

Intentional Disciples

THE CATHOLIC ACCENT

VOLUME 62, No. 7, SUMMER 2023

1,000
PEOPLE
OFFER
1,000
ACTS OF
SERVICE

NATIONAL
EUCCHARISTIC
REVIVAL
BEGINS

SUMMER
EVENT GUIDE
AND
INTERNATIONAL
FOOD FESTIVAL

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COVER PHOTO: JORDAN WHITEKO

THE CATHOLIC ACCENT

OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF
THE DIOCESE OF GREENSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

Mission:

Faith is a gift. Our mission is to share it.

Vision:

Create a more connected, accessible Catholic Church, inspire a deep spiritual connection, mobilize clergy as change agents and strengthen faith formation and evangelization.

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INTENTIONAL DISCIPLESHIP

BISHOP LARRY J. KULICK

The 50 days of the Easter season culminate with the Solemnity of Pentecost on Sunday, May 28. This celebration commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit on the apostles and the beginning of the Church.

The Gospel of St. John (20:19-23) tells us that on that first Easter evening, Jesus came and stood in the midst of his apostles, extended his peace, and then revealed the wounds on his hands and his side. After witnessing his crucifixion and resurrection, the disciples rejoiced at seeing him. Again, Jesus offered them peace and said to his disciples, "As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When Jesus breathed on them, they received the Holy Spirit, sanctifying them and inducing them to go out into the world and share the Gospel message.

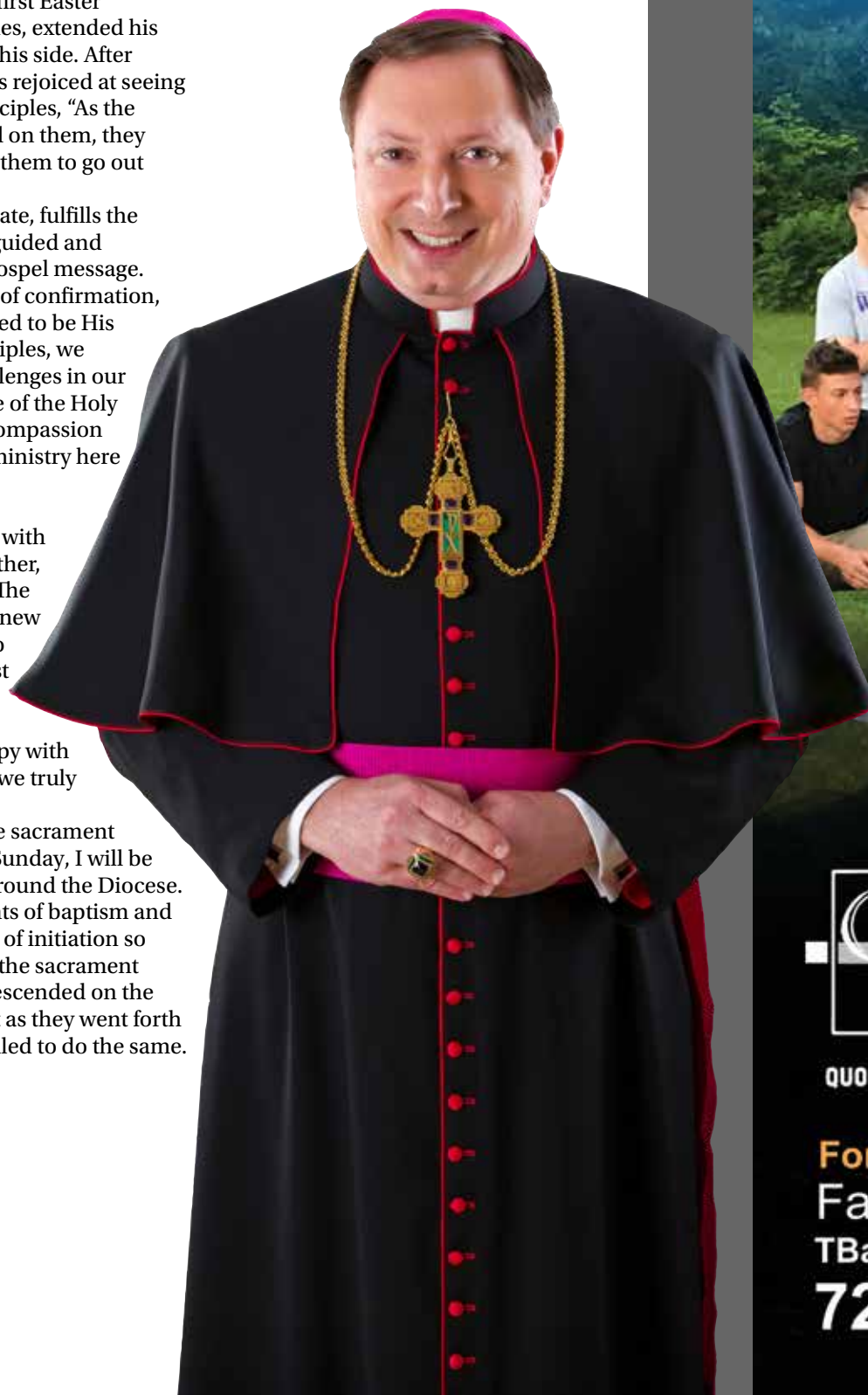
For over 2,000 years, the Church, by this divine mandate, fulfills the mission entrusted to it as each generation of disciples, guided and inspired by the Holy Spirit, continues to proclaim the Gospel message. By virtue of our baptism and sealed with the sacrament of confirmation, we are called to share the message of Christ. We are called to be His intentional disciples. When we become intentional disciples, we become His servants in the world. We embrace the challenges in our relationships and daily lives, and, infused with the grace of the Holy Spirit, we choose to respond with the love, mercy and compassion we've learned through Christ's example of His life and ministry here on earth.

In these times of confusion, strife, war and upheaval, discipleship can transform our world. But it must begin with a renewed personal encounter with Christ. Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, spoke about this in "Evangelii Gaudium: The Joy of the Gospel." He asks us to grow in our faith and renew our encounter with Christ. This encounter is available to us when we share in his Body and Blood in the Eucharist at Mass. It is through that powerful experience that we understand the catechetical teaching that helps "to know, to love and to serve God in this life and to be happy with him forever in the next." It is through the Eucharist that we truly experience the joy and love of the risen Christ.

During this Easter season, I have been celebrating the sacrament of confirmation at many of our parishes. On Pentecost Sunday, I will be celebrating adult confirmations with candidates from around the Diocese. These are parishioners who have received the sacraments of baptism and first Eucharist, and will be receiving the final sacrament of initiation so they can share in the full communion of the Church. In the sacrament of confirmation, we receive the same Holy Spirit who descended on the Blessed Mother and the holy apostles on Pentecost. Just as they went forth into the world to proclaim the Gospel, so are we also called to do the same.

+ Larry J. Kulick

The Most Reverend Larry J. Kulick, J.C.L.
Bishop of Greensburg



HIGH SCHOOL YOUNG MEN: QUO VADIS?

Where are you going?

Sports, great talks, eucharistic adoration, Mass, games, food, and time with the Diocese of Greensburg seminarians.

QUO VADIS DAYS

Christ Our Shepherd
CENTER

July 23-26, 2023

Register Online:
GreensburgPriest.org

PRIESTLY VOCATIONS
DIOCESE OF GREENSBURG

For more information:
Father Tyler Bandura
TBandura@DioceseofGreensburg.org
724.552.2535

EUCCHARISTIC REVIVAL

1,000 PEOPLE 1,000 ACTS OF SERVICE

BY JENNIFER MIELE

Nearly 1,000 people gathered at Christ Our Shepherd Center in Greensburg in March for a one-of-a-kind Eucharistic Revival event, KNOW HIM: The Last Supper and the Gift of the Eucharist. This experiential evangelization event was designed to help visitors walk the path of Jesus so they, in turn, can walk with those in need of God's gifts.

In St. Joseph Chapel, Father Christopher J. Pujol, Episcopal Master of Ceremonies and Parochial Vicar of Blessed

Sacrament Cathedral Parish, Greensburg, explained the significance of washing feet and how it represents service to others. Afterward, each participant made a commitment to serving others by pinning a flower on a cross and recording their act of kindness on a notecard as a symbol of intentional discipleship.

"This cross is the mark of our salvation that we are marked with at our baptism. The cross we created was a wonderful witness and speaks of the impact that the Eucharistic Revival can have in a parish community and beyond," said Dr. Thomas Octave, Director of Sacred Music for the Diocese and one of the organizers of KNOW HIM.

In another room, Monsignor Michael J. Begolly, Pastor of Mother of Sorrows Parish, Murrysville, used a pictorial display to describe his recent trip to the Holy Land and preparing to receive the Eucharist. Bishop Larry J. Kulick presented the Eucharist as the bread of life and offered samples of paska, Easter and other breads. Monsignor Raymond E. Riffle, Diocesan Vicar General and Rector of Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, gave the keynote address about the gift of the Eucharist.

"The most powerful moment for me was putting the flower into the cross. Right then we made a commitment to serve God and our community," said Karen Dvorsky, a parishioner of St. Barbara Parish,

Harrison City, who attended the event with her best friend, Brenda Matthews, a parishioner of Blessed Sacrament Cathedral Parish.

"It pulled you in to make the experience that much more real—the bread, seeing where Jesus was in the Holy Land, the music, the washing of the feet. Every single presenter was wonderful," Matthews said.

PHOTOS: 77 DESIGN CO., JORDAN WHITEKO



Anna and Katie Szwerc



Monsignor Michael J. Begolly



Monsignor Raymond E. Riffle



Bishop Larry J. Kulick



The next step with experiential evangelization and Eucharistic Revival is to allow others to experience an event like this in their own community. The Last Supper display, including the vinyl mural, additional versions of the painting, Renaissance music and a 15-minute recorded talk by Lev, have become a "rentable" experience. A dozen parishes will host the display throughout 2023.

All this is part of a national Eucharistic Revival effort, a project initiated by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. Our task is to invite the faithful to reflect upon the mystery and meaning of the sacrament of the Eucharist in our lives. Our goal is to become a more Eucharistic community.

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Lenten Day of Reflection

brings faithful closer to God

BY MELISSA BROWN

Even before Matthew Very was asked to facilitate a Lenten Day of Reflection, he was so intrigued that he had already signed up as an attendee.

Very says it's difficult to slow down and step away from his busy life. The daylong retreat March 4 at Christ Our Shepherd Center, Greensburg, filtered the noise and gave him a chance to reflect solely on God.

The Greensburg Central Catholic Junior-Senior High School technology teacher posed questions to 200 faithful from five parishes—Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, St. Paul and Our Lady of Grace, Greensburg, St. Bruno, South Greensburg, and St. Benedict, Marguerite—eager to develop a deeper prayer life and a closer relationship with Christ.

"Retreats provide an opportunity to take those few hours and very purposefully spend time with God," said Very, a parishioner of St. Paul Parish for 29 years.

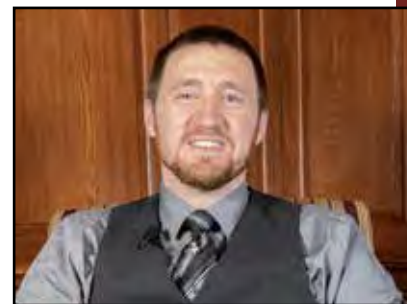
He said his group was eager to share on a deep level.

"They were ready to open up and share some vulnerabilities. Trust was established," he said.

The day included opportunities for prayer, adoration and a holy hour before the Blessed Sacrament. Bishop Larry J. Kulick celebrated Mass at the end of the day.

Organizer Monsignor James T. Gaston, Diocesan Director of Clergy Formation, said the group worked together for a "superb and wonderful day." He praised the pastors and staffs for coming together and was impressed with the level of collaboration between parishes.

The Lenten Day of Reflection was part of a three-year Eucharistic Revival process initiated by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) to invite the



Matthew Very

faithful to reflect upon the mystery and meaning of the Eucharist in our lives.

Monsignor Gaston chose the story of Zacchaeus for discussion.

"It's a wonderful story to break open how Jesus deals with all of the people in the Gospels who are fringe," he said. "Zacchaeus represents all of the people in need of God's help and salvation who are on the outside looking in. The way Jesus looks at Zacchaeus, the way he speaks to him, he wants to be close to him and invites himself to his house. It was a perfect story to illustrate the mercy of God."

He also elaborated on how we are one body in Christ.

"The body of Christ is the Eucharistic Christ living in us and in the body which is what we call the Church, the body of Christ," he said. "The body of Christ comes

forward to receive the body of Christ to go out into the world to be the body of Christ. That is one of the best definitions of Eucharist I have heard."

Attendee Mary McNamara, a parishioner



Mary McNamara

of St. Bruno Parish, said when she was leaving Mass one day, Father Lawrence L. Manchas, pastor of St. Bruno and St. Paul parishes, told her to "enjoy Lent." That got her attention. She realized she wanted to be closer to Jesus.

She also noted that she never really sang that much in church but has done so since because "I think Jesus likes it when I sing."



Father Lawrence L. Manchas



Katie Zuzik

Katie Zuzik, Pastoral Associate at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral Parish, thinks parishioners are ready for more regional events and finding ways to bring their Catholic community together into the bigger Church.

Father Manchas said the day's events dug more deeply into our relationship with the Lord and what it means to be Catholic.

"We take what we experienced here back to our parishes," he said. "I am so happy with the day and the way it turned out. I see it blossoming more ... in the future through the Holy Spirit."



Monsignor James T. Gaston

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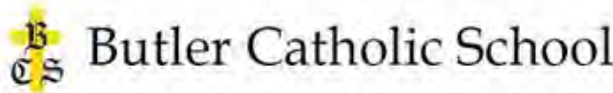
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Application requirements are detailed at AllSaintsButler.org/job-opportunities. They include the Diocesan principal application, resume, letters of recommendation, Diocese of Pittsburgh safe environment clearances, copies of transcripts, writing of your Catholic Philosophy of Education/Administration, and PA Certification: Elementary; Administrative K-6, K-12.

Please email documents to: Rev. Kevin Fazio at kfazio@AllSaintsButler.org.

For full details: AllSaintsButler.org/job-opportunities



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PA 154664

DEACON ANDREW J. HAMILTON TO BE ORDAINED TO THE PRIESTHOOD IN JUNE

BY CLIFF GORSKI

After more than seven years of study, Deacon Andrew J. Hamilton has been called by Bishop Larry J. Kulick to be ordained to the priesthood. His Ordination Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Kulick June 3, at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral in Greensburg at 10 a.m.

Deacon Hamilton graduated as salutatorian of his Ford City High School Class in 2015. He went on to attend Saint Vincent College in Latrobe to major in history. It was through an invitation by other faith-filled young people at Saint Vincent College that Hamilton returned to the sacraments. His new zeal in faith caused him to consider the seminary and the priesthood.

After touring a minor seminary on a whim, Deacon Hamilton realized he could study to be a priest. "A question consistently popped into my head: 'If not me, then who?'"

In 2016, Deacon Hamilton was accepted into the priestly formation program in the Diocese of Greensburg. In the spring of 2019 Deacon Hamilton graduated from Gannon University and completed college and minor seminary at St. Mark Seminary in Erie. He graduated this month from Saint Vincent Seminary, Latrobe.

"Whenever you start seminary, it seems like an insurmountable mountain to climb," Deacon Hamilton said. "Part of my life has been looking back on the blessings that have been bestowed upon me throughout my journey."

Leading up to his ordination, Deacon Hamilton is reflecting on the journey and is drawing all of the people who were part of his journey and prayed for him into his own prayers.

After his ordination, Deacon Hamilton, who is the son of William and Donna Hamilton of Ford City, plans to celebrate his first Mass at his home parish, Christ, Prince of Peace Parish in Ford City.

Deacon Hamilton's Ordination Mass will be livestreamed from Blessed Sacrament Cathedral on the Diocese of Greensburg Facebook page and YouTube channel.



PHOTOS: MARY SEAMANS and SUBMITTED

MAY



IRWIN

Immaculate Conception Parish

Drive-thru Burger Bashes
308 Second St.

May 13, June 10, July 8, Aug. 12, Sept. 9, Oct. 14
11 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Information: 724-863-9550

JUNE

HARRISON CITY

St. Barbara Parish
Car Cruise
111 Raymaley Road
June 4
noon-5 p.m.
(rain date June 11)
Information:
724-744-7474

HERMINIE

St. Edward Parish
Golf Outing
Madison Club
June 9
9 a.m. shotgun start
Cost: \$100
Information:
724-466-5197

APOLLO

St. James Parish and
Our Lady, Queen of
Peace Parish
Golf Outing
Links at
Spring Church, Apollo
June 10
8 a.m. shotgun start
Cost: \$90 in advance,
\$100 on June 10
Information:
313-600-0730
or 724-600-4290

WHITNEY

St. Cecilia Parish
Burger Bashes
220 St. Cecilia Road
**June 10, July 15, Aug. 19,
Sept. 16, Oct. 21**
11 a.m.-2 p.m.
Information:
724-423-3777

MOUNT PLEASANT

Visitation Parish Festival
730 W. Walnut St.
June 11
11 a.m.-9 p.m.
Information:
724-547-1911

GREENSBURG

St. Bruno Parish Festival

1715 Poplar St.

June 16-17
5-10 p.m.

Each Day: famous mile-high gob cake, basket, gift card and jewelry booths, 50/50, bake sale, children's games, face painting, games of chance, food and beverages.

Friday: car cruise, entertainment by Hamilton Avenue

Saturday: entertainment by Mr. Jones and the Diva

Information:
724-836-0690

SCOTTTDALE

St. John the Baptist Parish Festival

501 S. Broadway St.

June 17-18
noon-9 p.m.

Festival food, live music, basket raffles, children's activities, games of chance

Information:
724-887-6321

NORTH HUNTINGDON

St. Elizabeth
Ann Seton Parish
"Cruis-ades" and
Bike Blessing
200 Leger Road
June 25
1:30-4:30 p.m.
Information: seashn.org

JULY

GREENSBURG

St. Benedict
Parish Festival
260 Bruno Road
July 8, 6-9 p.m.
(outdoor Mass at 5 p.m.);
July 9, 1-6 p.m.
Information:
724-834-9045

St. Paul Parish
Trash 'n' Treasure Sale
820 Carbon Road
July 12, 4-8 p.m.
(earlybird);
July 13-14, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.;
July 15, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
(bag sale)
Information:
724-834-6880

CONNELLVILLE

St. Rita Parish Festival

116 S. Second St.

July 13-15
5:30-10 p.m.

Each Day: Homemade Italian food, entertainment, bingo, 50/50, basket raffles, games.

Thursday: Abacus Jones

Friday: 80s Enough

Saturday: Party Time Polka

"Mangia Mania" Italian
food eating contest
(Saturday, 7 p.m.)

Information:
724-628-6840

HARRISON CITY

St. Barbara
Parish Festival
111 Raymaley Road
July 14-15, 5-10 p.m.
Outdoor movie night
(featuring "Coco")
July 18, 8:30 p.m.
Information:
724-744-7474



CRABTREE

St. Bartholomew Parish Our Lady of Mount Carmel Celebration

2538 State Route 119
July 13-16

Thursday, 7 p.m., exposition of Blessed Sacrament, rosary, Benediction, Mass, novena concludes; Friday and Saturday, festival grounds open at 5 p.m.; Friday, blessing of bikes, art show; Saturday, fireworks; Sunday, 10 a.m. closing Mass and procession through town and daytime fireworks tribute to Our Lady

Information: 724-834-0709
stbartholomewcrabtree.org

PERRYOPOLIS

St. John the Baptist Parish Festival

3332 Pittsburgh St.

July 16
11 a.m.-7 p.m.

Homemade ethnic foods, kids area, basket and cash raffles, live music (Tim Litvin Band 1-3 p.m.)

Information:
412-699-5257

HERMINIE

St. Edward
Parish Festival
& Food Truck Rally
120 St. Edwards Lane
July 23
noon-6 p.m.
Information:
724-446-5197

MOUNT PLEASANT

St. Pius X
Parish Festival
222 Summit St.
July 23
11 a.m.-9 p.m.
Information:
724-547-1911

LATROBE

St. Vincent Basilica
Parish Festival
St. Vincent Grove,
320 Monastery Drive
July 22
10 a.m.-8 p.m.
Information:
724-858-6855 or
dancolcombe@gmail.com

AUGUST

MONESSEN

The Epiphany of Our Lord Parish Festival

44 Pennsylvania Blvd.

Aug. 4, 5-9 p.m.
Aug. 5, noon-10 p.m.

Each Day: games, raffles, food.

Friday: Street Level Band

Saturday: car show, BelAirs, Elvis tribute artist Eddie Steen, American Pie, outdoor Mass at 10 p.m.

Information:
724-684-7661
eolparish.com



MURRYSVILLE

Mother of Sorrows Parish Community Festival

4202 Old William
Penn Highway

Aug. 4-5, 4-9 p.m.

"Taste of Murrysville"
food court featuring
local restaurants, live
music, games of skill and
chance, basket raffle.

Information:
724-733-8870

AUGUST continued ...

GREENSBURG

Blessed Sacrament
Cathedral Parish
"Stellar"
July 10-14, 9 a.m.-noon
Information:
724-834-3710, ext. 35,
804-731-4100 or
rzempoluchfamily@gmail.com

HARRISON CITY

St. Barbara Parish
"Camp Virtue" (grades 6-8)
July 10-14, 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.
Information: 724-744-7474

FOOTEDALE

St. Francis of Assisi Parish
"Monumental"
July 17-21, 9 a.m.-noon
Information:
kstavish@DioceseofGreensburg.org

FORD CITY

Christ, Prince of Peace,
and St. Lawrence Parishes
Held at
The Divine Redeemer School
"Hero Hotline"
July 17-21, 9 a.m.-noon
Information: 724-212-6740

FREEPORT

St. Mary, Mother of God Parish
"Fishers of Men"
(ages 4-grade 5)
July 17-21, 6-8:30 p.m.
Information: 412-337-5574

AUGUST

MONESSEN

The Epiphany of Our Lord Parish
(with St. Sebastian Parish)
"Water"
Aug. 8-11, 9-11 a.m.
Information: 724-929-9300

MURRYSVILLE

Mother of Sorrows Parish
(with St. Barbara, St. John
Baptist de La Salle and
St. Mary, Our Lady of Lourdes)
"Stellar"
(pre-K-grade 6; \$30 per child,
maximum of \$75 per family)
June 12-16, 1-4 p.m.
Information: 724-733-8870

UNITED

St. Florian Parish
"Saints—Role Models
for ALL Ages"
June 12-16, 9-11 a.m.
(ages 50 and older)
June 26-30, 6-8 p.m.
(ages 4-fifth grade, with at least
one family member joining for
an intergenerational experience)
Information:
724-423-5087

GREENSBURG

Our Lady of Grace Parish
(with St. Benedict Parish)
"Stellar"
(ages pre-K-grade 5)
June 19-23, 9 a.m.-noon
Information:
724-838-9480, ext. 16

YATESBORO

St. Mary, Mother of God Parish
"Wilderness Adventure
Through the Sacraments"
June 19-23, 6-8 p.m.
Information: 724-783-7191

APOLLO

St. James the Greater Parish
(with Our Lady,
Queen of Peace Parish)
"Stellar"
June 26-30, 9 a.m.-noon
Information:
724-478-4958 or
pmccauley@DioceseofGreensburg.org

IRWIN

Immaculate Conception Parish
"Great Big Beautiful World"
June 26-29, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Information:
skcheplc@DioceseofGreensburg.org

MASONTOWN

St. Francis of Assisi Parish
Labor Day Festival
101 W. Church Ave.
Sept. 2-3, 5-9 p.m.
Information:
724-583-7866

NEW ALEXANDRIA

St. James Parish
Car Cruise and Spaghetti Dinner
306 St. James Lane
Sept. 10, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.
Information:
724-668-2829

CADOGAN

St. Lawrence Parish Fall Festival
First Street
Sept. 16, 11 a.m.-9 p.m.
Information:
724-448-8610
or 724-763-9141

YOUNGWOOD

Holy Cross Parish Festival
718 Depot St.
Sept. 16, 6-9 p.m.;
Sept. 17, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.
Information:
724-925-7811
ssistek@dioceseofgreensburg.org

LOWER BURRELL

St. Margaret Mary
Parish Festival of
Friendship
3055 Leechburg Road
Aug. 11-12, 5-9 p.m.

Food trucks, live music,
games, basket raffle,
children's rides

Information:
724-335-2336
smmlb.org

CLYMER

Church of the Resurrection
Parish Festival and
Basket Raffle
349 Morris St.
Aug. 13, 11:30 a.m.-4 p.m.
Information:
724-254-3041
mhkirsch@dioceseofgreensburg.org

NEW KENSINGTON

Mount St. Peter Parish
Festa Italiana
100 Freeport Road
Aug. 4, 5-10 p.m.;
Aug. 5, after 4 p.m. Mass
Information:
724-335-9877 or
newkensingtoncatholic.org

EVERSON

St. Joseph Parish Festival
201 Painter St.
Aug. 5, 5-9 p.m.;
Aug. 6, 4-9 p.m.
Information:
724-887-6321

FOOTEDALE

St. Francis of Assisi
Parish Pasta Dinner and
Basket Raffle
528 Footedale Road
Aug. 6, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.
Information:
724-583-7866

LIGONIER

Catholic Charities' 21st
Annual Paul R. Smiy
Memorial Golf Outing
Ligonier Country Club
323 Country Club Road
Aug. 11, 10 a.m.
shotgun start
Registration/information:
CCharitiesGreensburg.org
724-837-1840, ext. 1504

NORTH HUNTINGDON
St. Agnes Parish

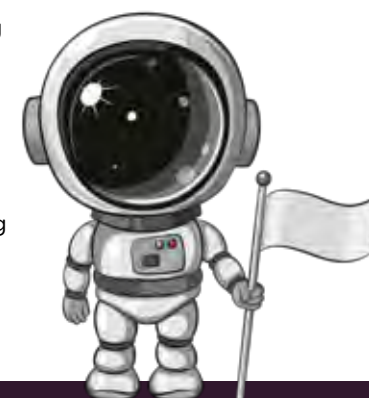
Bazaar and \$5,000 Giveaway
11400 St. Agnes Lane
Aug. 4-6

DJ Friday, live entertainment Saturday and Sunday;
food and games (including bingo and poker),
bake sale, basket raffle, children's train.

Information: 724-863-2626



WATCH NOW
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Golden Apple

winners
live, share faith

BY ELIZABETH SMITH

Inside the classrooms of our Diocese of Greensburg Catholic schools, three exceptional educators are living their faith through their careers—and preparing the next generation of God’s disciples.

Denise Horchar, Amy Smart and Pam Cullen each earned a Golden Apple Award this year from the Diocese, after being nominated by members of their school communities.

The award honors practicing Catholic teachers based not only on their nomination, but also on their professional experience; development and leadership; service to their school, church and community; education level; and a personal essay.

They received their awards at the A Celebration of Catholic Schools breakfast hosted by the Diocese this spring. And while each teacher has her own unique background, they are united by a common love of their work and their faith that guides them each day.

Pam Cullen

16 years in education
Greensburg Central Catholic Junior-Senior High School
Biology and STEM

When Cullen and her family arrived in western Pennsylvania from out of state years ago, they were in search of the right schools for their children.

“Every parent is looking for academic excellence, and I felt this was the best place to put them because we wanted them to also be a part of a community,” she said.

Her children attended Aquinas Academy, Greensburg, then graduated from GCC in 2016 and 2018. Cullen joined GCC after a transition from her former career as a physical therapist.

“I absolutely love being a teacher and never regretted that change,” she said.

Sixteen years later, Cullen says she was grateful just to be nominated for the Golden Apple. She says her work is a collaborative effort between herself, her “great” colleagues and—most importantly—her students.

“Not only do I get to spend time with young people and teach them, I get to unapologetically infuse that with my faith life,” Cullen explains. “A good part of my job is not only to teach science, but teaching them to be good human beings. Seeing students going to the food pantry ... or packing bags for the needy; to watch their faith and their religion translate to real life is really awesome to see every day.”



Denise Horchar

20 years in education
Queen of Angels Catholic School
Second Grade

Well before Horchar stepped into a classroom at Queen of Angels Catholic School in North Huntingdon, her children became students.

“We wanted our kids to be raised in a place where they were learning about their faith,” she said. “We didn’t always have answers to their questions, and we wanted that support. We fell in love with this school.”

Horchar began her work as a substitute teacher, then eventually was hired for a full-time role. She says her family supported her career success with frequent understanding when her work took more time than eight hours a day.

“There are so many nights when you are up (working), but I love what I do and can’t imagine doing anything else,” Horchar said. “I love to watch students gain knowledge, succeed and get excited about that.”

“It was never an option not to teach, and I love to do it here because it really is a ministry.”



Amy Smart

21 years in education
Mother of Sorrows School
Third Grade

When Smart became a mother, there was no question where her children would attend school.

After many years teaching at Mother of Sorrows School in Murrysburg and attending Catholic schools herself, she knew her children would receive the academic and spiritual guidance they needed. Her daughter is now in first grade at the school, and her son in third.

“The spiritual and educational foundation we receive is very strong,” she said. “It feels like a family here, where it feels like everyone knows you, welcomes you.”

Smart is thankful for the support of her colleagues throughout her career and says winning the Golden Apple is a “true honor” after devoting her life to teaching.

“This is the passion that was meant for me; this was the role I was supposed to have,” Smart said. “I enjoy sharing my love of learning with my students on a daily basis. Their passion for education and learning is just what makes me feel alive.”

“I love to watch their eyes light up because they learned to solve a problem or they learned an interesting fact in history and can’t wait for more.”

PHOTOS: JORDAN WHITEKO



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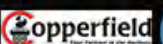
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Chicken Oreganato

Recipe from Father Anthony W. Ditto



INGREDIENTS:

- 8 bone-in skin-on chicken thighs
- 5-6 russet potatoes
- 4 carrots
- 1 large sweet onion (preferably Vidalia)
- 12 cloves of garlic
- ½ cup of extra virgin olive oil
- 1 rounded tablespoon of dried oregano
- 1 tablespoon salt (preferably kosher)
- 1 teaspoon black pepper



DIRECTIONS:

1. Preheat oven to 425°.
2. Trim fat and excess skin on each thigh, then wash each and pat dry.
3. Quarter potatoes, then half each quarter.
4. Cut onion into quarters, then 1-inch pieces.
5. Peel and smash each clove of garlic to release the oil, no need to mince.
6. Cut carrots into 1-inch pieces.
7. In a large bowl, place all vegetables on bottom and chicken thighs on top.
8. Place oregano, salt and pepper over the chicken thighs.
9. Pour the ½ cup of extra virgin olive oil over the top.
10. Mix the chicken, vegetables and seasoning together in the large bowl.
11. Place the chicken thighs in an oiled or vegetable-sprayed 13x9-inch baking pan or dish.
12. Put potatoes, carrots, onions, and garlic around each chicken thigh.
13. At this point, if chicken and vegetables look dry, you can drizzle the top lightly with extra virgin olive oil and also add more seasoning if it seems light, especially the oregano and pepper.
14. Cover the pan with foil and place in the 425° oven.
15. Bake covered for 15 minutes.
16. Remove foil and bake uncovered for an additional 40 to 45 minutes until the juices in the chicken run clear or the temperature of the chicken is 165° and potatoes and carrots are tender.
17. Remove from the oven and let it sit for 5 minutes before serving.
18. God bless and enjoy!



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Faith, Family and Discipleship

BY THE CATHOLIC ACCENT

The Office of Faith, Family and Discipleship has released an initial blueprint for the assessment of current strengths and needs of the parishes of the Diocese of Greensburg to develop policies, standards and best practices in a comprehensive catechetical plan. Titled “Becoming Eucharistic People: Forming Missionary Disciples in the Truth,” the proposal builds from the “Christ is the Truth” survey and the recently published strategic plan of the Diocese.

“This time of Eucharistic Revival in which the bishops of our country are inviting us to a renewed encounter with Jesus is a perfect season to further develop the catechetical offerings of our Diocese,” said Vincent Reilly, Managing Director of Faith, Family and Discipleship. “In visiting the clergy and catechetical staff of over half of the parishes in my first two months in the Diocese, I recognize the desire of our leaders to foster creative and new ways to bring Christ to the people of Western Pennsylvania.”

The final pastoral plan will develop from the work of eight committees made up of clergy, religious and laity that will discern the mission of the Office of Faith, Family and Discipleship proceeding forward: Catechist Certification, Youth Curriculum, Religious Education Best Practices, Sacramental Preparation, Youth and Young Adult Ministry, Christian Initiation, Marriage Catechumenate and Adult Discipleship and Formation. Each of these committees will be formed in the next four months and will be charged with seeking ways to form intentional disciples in the Truth of the Gospel in our current culture and environment.

“Our goal is to work together as a Diocese to engage entire families in a relationship with Jesus. This is not a top-down approach, but a collaboration of all our leaders and resources to meet the challenges of the culture in which we find ourselves. We are seeking new ways of forming disciples that will respond to the needs of our people,” Reilly said. “Rather than accepting the declining participation in the Church, we have an opportunity to reach out and revitalize our faith communities with the help of our Eucharistic Lord.”

Father Christopher J. Pujol baptizes Isla Josephine Hazlett, daughter of Garrett and Marysa Hazlett of Greensburg



Young Adult Experience Christ Our Shepherd Center



2023 Rite of Election Blessed Sacrament Cathedral



Philippine Bishop to return to Diocese in August

BY CLIFF GORSKI

Bishop Larry J. Kulick remembers the day the announcement came in April 2018. Father Medil Sacay Aseo, a priest from the Philippines who was serving in the International Priests Program in the Diocese of Greensburg, came to the Pastoral Center with a letter from the Papal Nuncio. The letter stated that Father Medil was appointed by the Holy Father, Pope Francis, as Bishop of the Diocese of Tagum in the Philippines.

“At the time, then-Father Medil was serving as a Parochial Vicar at St. Mary, Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish in Kittanning and St. Mary, Mother of God Parish in Yatesboro,” said Bishop Kulick, who at the time was Vicar General for the Diocese of Greensburg.

Bishop Kulick remembered that Bishop Edward C. Malesic, the fifth Bishop of the Diocese of Greensburg, wanted to make sure that the newly announced Bishop-elect immediately had a zucchetto, and a pectoral cross.

“Bishop Malesic gave him a zucchetto and I went to the archives and retrieved a pectoral cross that was given to the late Bishop Bosco by Pope Saint John Paul II,” Bishop Kulick said.

Bishop Aseo used those until he returned to the Philippines to prepare for his episcopal ordination.



Bishop Malesic left, former Bishop of Greensburg with now Bishop Aseo, Bishop of the Diocese of Tagum, Philippines.

After his episcopal ordination, Bishop Aseo was invited to return to the Diocese of Greensburg, but the pandemic stalled the timing of a visit. Bishop Kulick said plans for a visit resumed last year and will culminate with a visit in August. Bishop Aseo will celebrate Mass in his former parishes in the Diocese and will combine his message with a missionary trip for his own diocese.

“The Diocese of Tagum has been so generous to us, and the international missionary priests from that diocese have served us so well,” Bishop Kulick said. “Tagum is the largest represented diocese in our International Priests Program, so I would like to support Bishop Medil and the formation of priests in his diocese.”

Map of the Philippines

SAVE THE DATE

AUGUST, 26 2023

Christ Our Shepherd Center
Greensburg, PA



International Food Festival

As part of Bishop Aseo’s visit to the Diocese of Greensburg, an international food festival is being held to raise funds to support the priestly formation program in the Diocese of Tagum in the Philippines.

Watch for more details about how you can attend to support these vocations.

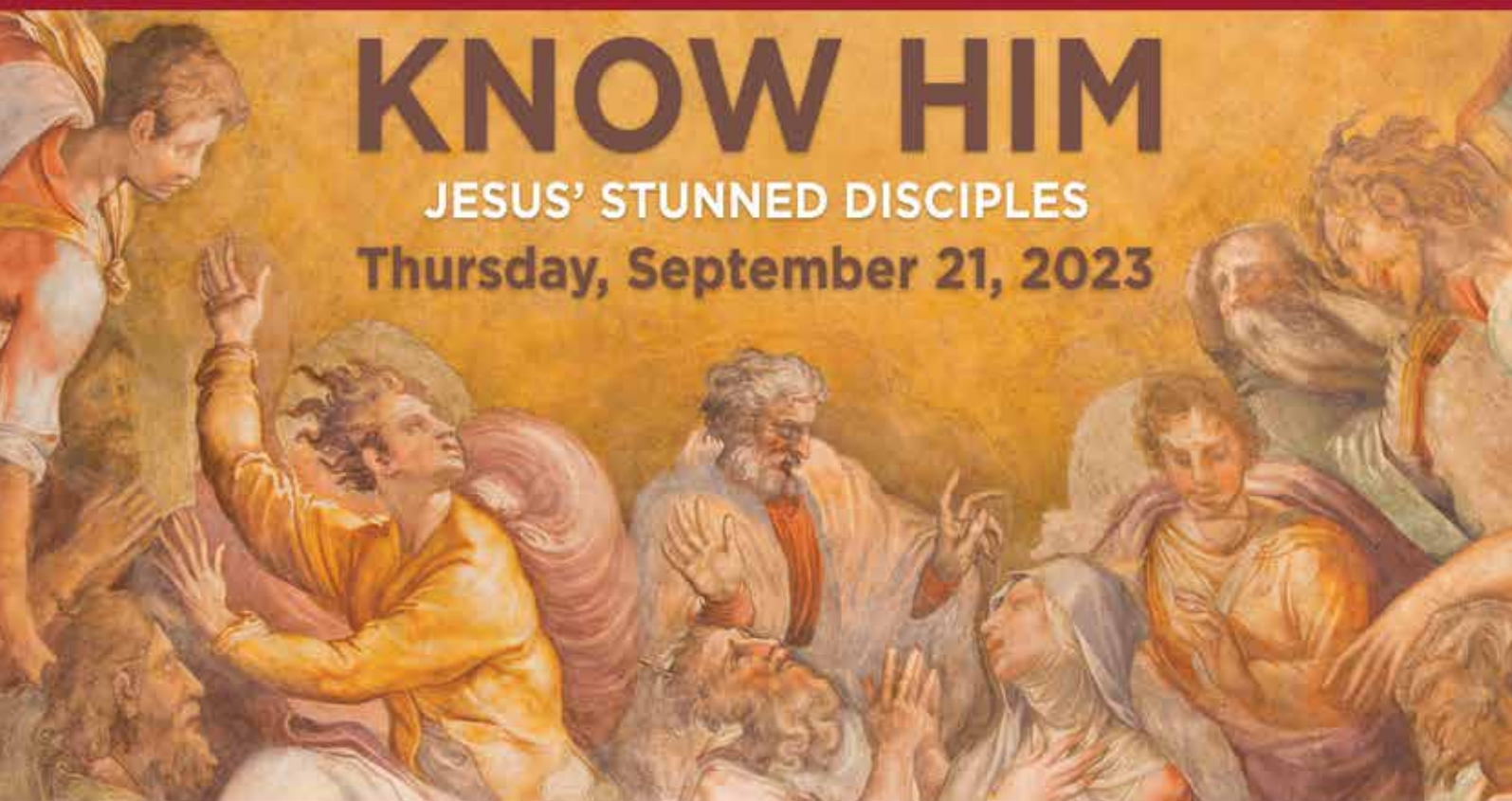
PHOTOS: MARY SEAMANS

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Mass with Bishop Kulick and Christmas Night Market



DioceseofGreensburg.org/EucharisticRevival

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