered on Sundays at Liberty Grace Church in Richland. The weekend away will be held on February 28 and March 1.

To learn more and to register, go to
www.omostoday.com/alpha/ or call 814- 535-7646
Invite a friend to join you.
Sign up today!

HELP WITH ALPHA

Those who have taken Alpha are encouraged to help. We are collecting our volunteer list now on www.omostoday.com/alpha. We need help with small groups, kitchen, set-up, clean-up, and hospitality.

A new volunteer opportunity this year is being part of the weekly prayer team. The prayer team entails praying for a specific intention related to the success of the Alpha course. You will receive an email weekly as to the intention of the week.

Please volunteer today!

COME BACK AND BRING A FRIEND

The Alpha course grows and continues because of word of mouth. The course has spread all over the globe because of people's experiences and then telling others. If you have taken Alpha years ago and would like to see the new video series, come back and bring a friend. Do you know someone who could benefit from Alpha? Invite them. Please encourage them to go to our website to sign up.

Alpha is a great place for you to invite others to explore faith.

MINISTRY SCHEDULES**Monday, January 13**

6 a.m. –Eucharistic Adoration

8 a.m. –Mass at OMOS

Servers: Noah Feighner & James Smedberg**Lector:** Doug Puchko**Tuesday, January 14**

6 a.m.– Eucharistic Adoration

8 a.m. –Mass at OMOS

Servers: Millie Kohut & Cassidy Stephenson**Lector:** Michelle Petrell**Wednesday, January 15**

7 a.m. Praise and Worship

4:30 p.m.–Eucharistic Adoration

5 p.m.– Confession

Server: Brian Koch & Millie Kohut**Lector:** Faith Formation Students**Thursday, January 16**

6 a.m.– Eucharistic Adoration

9 a.m.– Mass at OMOS with Students

Servers: Students**Lector:** Students**Friday, January 17**

6 a.m.—Eucharistic Adoration

8 a.m.—Mass at OMOS

Servers: Annaliese Manalang & Noah Feighner**Lector:** Michelle Petrell**Saturday, January 18—Vigil**

3 p.m.—Confessions

4 p.m.—Mass at OMOS

Servers: Nicolas & Dominic Barger**Lector:** Andrea Criswell**Euch. Min:** Vicki Wesner (2), Kathy & Jim Ridella, Marilyn Billow, Tom & Nancy Simmons, Mark Voelker**Hosp.:** Kevin Evans, Gerri Isban, Mary & George Kogut, Rich & Deb Cowan, Pattie Porter, Kathy Lepsch**Saturday, January 18—Second Sunday in****Ordinary Time**

9 a.m. Mass at St. Michael's

Servers: Tim Burgess & Stanley Smith**Lector:** Mitzie Simmons**Sunday, January 19-Second Sunday in****Ordinary Time**

8:30 am– Mass at OMOS

Servers: Cassidy Stephenson & Damian Carbaugh**Lector:** Rosemary Zenone**Euch. Min:** Rick (2) & Evie Wess, Melinda Michalski, David & Estelle Milligan, Ed & Julie Sheehan**Hosp:** Marjorie Lechene, Jerry Unger, Estelle & Dave Milligan, John Shima, Janet Gleason, Jim & Joan Frischauf**Sunday, January 19-Second Sunday in****Ordinary Time**

11 am—Mass at OMOS

Servers: Brendan & Madelyn Murphy**Lector:** Tom Polacek**Euch. Min:** Mike Garver (2), Mike Thomas, Michele Varner, Sabrina Mezyk, Taylor Beneke, Matthew Carbonara, Barb Luckner**Hosp:** Rich Luckner, Michele Varner, Marianne Krizner, Mary Lynn Evans, Denise Mezyk, Annette Kamzik, Joyce Nesmith, Tim DiGuseppe**SUNDAY REGULAR COLLECTION****January 5, 2025**

Envelopes\$ 7,633

Loose 2,572

Online 11,994

Total \$ 22,199

St. Michael's 1,968

MASS INTENTIONS**Saturday, January 11-Vigil**

4 pm

George Bemederfer, Sr.

(Sondre Harteis)

Saturday, January 11-Baptism of our Lord

6 p.m.

Bernice Stem (Shane & Lisa Downey), Patricia Stem (Nancy Popchak) & Living & Deceased Members of the Military & Their Families (Schrum Family)

Sunday, January 12– Baptism of our Lord

8:30 a.m.

Michael Omahne (William & Teresa Ray)

11:00 a.m.

Julie & John Giannone (Larry & Dottie Giannone)

Monday, January 13

8 a.m.

Larry Babish Family (Zoldos Family)

Tuesday, January 14

8 a.m.

Dolores Schmerin (Nick & Donna Antonazzo)

Wednesday, Jan. 15

6 p.m.

Julie Maser (Gary & Kim Weakland)

Thursday, January 16

9 a.m.

Mary Ann Bennear (Denise Mowry)

Friday, January 17

8 a.m.

Jim Stager (birthday remembrance from The Stager Family)

Saturday, January 18-Vigil

4 pm

Marcia Guzzi (Family)

Saturday, January 19-2nd Sunday in**Ordinary Time**

6 p.m.

Paulette Balog (Robert J. Patcher) & Patricia Balog (Bud & Toni Gregorchik)

*(Sanctuary Candle– Jan 12-18-Spack & Hicks Families)***Sunday, January 19– 2nd Sunday in****Ordinary Time**

8:30 a.m.

Lottie Ciupak (Loretta Ciupak)

11:00 a.m.

Joseph Antonazzo (Nick & Donna Antonazzo)

WEEKLY READINGS

Monday: Heb 1:1-6/Ps 97:1 and 2b, 6 and 7c, 9/Mk 1:14-20

Tuesday: Heb 2:5-12/Ps 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9/Mk 1:21-28

Wednesday: Heb 2:14-18/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9/Mk 1:29-39

Thursday: Heb 3:7-14/Ps 95:6-7c, 8-9, 10-11/Mk 1:40-45

Friday: Heb 4:1-5, 11/Ps 78:3 and 4bc, 6c-7, 8/Mk 2:1-12

Saturday: Heb 4:12-16/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15/Mk 2:13-17

Next Sunday: Is 62:1-5/Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 7-8, 9-10 (3)/1 Cor 12:4-11/Jn 2:1-11

REST IN PEACE**Madeline Figura**

OMOS Parishioner

Ed Tursic

Brother of Marge & Steve Pipan

Our prayers and sympathy go out to the family and friends.