

THE CATHOLIC ACCENT

THURSDAY, JULY 18, 2024

The Official Newspaper of the Diocese of Greensburg

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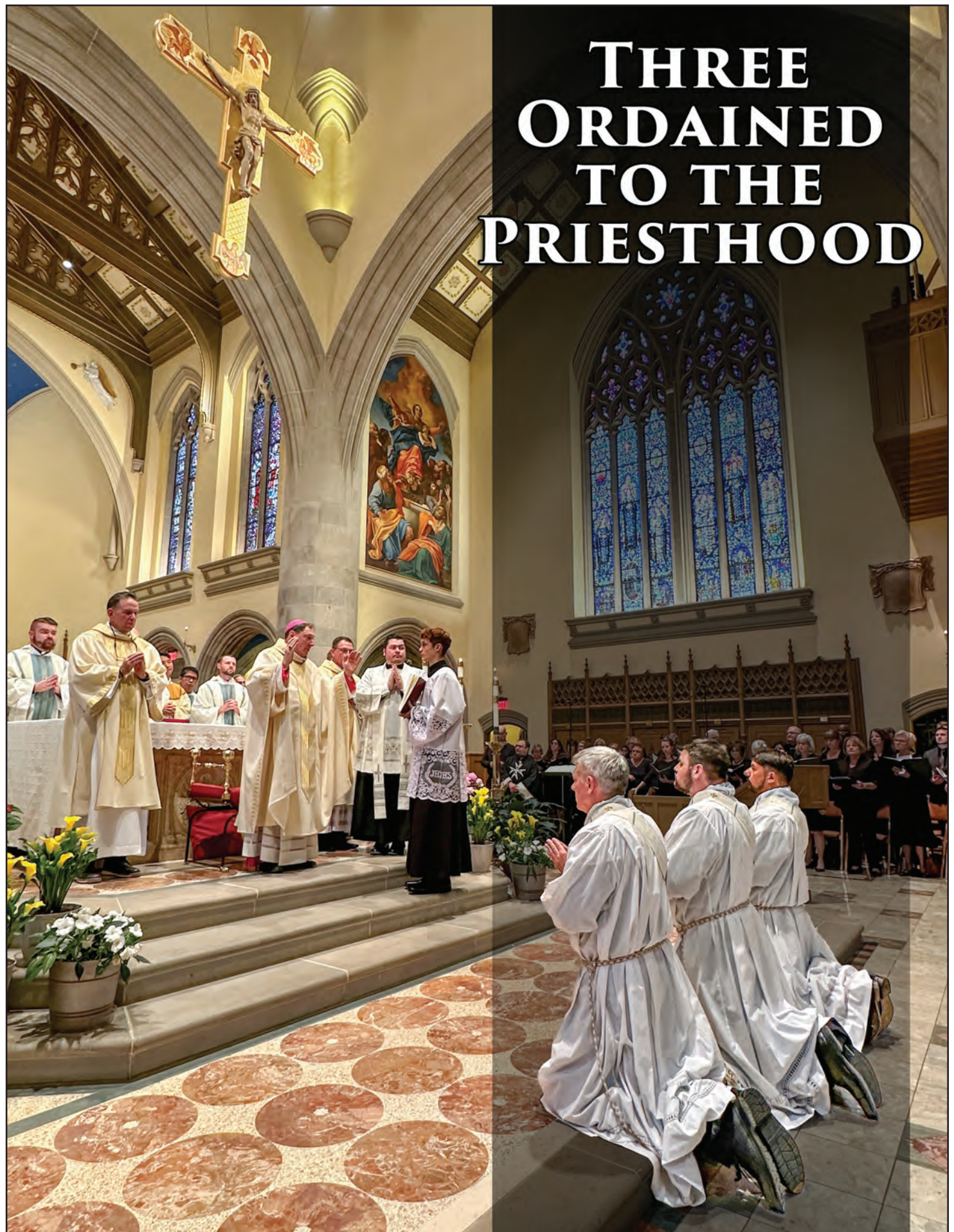
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THE CATHOLIC ACCENT

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE
DIOCESE OF GREENSBURG,
PENNSYLVANIA

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OFFICIAL

*His Excellency, The Most Reverend Larry J. Kulick, JCL, Bishop of Greensburg,
has made the following appointments and announcements:*

Effective Monday May 13, 2024

Parochial Vicar

The Reverend Matthew J. Morelli,
to Parochial Vicar of St. Agnes Parish,
North Huntingdon, while continuing
as Chaplain to the Diocesan Holy
Name Society, with residence at
St. Agnes Parish Rectory.

Effective Tuesday, May 28, 2024

Resignation:

The Reverend John A. Moineau has
resigned as Pastor of Immaculate
Conception Parish, Irwin, and as Pastor
of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish,
North Huntingdon, as well as all other
Diocesan appointments.

Administrator:

The Reverend Lawrence L. Manchias,
VF, as Administrator *pro tem* of
Immaculate Conception Parish Irwin,
and St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish,
North Huntingdon, while remaining in
all other Diocesan appointments.

Effective Monday, June 17, 2024

Administrator:

Deacon William M. Newhouse's
three-year term as Administrator
of the Parishes of Sacred Heart and
Ascension, Jeannette, has come to an
end. Deacon Newhouse will remain as
Assistant Director of the Office for the
Permanent Diaconate and in all other
Diocesan appointments.

The Reverend Daniel J. Ulishney, to
Administrator *pro tem* of the Parishes of
Ascension and Sacred Heart, Jeannette,
while remaining Pastor of St. Agnes
Parish, North Huntingdon, and in all
other Diocesan appointments.

Resignations:

The Reverend William J. Lechnar as
Pastor of Holy Family Parish, Seward.

Deacon William J. Hisker as Director
of the Office for the Permanent
Diaconate while remaining as
Permanent Deacon assigned to
Blessed Sacrament Cathedral Parish,
Greensburg, and all other Diocesan
appointments.

The Reverend James F. Petrovsky
as Chaplain at SCI Fayette while
remaining in all other Diocesan
appointments.

Vicar Forane:

**The Very Reverend Anthony J.
Klimko, VF**, as Vicar Forane (Dean)
of Deanery VII while remaining in all
other Diocesan appointments.

Administrators:

**The Reverend Monsignor James
T. Gaston** as Administrator *pro tem*
of Epiphany of Our Lord Parish,
Monessen, and St. Sebastian Parish,
Belle Vernon, while remaining in all
other Diocesan appointments and

remaining in residence at Neumann
House, Greensburg.

The Very Reverend Anthony J.

Klimko, VF, as Administrator *pro tem* of
St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Masontown,
while remaining in all other Diocesan
appointments.

Deacon F. Daniel Frescura as
Administrator of St. Matthew Parish,
Saltsburg, St. Ambrose Parish,
Avonmore, and St. Sylvester Parish,
Slickville.

Leave of Absence:

The Reverend William J. Lechnar
has been granted a six-month leave
of absence for medical reasons
with residence at Neumann House,
Greensburg.

The Reverend John A. Moineau
has been granted a medical leave of
absence with private residence.

Retirement:

The Reverend Anthony W. Ditto
as Administrator *pro tem* of St. Regis
Parish, Trafford, with residence at
Neumann House, Greensburg.

Completion of Term:

**The Reverend Dick Anthony
F. Cortado** concludes his duties
as Administrator of St. Francis of
Assisi Parish, Masontown, with the
completion of his five-year term of
ministry in the United States and is
returning to the Diocese of Tagum in
the Philippines.

The Reverend Alvin Aberion
concludes his duties as Parochial Vicar
at St. Joseph, St. John the Evangelist,
St. Therese, Little Flower of Jesus,
and St. Mary (Nativity) Parishes,
Uniontown, with the completion of his
five-year term of ministry in the United
States and is returning to the Diocese of
Bangued in the Philippines.

Pastors:

**The Very Reverend Michael J.
Crookston, VF**, from Pastor of
St. Sebastian Parish, Belle Vernon,
The Epiphany of Our Lord Parish,
Monessen, and Vicar Forane (Dean) of
Deanery VII, to Pastor of Immaculate
Conception Parish, Irwin, and St.
Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, North
Huntingdon, with residence at St.
Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish Rectory,
while remaining in all other Diocesan
appointments.

The Reverend Daniel E. Carr, from
Parochial Vicar of St. Pius X and
Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Parishes, Mount Pleasant, to Pastor
of St. Regis Parish, Trafford, with
residence in St. Regis Parish Rectory,
while remaining in all other Diocesan
assignments.

The Reverend John J. Harrold from
Pastor of St. Matthew Parish, Saltsburg,

St. Ambrose Parish, Avonmore, and
St. Sylvester Parish, Slickville, to
Pastor of Holy Family Parish, Seward,
with residence at Holy Family Parish
Rectory.

**The Reverend Monsignor Michael J.
Begolly** as Pastor of St. Mary, Our Lady
of Lourdes Parish, Export, and St. John
Baptist de La Salle Parish, Delmont,
while remaining as Pastor of Mother of
Sorrows Parish, Murrysville, and in all
other Diocesan assignments.

The Reverend Richard J. Kosisko, JCL,
from Administrator of St. Mary, Mother
of God Parish, Freeport, to Pastor of St.
Mary, Mother of God Parish, Freeport,
while remaining in all other Diocesan
assignments.

The Very Reverend Paul A. Lisik, VF,
from Administrator of St. Pius X and
Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Parishes, Mount Pleasant, St. Joseph
Parish, Everson, and St. John the Baptist
Parish, Scottdale, to Pastor of St. Pius
X and Visitation of the Blessed Virgin
Mary Parishes, Mount Pleasant,
St. Joseph Parish, Everson, and
St. John the Baptist Parish, Scottdale,
while remaining as Pastor of St. Rita,
Immaculate Conception and St. John
the Evangelist Parishes, Connellsville,
and St. Aloysius Parish, Dunbar, and in
all other Diocesan assignments.

Parochial Vicar:

The Reverend Jay Jacinto as Parochial
Vicar of Mother of Sorrows Parish,
Murrysville, St. John Baptist de La Salle
Parish, Delmont, and St. Mary, Our
Lady of Lourdes Parish, Export, with
residence at St. John Baptist de La Salle
Parish Rectory, while remaining in all
other Diocesan assignments.

The Reverend Craig Alexander as
Parochial Vicar of St. Rita, Immaculate
Conception and St. John the Evangelist
Parishes, Connellsville, and St. Aloysius
Parish, Dunbar, and St. Pius X and
Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Parishes, Mount Pleasant, St. Joseph
Parish, Everson, and St. John the Baptist
Parish, Scottdale, with residence at
St. Pius X Parish rectory.

The Reverend David Slusarick as
Parochial Vicar of Mother of Sorrows
Parish, Murrysville, St. John Baptist de
La Salle Parish, Delmont, and St. Mary,
Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Export,
with residence at Mother of Sorrows
Parish Rectory.

The Reverend John Torres as
Parochial Vicar at St. Rita, Immaculate
Conception and St. John the Evangelist
Parishes, Connellsville, St. Aloysius
Parish, Dunbar, St. Pius X and Visitation
of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parishes,
Mount Pleasant, St. Joseph Parish,
Everson, and St. John the Baptist Parish,
Scottdale, with residence at St. Joseph
Parish Rectory.



OFFICIAL

His Excellency, The Most Reverend Larry J. Kulick, JCL, Bishop of Greensburg, has made the following appointments and announcements:

Effective Monday, June 17, 2024

Parochial Vicar:
The Reverend Teo Cortezano as Parochial Vicar of St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Masontown, with residence at Saint Francis of Assisi Parish Rectory.

The Reverend Peter Guardiano as Parochial Vicar of St. Pius X and Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parishes, Mount Pleasant, St. Joseph Parish, Everson, and St. John the Baptist Parish, Scottdale, while remaining as Parochial Vicar of St. Rita, Immaculate Conception and St. John the Evangelist Parishes, Connellsville, and St. Aloysius Parish, Dunbar, and in all other Diocesan assignments.

The Reverend Edwin Rubido as Parochial Vicar of St. Pius X and Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parishes, Mount Pleasant, St. Joseph Parish, Everson, and St. John the Baptist Parish, Scottdale, while remaining as Parochial Vicar of St. Rita, Immaculate Conception and St. John the Evangelist Parishes, Connellsville, and St. Aloysius Parish, Dunbar, and in all other Diocesan assignments.

Special:
The Reverend Monsignor James T. Gaston as Director of the International Priests' Program, while remaining in all other Diocesan appointments.

The Reverend Monsignor Richard

G. Curci as Consultant for the International Priests' Program while remaining in all other Diocesan appointments.

The Reverend Alan N. Polczynski, JCL, as Defender of the Bond on the Diocesan Tribunal while remaining in all other Diocesan appointments.

The Very Reverend Tyler J. Bandura, VF, as Director of the Office for the Permanent Diaconate and approved to pursue a Certificate in Seminary Formation for Missionary Discipleship at Saint Vincent De Paul Regional Seminary, while remaining in all other Diocesan assignments.

The Very Reverend Eric J. Dinga, VF, as Co-Director of the Office of Worship while remaining in all other Diocesan appointments.

Deacon William M. Newhouse from Administrator of Ascension and Sacred Heart Parishes, Jeannette, to Director of Family Life and Pro-Life Ministries while remaining as Associate Director of the Office for the Permanent Diaconate.

The Reverend Daniel E. Carr as Director of Ministry Formation for the Office of Faith, Family, and Discipleship while remaining in all other Diocesan assignments.

The Reverend Christopher J. Pujol as Co-director of the Office of

Worship while remaining in all other Diocesan appointments.

The Reverend Mark R. Dunmire from Pastoral Supply at St. Rita, Immaculate Conception and St. John the Evangelist Parishes, Connellsville, and St. Aloysius Parish, Dunbar, to Pastoral Supply at St. Matthew Parish, Saltsburg, St. Ambrose Parish, Avonmore, and St. Sylvester Parish, Slickville, with residence at St. Sylvester Parish Rectory.

The Reverend David Slusarick as Associate Director of Vocations while remaining in all other Diocesan assignments.

Chaplains:
The Reverend Alien Rocamora as Chaplain at Uniontown Hospital while remaining in all other Diocesan assignments.

The Reverend Andrew Hamilton as Chaplain at SCI Fayette while remaining in all other Diocesan assignments.

At the recommendation of The Very Reverend Robert Marva, OFM Cap., His Excellency, The Most Reverend Larry J. Kulick, JCL, Bishop of Greensburg, has made the following announcement and appointments:

Effective Immediately

The Reverend Philip White, OFM

Cap., from extended sick leave to reassignment by the Capuchin Province of St. Augustine, Pittsburgh.
Effective Monday, May 27, 2024

Special:
The Reverend Keon Tu, OFM Cap., from sacramental assistance and parochial duties at Church of the Resurrection Parish, Indiana County, as well as Chaplain to Indiana Regional Medical Center and SCI Pine Grove, to reassignment by the Capuchin Province of St. Augustine, Pittsburgh.

The Reverend Paul Dressler, OFM Cap., from Parochial Vicar at St. Bernard of Clairvaux and St. Thomas More University Parishes, Indiana, to sacramental assistance and parochial duties at Church of the Resurrection Parish, Indiana County, as well as Chaplain to Indiana Regional Medical Center and SCI Pine Grove.

Brother Joseph Pham, OFM Cap., to continue as Transitional Deacon at St. Bernard of Clairvaux and St. Thomas More University Parishes, Indiana.

Effective Monday, July 1, 2024

Parochial Vicar
Father Jonathan Ulrick, OFM Cap., to Parochial Vicar at St. Bernard of Clairvaux and St. Thomas More University Parishes, Indiana.

OBITUARIES

Father Rudolph J. Koser Jr.

CLYMER — Father Rudolph J. Koser Jr., a priest of the Diocese of Greensburg for many years, died May 10, 2024.
Born in Harrisburg Aug. 15, 1948, Father Koser earned a bachelor's degree from St. Francis College (now University), Loretto, a master's degree from Indiana University of Pennsylvania and a Master of Divinity degree from St. Francis Seminary, Loretto. He was ordained by Bishop William G. Connare May 4, 1974, at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Greensburg.
He served as Associate Pastor of St. Agnes Parish, North Huntingdon (1974-78), St. Sebastian Parish, Belle Vernon (1978-80), and at St. John the Evangelist Parish, Uniontown (1980-81).
In 1981, he entered the U.S. Air Force as a chaplain, retiring in 2001. He earned the Meritorious Service Medal with four devices,



Joint Service Commendation medal, Air Force Commendation Medal with two devices, Southwest Asia Service Medal with one device, National Defense Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Kuwait Liberation Medal, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with seven devices, Navy Unit Commendation, Joint Meritorious Unit Award and Air Force Organizational Excellence Award.
After his military retirement, he served as chaplain for the State Correctional Institution at Pine Grove, Indiana, for 17 years.
A funeral Mass was held May 21 in St. Joseph Chapel at Christ Our Shepherd Center, Greensburg, with burial in the National Cemetery of the Alleghenies, Bridgeville.

Father James M. Reposkey, CPPS

TORONTO, CANADA — Missionaries of the Precious Blood Father James M. Reposkey, CPPS, 78, died April 9, 2024.
He was born July 16, 1946, in Uniontown, to the late Louis and Julia Reposkey. He attended St. Francis Minor Seminary, Greensburg, and St. Bernard's Seminary, Rochester, N.Y.

Father Reposkey was ordained in Greensburg May 4, 1974, and served parishes in Toronto for many years. He was a spiritual advisor for the Catholic Women's League and held memberships in the Knights of the Holy Sepulchre and Knights of Columbus.
A funeral Mass was held April 19 in Toronto.

Sister Mary Jean Petrarca, SC



GREENSBURG — Sister of Charity Mary Jean Petrarca, 91, died April 19, 2024, at Caritas Christi, the motherhouse of the Sisters of Charity of Seton Hill. She was in her 72nd year of religious life.
Sister Mary Jean entered the congregation Jan. 1, 1952, from SS. Simon and Jude Parish, Blairsville. She taught in elementary and high schools in the Greensburg, Altoona-Johnstown and Pittsburgh dioceses.
A funeral Mass was held April 23, with burial in the sisters' cemetery.

Sister Ann Infanger, SC



GREENSBURG — Sister of Charity Ann Infanger, 90, died May 20, 2024, at Caritas Christi, the motherhouse of the Sisters of Charity of Seton Hill. She was in her 68th year of religious life.
Sister Ann entered the congregation Sept. 8, 1956, from Our Lady of Sorrows Parish, South Orange, N.J. She taught biology courses at Seton Hill University for many years.
A funeral Mass was held May 24, with burial in the sisters' cemetery.

National pilgrimage energizes faithful in Greensburg

By Cliff Gorski
Executive Editor

GREENSBURG — It began in May in New Haven, Conn. Groups of young people, clergy and religious began their pilgrimage across the Eastern Seaboard, over the Appalachian Mountains and into Western Pennsylvania.

Members of the pilgrimage's St. Elizabeth Ann Seton route, one of four routes across the United States, are on a mission. Their journey is part of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' three-year National Eucharistic Revival aimed at reviving and energizing the faithful in our Catholic belief in Jesus' real presence in the Eucharist.

Their journey ends July 17-21, when more than 80,000 Catholics, including 100 from the Diocese of Greensburg, are gathering in Indianapolis, Ind., for the 10th National Eucharistic Congress.

For the Elizabeth Ann Seton route, six "perpetual pilgrims" are making the complete journey to Indianapolis. Along the way, they are joined by clergy and religious. They are led by their chaplain, Father Roger Landry, who works for the Holy See's Permanent Observer Mission to the United Nations in New York.

Pilgrims made a stop in the Diocese of Greensburg June 11. The "perpetual pilgrims" and Father Landry, along with clergy and religious from the Diocese of Greensburg, joined Bishop Larry J. Kulick for Mass at Our Lady of Grace Parish, Greensburg. During his homily, Father Landry explained to the more than 250 attending that this Eucharistic procession is so important because it brings all of us in front of the source and summit of our faith, Jesus Christ.

Those attending the Mass were invited to a free Faith and Family Fun Night which featured a bounce house, face painting, balloon making and food trucks. Those in attendance were able to talk with the "perpetual pilgrims" and the clergy and religious traveling with them.

"Perpetual pilgrim" Marina Frattaroli of New York City began the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton route in Connecticut. Frattaroli is new to the Catholic Church, having completed the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults program in 2022. She said she has a passion for showing fellow Catholics what we have in the holy Eucharist and showing those outside the Church the treasure she said they are missing in their lives.



MARY SEAMANS
THE CATHOLICACCENT

PART 1: Faith and Family Fun Night and Mass at Our Lady of Grace Parish, Greensburg.

"I set out on this pilgrimage to pray for healing with the hope that it would change the Catholic Church in America," Frattaroli said. "That is happening, but especially for me personally. God has presented ways for my heart to heal as I partake in His body and blood every day. He is drawing me closer to Him like He never has before because He is honoring our sacrifices."

A recent Columbia Law School graduate, Frattaroli is studying for the bar exam while participating in the pilgrimage.

On June 12, the monstrance with the body of Christ processed into Sacred Heart Parish, Jeannette, where Bishop Kulick celebrated Mass for the hundreds in attendance. Following Mass, the Eucharistic procession began through the streets of Jeannette. Clergy from around the area, including Saint Vincent College, Latrobe, religious and the faithful, including many young families, made their way to nearby Ascension Parish, singing hymns and praying along the way. Many standing along the route dropped to their knees in prayer when the procession passed them. Clergy and religious occasionally broke away to visit with people on their porches or the sidewalks.

"They are just so grateful because the Eucharist on this national pilgrimage visited their neighborhood and walked straight by their front porch when they happened to be there," Father Landry said.

Following Benediction at Ascension, an Italian luncheon was held, and then the procession moved on to Immaculate Conception Parish, Irwin.

Darek Herchko, a former parishioner of Immaculate Conception Parish, traveled with his young daughter from their home in Flower Mound,



MARY SEAMANS THE CATHOLICACCENT

PART 2: Eucharistic procession from Sacred Heart Parish to Ascension Parish, Jeannette, for a meatball luncheon.

Texas, to be part of the historic event.

"It's one of the biggest events since I have been alive," Herchko said. "Who knows when I will be able to experience something like this? My daughter, who is 4, might not remember this, but maybe she can tell her children she was part of this in 2024."

At Immaculate Conception Parish, Bishop Kulick presided over a serene time of reflection and prayer during adoration. In his homily, he reminded the hundreds who gathered that we were blessed to have people who are on a journey with Jesus, and they have brought Him to us so that all might also have an encounter with Him.

Bishop Kulick reminded the faithful that the pilgrimage is a way to meet Jesus; however, we meet Him in our everyday life, during our own journeys.

"When you receive Communion, you meet Jesus in the sacraments. When you pray, you meet Jesus. And, if we are a Christian, then our whole life is an encounter, a journey with Jesus. In prayer,



JENNIFER MIELE THE CATHOLICACCENT

when we go to Mass, when we do good works, when we visit the sick, when we help the poor, when we think of others, when we are not selfish, when we are loving... in this we always meet Jesus. And the journey of life is the journey to meet Jesus."

Bishop Kulick encouraged the faithful, especially the young Church, to go forward and be brave in their journey of life because Jesus is always with them.

"He will feed you with His body and blood. You are never alone, because God will be your nourishment and your strength."

Following a musical send-off for the pilgrims by the children of Immaculate Conception Parish, those attending were invited to an

ice cream social with games for children, who also made chalk drawings with monks and sisters.

Vincent Reilly, Managing Director of Faith, Family and Discipleship, said the two-day pilgrimage here was a celebration of the presence of Jesus and a revival across the Diocese of Greensburg.

He said he hopes the pilgrimage helps the faithful develop a deeper connection with the Lord through the Eucharist in their parishes and with the broader Church.

"A lot of people were excited by seeing religious sisters and religious brothers and seeing young adults give up their summer in order to journey with the Lord," he said. "It was beautiful to see the young Church at all of our events."



PHOTOS BY MARY SEAMANS THE CATHOLICACCENT

PART 3: Adoration at Immaculate Conception Parish, Irwin, with a children's choir and ice cream social.



Diocese of Greensburg ordains three new priests

By Cliff Gorski
Executive Editor

GREENSBURG — It has been nearly a decade since the Diocese of Greensburg has ordained more than one priest at a time. On June 1 at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Bishop Larry J. Kulick ordained three men to the priesthood: Fathers Craig

Alexander, David Slusarick and John Torres.

It was the first time since 2015 that three men have been ordained together in the Diocese.

"I believe that it's not only a beautiful sign of God's blessings to us, but also an answer to our prayers," Bishop Kulick said. "The people of the Diocese have been praying with the intention for vocations. It was a wonderful day of celebration."

Bishop Kulick said he was blessed to know each of the priests during their formation through seminary.

"They approach the altar not to be the Savior, but to guide people through the mystery of the Church and on to salvation," Bishop Kulick said. "They approach the altar as the sacrificial Christ who climbed the altar of Calvary. They go to the altar to serve."

FATHER JOHN TORRES: Guided by the Lord to the people of Greensburg



Father John Torres, a native of Amparo, Sao Paulo, Brazil, came to the United States to study at Saint Vincent Seminary, Latrobe. Unable to speak or read English, he had nine months to learn and speak the language in order to attend his classes and learn.

"Since the beginning, the people were very nice, understanding and patient," Father Torres said.

Bishop Kulick said Father Torres is a classic model of an immigrant who came to the United States with great determination and tremendous sacrifices and embraced the opportunities our nation offers.

"It is amazing that he was able to do his graduate studies here and actually taught himself how to speak English," Bishop Kulick said. "In his prayer and discernment, he asked the Lord to guide him as to where he should serve. Father Torres said the Lord guided him to Greensburg, where the people are faithful and generous and where priests are needed."

His parents, Antonio and Lucia, traveled from Brazil to attend the ordination.

Since 2021, Father Torres served the Catholic Communities of Connellsville and Dunbar as a transitional deacon. His home parish is St. Rita of Cascia Parish, Connellsville.

Bishop Kulick has assigned Father Torres as Parochial Vicar of St. Rita, Immaculate Conception and St. John the Evangelist Parishes, Connellsville, St. Aloysius Parish, Dunbar, St. Pius X and Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parishes, Mount Pleasant, St. Joseph Parish, Everson, and St. John the Baptist Parish, Scottsdale.



Scenes from Father John Torres' ordination; his family is seen in the photo to the left.

PHOTOS BY MARY SEAMANS THE CATHOLIC ACCENT

FATHER CRAIG ALEXANDER: Ready to share his gifts with the faithful

Father Craig Alexander, who grew up in the Harrisburg area, served in the United States Marine Corps for 13 years. After his honorable discharge, he worked for the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation for 25 years before attending Saint Vincent Seminary, Latrobe. His home parish is St. Agnes Parish, Irwin.

"Father Alexander has been a remarkable example of someone who later in life was completely open to formation and allowed it to fill him and enrich him, and I am so proud of him," Bishop Kulick said. "I know he is looking forward to sharing the gift of the priesthood with the people he will be entrusted to serve."

Bishop Kulick assigned Father Alexander as Parochial Vicar of St. Rita, Immaculate Conception and St. John the Evangelist Parishes, Connellsville, St. Aloysius Parish, Dunbar, St. Pius X and Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parishes, Mount Pleasant, St. Joseph Parish, Everson, and St. John the Baptist Parish, Scottsdale, with residence at St. Pius X Parish.



Scenes from Father Craig Alexander's ordination; his family is seen in the two photos at right.

PHOTOS BY
MARY SEAMANS
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ACCENT



FATHER DAVID SLUSARICK: Fulfilling a desire to be with God’s people

Father David Slusarick, a Uniontown native and son of Amy and the late David B. Slusarick, said that for several years, he felt a “persistent tug on my heart” to serve God through the priesthood. He volunteered at a hospice, which helped him in his discernment because it strengthened his desire to be with God’s people in difficult moments and bring them the sacraments.

“In sitting there with them, I thought how wonderful it would be to be able to be able to hear

their final confession or to anoint them with holy oils, or give them their final Communion before they journey back to our Lord,” he said.

Bishop Kulick said Father Slusarick brings energy and excitement to the priesthood and is truly a reflection of the people of Fayette County.

“Father David has the work ethic, the devotion and the dedication of the people of western Pennsylvania,” he said.

Father Slusarick graduated from Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary in Wynnewood. His home parish is St. Therese, Little Flower of Jesus Parish, Uniontown.

Bishop Kulick assigned Father Slusarick as Parochial Vicar of Mother of Sorrows Parish, Murrysburg, St. John Baptist de La Salle Parish, Delmont, and St. Mary, Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Export.



Scenes from Father David Slusarick’s ordination; at top, he celebrates with his mother, Amy, and Bishop Kulick.

PHOTOS BY
MARY SEAMANS
THE CATHOLIC
ACCENT



BISHOP ORDAINS BENEDICTINE PRIEST: Benedictine Father Romuald (Joseph) Duchene was ordained to the priesthood by Bishop Larry J. Kulick May 25 at Saint Vincent Archabbey Basilica, Latrobe. Father Romuald earned Master of Divinity and Bachelor of Sacred Theology degrees from Saint Vincent Seminary this year. He earned a bachelor’s degree in history from The Citadel, the Military College of South Carolina, in 2002, and a master’s degree in systematic theology from Saint Vincent Seminary in 2021. He is the son of Patti Gentz of Minneapolis and the late William Duchene. Prior to being ordained as a Benedictine transitional deacon, Father Duchene served Christ the King Parish, Leechburg, and St. Gertrude Parish, Vandergrift, with Father Alan N. Polczynski, Pastor. He is pictured at center receiving his degrees at the seminary May 10 with Benedictine Father Nathanael Polinski, academic dean of the seminary, left, and Benedictine Father Edward Mazich, seminary rector.

PHOTO SUBMITTED



Diocesan Lenten Appeal tops \$6 million

By Michael Lucotch

Director of Development

GREENSBURG —Thanks to your generosity, “Receive and Share,” the 2024 Diocesan Lenten Appeal (DLA), has exceeded the \$6 million mark. This is the third year in a row that the DLA has reached that level of gifts from nearly 15,700 parishioners and the faithful across the Diocese. Also making this year’s campaign truly successful is the fact that the average gift amount continues to increase year over year.

During the Lenten season, Bishop Larry J. Kulick asked for your support through the DLA to support the formation of future priests, to enhance the diaconate program, to build regional faith formation programs and to aid Catholic Charities in providing assistance, including to those who are part of the Ukrainian resettlement effort. Currently, 43 parishes have reached their combined Diocesan and parish goals. This is important because any amount raised beyond the Diocesan goal stays in the parish for critical projects that keep parishes up to date and vibrant.

Parishes use DLA gifts for repairs to roofs, parking lots or plumbing; formation programs; upgrades to sound systems and lighting; and stained glass restoration or organ repair. Many parishes achieving their combined goals rely on this extra money to support projects and programs that might not otherwise be covered or partially funded in an annual budget.

There is still time for you to donate, either to help your parish reach its goal or so that your parish can use your gift directly to support its needs.

For more information on sustaining your parish, email MLucotch@dioceseofgreensburg.org or call 724-552-2503. Gifts can be made at DioceseofGreensburg.org/diocesan-lenten-appeal.

Endowments ensure future of Church

By Paul Puleo

Managing Director of Development and The Catholic Foundation for the Diocese of Greensburg

GREENSBURG — The Catholic Foundation for the Diocese of Greensburg receives many questions about the purpose of an endowment and how it is used to benefit parishes, cemeteries or other Diocesan programs. I hope to answer some of them below.

What is an endowment?

An endowment is a fund that generates revenue to support your parish, cemetery or one of many Diocesan programs such as faith formation, clergy formation, Catholic schools or Catholic Charities. Endowment funds preserve the principal for perpetuity while the earnings from the invested assets are spent per the donor’s wishes. Think of an endowment as a retirement account or legacy for the parish or for funding Diocesan ministries. Named endowment funds can be established for a minimum of \$50,000, or gifts can be added to existing funds to grow the principal at any time.

How does an endowment financially support my wishes?

A donor can make gifts to endowed funds with cash or stock or in an estate plan. The Catholic Foundation holds endowed funds perpetually in trust for parishes and other Diocesan ministries. If you created an endowment to support faith formation programs at your parish, your gift would be the principal, which is invested to produce annual income

for the parish. As an example, if a parish has a \$1 million endowment, it would give a parish an estimated \$40,000 in annual income.

The Foundation has over 200 endowments that make up over \$100 million in assets. Besides the parish and cemeteries, endowments support Diocesan pastoral care, Catholic education, Catholic Charities, international priests, lay ministry, vocations, the Office of Faith, Family and Discipleship, and priests’ health and retirement costs.

Examples of important Diocesan funds that assist in the mission of our Church are as follows:

Parishes: All parishes in the Diocese have created either a parish or cemetery endowment.

Francis Fund: Supporting the office of Faith, Family and Discipleship, the fund helps parishes provide effective spiritual formation for all age groups, especially our young people.

Priestly Vocations: This supports the education and formation of seminarians for priesthood in the Diocese.

Catholic Charities: This provides income to support Catholic Charities programs for families and individuals in the four counties of the Diocese.

St. Joseph, the Carpenter Fund: This provides income to support ordained ministry, including seminarians, the ongoing education of clergy, and the education of permanent deacons

All endowment funds are governed by the guidelines of three components, including a written investment policy, withdrawal policy and usage policy.

Foundation policies

The usage policy

The Foundation’s usage policy establishes the purposes for which a fund can be used. Endowments, whether set up by an institution or given as a gift by donors, can have multiple uses. These include ensuring financial support of Diocesan ministries or vocations, or providing other financial assistance to parishes and cemeteries.

The investment policy

The Foundation’s policy lays out which types of investments a third-party manager is permitted to make and dictates how much risk the manager can take in seeking the target return. The Foundation follows strict investment and screening policies outlined by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

The withdrawal policy

The withdrawal policy allows parishes to accept income from a fund or reinvest earnings to grow the value of the fund.

The Foundation has a specific annual distribution rate, and annually approves a distribution rate. In the past few years, it has distributed 4%-5% of the 3-year average fair market value of each fund.

How can I find more information?

Gifts to an endowment are something you should consider. If you are thinking about leaving a legacy to your parish or the Diocese, email or call me at PPuleo@dioceseofgreensburg.org or 724-552-2509.

BISHOP EMERITUS LAWRENCE E. BRANDT, 55 YEARS
ORDINATION, 20 YEARS EPISCOPAL ORDINATION



Born: Charlestown, W.Va.
Seminary: Pontifical North American College and Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome
Ordained: Dec. 19, 1969, by Bishop James A. Hickey at Saint Peter's Basilica, Rome
Diplomatic postings: Papal nunciatures in Tananarive, Madagascar; Bonn, Germany; Quito, Ecuador; Algiers, Algeria
Service to Diocese of Erie: Resident Chaplain and member of advisory board, Gannondale Residential Center for Girls; Assistant Chancellor, Vice Chancellor, Chancellor and member of Administrative Cabinet and Tribunal; Pastor, St. Hedwig Parish, Erie
Episcopal appointment: appointed fourth Bishop of Greensburg, Jan. 2, 2004; ordained and installed March 4, 2004, at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Greensburg
Other: named Chaplain of His Holiness with the title of Monsignor by Pope Paul VI (1964); named Prelate of Honor by Pope John Paul II (1991); served in several capacities with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference (PCC), including acting president of the PCC; member and Board of Regents, Saint Vincent Seminary, Latrobe, and Board of Trustees, Saint Vincent College
Retired: 2015

FATHER DONALD B. CONROY, 60 YEARS



Born: New Kensington
Seminary: former St. Fidelis Seminary, Herman; Saint Vincent Seminary, Latrobe; North American College, Rome
Ordained: Dec. 16, 1964, Saint Peter's Basilica, Rome
Pastoral appointments: Parochial Vicar, St. Mary, Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, Kittanning (1965-66), Blessed Sacrament Cathedral Parish, Greensburg (1966-69), Mother of Sorrows Parish, Murrysville (1970-75); Pastor, Holy Family Parish, Latrobe (2004-07); Senior Priest Active with responsibilities, Church of the Resurrection Parish, Northern Indiana County, and Chaplain at Indiana Hospital (2007-09)
Diocesan appointments: Diocesan Associate Director of the Office for Education (1968); Diocesan Director of Christian Family Life (1970); Representative for Family Life, U.S. Catholic Conference of Education, and Director of the U.S. Bishops' Commission on Marriage and Family Life (1975-80); Founding Executive Director, National Institute for the Family (1980); National Chaplain, Christian Family Movements; former representative, United Nations Economic and Cultural Commission for the Rights of the Family
Retired: 2009

FATHER JOHN T. EUKER, 50 YEARS



Born: Harrisburg
Seminary: Saint Vincent Seminary, Latrobe
Ordained: May 4, 1974, at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Greensburg
Pastoral appointments: Parochial Vicar, St. Joseph Parish, New Kensington (1974-78), St. John the Baptist Parish, Perryopolis (1978-79), Holy Family Parish, Latrobe (1979-81), St. Therese, Little Flower of Jesus Parish, Uniontown (1984-85); Pastor, St. Mary Parish, Yatesboro (1985-88), former St. Leonard Parish, Monessen (1988-91), St. John the Baptist Parish, Perryopolis (1991-2007), St. Mary Parish, Freeport (2007-08), St. James the Greater Parish, Apollo; Administrator, Our Lady, Queen of Peace Parish, East Vandergrift (2008-16)
Diocesan appointments: Chaplain, former Excelsior Health Westmoreland Hospital and Westmoreland Manor (1981-84); Regional Moderator, Region 2 (2009-12)
Retired: 2016

FATHER JAMES D. TRINGHESE, 50 YEARS



Born: Uniontown
Seminary: former St. Francis Seminary, Loretto
Ordained: May 4, 1974, by Bishop William G. Connare at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Greensburg
Pastoral appointments: Parochial Vicar, Ascension Parish, Jeannette (1974-79), St. John the Baptist Parish, Perryopolis (1979-81), St. Paul Parish, Greensburg (1981-85); Administrator pro tem, former St. Elizabeth Parish, Starford (1985); Pastor, former St. John the Baptist Parish, Heilwood (1986-90), St. Rose Parish, Latrobe (1990-95), St. Regis Parish, Trafford (1995-2012), St. John the Evangelist Parish, Uniontown (2012-18)
Diocesan appointments: Director, Committee on Scouting (1977); Director of Youth Activities (1978-82); religion instructor, Greensburg Central Catholic Junior-Senior High School (1983-86); Chair, Priestly Life and Ministry Committee (1990-92); Priests Council (1992, 2006-11); Board of Consultors (1994-99); Clergy Personnel Board (2005-08)
Retired: 2018

FATHER DENNIS A. BOGUSZ, 45 YEARS



Born: Cleveland, Ohio
Seminary: Saint Vincent Seminary, Latrobe
Ordained: May 5, 1979, Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Greensburg.
Pastoral appointments: Parochial Vicar, former Transfiguration Parish, Mount Pleasant (1979-83), St. Mary, Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, Kittanning (1983-86), former St. Cajetan Parish, Monessen (1986-87), St. Regis Parish, Trafford (1987-90); Pastor, former St. Hyacinth Parish, Monessen (1990-91), St. Hubert Parish, Point Marion (1991-99), St. Joseph Parish, Everson (1999-2000); pastoral duties, former St. Stanislaus Parish, Calumet (2002-05), Immaculate Conception Parish, Connellsville (2002-12), St. Rita Parish and St. John the Evangelist Parish, Connellsville, St. Pius X and Visitation Parishes, Mount Pleasant (2005-12)
Diocesan appointments: Campus Ministry, Indiana University of Pennsylvania at Armstrong (1983-86); Chaplain, Ivrea Sisters, Frick Community Health Center, Verna Montessori School and Harmon House, Mount Pleasant, Highlands Hospital, Connellsville (2002-12), St. Anne Home, Greensburg (2012-19)
Retired: 2019

MONSIGNOR RAYMOND E. RIFFLE, 45 YEARS



Born: East McKeesport
Seminary: former St. Fidelis Seminary, Herman; St. Vincent Seminary, Latrobe
Ordained: May 5, 1979, by Bishop William G. Connare at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Greensburg
Pastoral appointments: Parochial Vicar, St. Agnes Parish, North Huntingdon (1979-82); Pastor, St. Thomas More University Parish, Indiana (1989-93), St. Sylvester Parish, Slickville (1998-2002), Our Lady of Grace Parish (2002-10); Rector, Blessed Sacrament Cathedral Parish, Greensburg (2010-present)
Diocesan appointments: Chaplain, Geibel Catholic Junior-Senior High School, Connellsville, and Westmoreland Manor, Greensburg (1986-88), Westmoreland Hospital (1986-89), State Correctional Institution at Greensburg (1988-89); Diocese of Greensburg, Assistant Director of Vocations (1982-83), Director of Vocations (1983-89), Director of Campus Ministry (1989-92), Chair of Priestly Life & Ministry Committee (1992-95), Executive Director of Catholic Charities (1995-2021), Vicar General (2021-present)
Other: Named Chaplain to his Holiness (Domestic Prelate) (2005)

Congratulations to our alumni jubilarians
and to all who are celebrating jubilees

<u>60 YEARS</u>	<u>40 YEARS</u>
Father Donald B. Conroy S'64	Father Stephen Bugay
<u>55 YEARS / 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF EPISCOPAL ORDINATION</u>	<u>25 YEARS</u>
Bishop Emeritus Lawrence E. Brandt Sem (Hon) '05	Father Arnel Tadeo Father Segundino R. Laude
<u>50 YEARS</u>	<u>20 YEARS</u>
Father John T. Euker S'74 Father James D. Tringhese	Father Alvin B. Aberion Father Rodolfo P. Mejia , Jr.
<u>45 YEARS</u>	<u>10 YEARS</u>
Monsignor Raymond E. Riffle S'79 Father Dennis Bogusz S'79 Father Stephen C. West	Father Roselo Melloria



SAINT VINCENT
ARCHABBEY AND SEMINARY
Latrobe, Pennsylvania • benedictine.stvincent.edu

FATHER STEPHEN WEST, 45 YEARS

**Born:** Atlanta, Ga.**Seminary:** St. Mary's Seminary, Catonsville, Md.; Mount St. Mary's Seminary, Emmitsburg, Md.**Ordained:** May 5, 1979, by Bishop William G. Connare at Blessed

Sacrament Cathedral, Greensburg

Pastoral appointments: Parochial Vicar, St. Margaret Mary Parish, Lower Burrell (1979-83), Immaculate Conception Parish, Connellsville, and the former Mission of Sacred Heart, Dawson (1983-86); Administrator pro tem, St. Paul Parish, Greensburg; Pastor, St. Joseph Parish, Derry (1998-2017); Administrator, St. Martin Parish, New Derry (2007-17)**Diocesan appointments:** Chaplain, Seton Hill University, Greensburg (1986-91), Sisters of Charity and Westmoreland Manor, Greensburg (1992-95)**Retired:** 2017

FATHER SEGUNDINO R. LAUDE, 25 YEARS

**Born:** Tigdamale Valderrama, Antique, Philippines**Seminary:** St. Peter's Seminary/St. Anthony College, San Jose dB, Antique; St. Joseph Regional Seminary, Jaro, Iloilo City, Philippines**Ordained:** April 9, 1999, by The Most Reverend Raul O. Martinez at St. Luke the Evangelist Parish, Valderrama, Antique**Pastoral appointments:** Parochial Vicar, St. Joseph Parish, Mount St. Peter Parish and St. Mary of Czestochowa Parish, New Kensington, and St. Margaret Mary Parish, Lower Burrell (2021-23); Pastor, SS. Simon & Jude Parish, Blairsville, and Church of the Good Shepherd Parish, Kent (2023-present)**Other:** parochial vicar, pastor, rector, chaplain and seminary positions in the Philippines

FATHER ALVIN B. ABERION, 20 YEARS

**Born:** Lagangilang, Abra, Philippines**Seminary:** St. Joseph Seminary, Pidigan, Abra, Philippines; San Pablo Major Seminary, Baguio City, Philippines; Immaculate Conception School

of Theology, Vigan City, Ilocos Sur, Philippines

Ordained: May 14, 2004, by Bishop Artemio Rillera at Holy Cross Parish (Diocese of Bangued)**Pastoral appointments:** Assistance, St. Joseph Parish, Mount St. Peter Parish and St. Mary of Czestochowa Parish, New Kensington, and St. Margaret Mary Parish, Lower Burrell (2019); Parochial Vicar, Sacred Heart Parish and Ascension Parish, Jeannette (2019-21), St. John the Evangelist Parish, St. Joseph Parish, St. Therese, Little Flower of Jesus Parish and St. Mary (Nativity) Parish, Uniontown, SS. Cyril & Methodius Parish, Fairchance, and St. Hubert Parish, Point Marion (2021-24)**Other:** seminary prefect (2004-07) and parish priest (2007-19) in Philippines; returned to his home diocese in 2024 after completion of his five-year term as an international priest

FATHER RODOLFO P. MEJIA, 20 YEARS

**Born:** Malasiqui, Pangasinan, Philippines**Seminary:** Mary Help of Christian College Seminary, Dagupan City, Philippines; Loyola School of Theology, Ateneo de Manila University**Ordained:** Nov. 30, 2004, by Bishop Gabriel V. Reyes in Antipolo Cathedral**Pastoral appointments:** Assistance, St. Mary, Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, Kittanning, and St. Mary, Mother of God Parish, Yatesboro (2019); Parochial Vicar, St. Thomas More University Parish, Indiana, and Our Lady of the Assumption Parish, Coral (2019-20), Church of the Resurrection Parish, Northern Indiana County (2020-22); Pastor, St. John the Baptist Parish, Perryopolis (2022-present)**Other:** parochial vicar and pastor of parishes in the Philippines

FATHER STEPHEN BUGAY, 40 YEARS

**Born:** Gipsy, Pa.**Seminary:** Mount Saint Mary's Seminary, Emmitsburg, Md.**Ordained:** May 5, 1984, by Bishop William G. Connare at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Greensburg**Pastoral appointments:** Parochial Vicar, Our Lady of Grace Parish, Greensburg (1984-89), Immaculate Conception Parish, Irwin (1989-94), Church of the Resurrection Parish, Clymer (1995-2000); Pastor, former St. John the Baptist Parish, Heilwood (1994-95); former Holy Rosary Parish, Republic (2000-10); Administrator, former Madonna of Czestochowa Parish, Cardale (2002-10), St. Mary (Nativity) Parish, Uniontown (2010-13), SS. Simon & Jude Parish, Blairsville (2013-23)**Diocesan appointments:** Regional Moderator, Region 16 (2005)**Retired:** 2023

FATHER ARNEL P. TADEO, 25 YEARS

**Born:** Bago Oshiro, Tugbok District, Davao City, Philippines**Seminary:** St. Francis Xavier College Seminary, Davao City, Philippines**Ordination:** Dec. 8, 1999, by Bishop

Fernando R. Capalla at Immaculate Conception Parish, Mintal, Davao City

Pastoral appointments: Parochial Vicar, Immaculate Conception Parish, St. John the Evangelist Parish and St. Rita Parish, Connellsville, and St. Aloysius Parish, Dunbar (2022), St. Peter Parish, Brownsville, St. Cecilia Parish, Grindstone, and St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Masontown (2022-23); Pastor, St. Patrick Parish, Brady's Bend (2023-present)**Other:** parochial vicar and pastor of parishes in the Philippines

FATHER ROSELO MELLORIA, 10 YEARS

**Born:** Davao City, Davao Del Sur, Philippines**Seminary:** Queen of Apostles College Seminary, Tagum City, Philippines; St. Francis Xavier Regional Major Seminary, Mindanao, Philippines**Ordained:** Aug. 26, 2014, by Bishop Wilfredo D. Manlapaz at Christ the King Cathedral, Tagum City**Pastoral appointments:** Parochial Vicar, St. Joseph Parish, Mount St. Peter Parish and St. Mary of Czestochowa Parish, New Kensington, and St. Margaret Mary Parish, Lower Burrell (2022-23); Pastor, St. Anne Parish, Rostraver, and Holy Family Parish, West Newton (2023-present)**Other:** parochial vicar of parishes in the Philippines

The Greensburg
Diocesan Council
of the
National Council
of Catholic Women

All God's Blessings to all the priests
on the occasion of their
Ordination Anniversaries.

Celebrating 63 Years
1961-2024

Christus est Veritas
"Christ is the Truth"

FATHER WARREN D. MURMAN,
OSB, 65 YEARS**Born:** Jeannette**Seminary:** Saint Vincent Seminary, Latrobe**Monastic vows:** simple profession, July 2, 1959; solemn profession, July 11, 1962**Ordained:** Aug. 28, 1965, by Bishop William G. Connare at Saint Vincent Basilica, Latrobe**Service at Saint Vincent:**

Assistant Master of Ceremonies

(1959-64); Socius of Novices (1962-64); Ridge Procurator (1970-present); seminary Academic Dean (1970-81); seminary Chaplain (1969-71); member of the board of Wimmer Corporation (1974-present); member of the college Board of Directors (1976-1980, 2012-present); faculty member, seminary and college (1982-90); Master of Novices (1990-97, 2013-19); Monastic Council of Seniors (2008-17); Archabbey Liturgy Committee (present)

Diocesan appointments: past member of the Liturgy Commission of the Diocese of Greensburg

Other: member of the Westmoreland County Agricultural Land Preservation Board (1998-2019)

BROTHER NORMAN HIPPS,
OSB, 60 YEARS**Born:** Carrolltown**Seminary:** Saint Vincent Seminary, Latrobe**Monastic vows:** simple profession, July 2, 1964; solemn profession, July 11, 1967**Service at Saint Vincent**

College: mathematics faculty member (1972-present); Director, Project Headway (1972-74); Campus Minister (1976-78);

Director, Opportunity Program (1978-80); Academic Dean (1980-87); Provost (1987-2002); President, 2010-19; Executive Vice President, Dean of the Herbert W. Boyer School of Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Computing, Associate Professor of mathematics

FATHER THADDEUS E. RETTGER,
OSB, 50 YEARS**Born:** St. Marys**Seminary:** Saint Vincent Seminary, Latrobe**Monastic vows:** Simple vows, July 11, 1968; solemn vows, July 11, 1971**Ordained:** May 11, 1974, by Bishop William G. Connare at Saint Vincent Archabbey Basilica**Pastoral appointments:**

Associate Pastor, St. Benedict Parish, Baltimore, Md. (1974-80), and Queen of the World Parish, St. Marys (1980-86); Pastor, Queen of the World Parish (1986-1996), and the former St. Bernard Parish, Hastings (2004); temporary Associate Pastor, St. Bruno Parish, Greensburg (1974); Pastor, St. Gertrude Parish, Vandergrift (1996-2004)

Other: member, Knights of Columbus; Chaplain, Crystal Fire Department; board member, Kiski Valley YMCA; pastors board member, Elk County Christian High School (1986-96); member, Pastors Board, and committee member, Elk County Catholic Schools Alliance (1994-96)

FATHER RENE M. KOLLAR,
OSB, 50 YEARS**Born:** Hastings**Seminary:** Saint Vincent Seminary, Latrobe**Monastic vows:** simple profession, July 11, 1968; solemn profession, July 11, 1971**Ordained:** May 11, 1974, by Bishop William G. Connare at Saint Vincent Archabbey Basilica, Latrobe**Service at Saint Vincent:**

College: history lecturer (1976); history instructor (1981-82); Assistant Professor in history (1982-85); Campus Minister (1982-86); Director of the Liberal Arts program (1983-84); Associate Professor in history (1985-91); chairperson of the History Department (1991-2003); Professor in history (1991-present); Benedictine resident at St. Benedict Hall (2002-07); and Dean of the School of Humanities and Fine Arts (2004-18); Boniface Wimmer Chair in Monastic Studies (2018). Member, Saint Vincent Center for Catholic Thought and Culture (2019-present). Seminary: modern church history instructor (present). Archabbey: member, Saint Vincent College Board of Incorporators, Council of Seniors, Archabbey Human Resources Council; chair, Human Resources Council Subcommittee for Ongoing Reassignment

Other: Author of numerous books and articles; editorial board member, The American Benedictine Review; Fellow, Royal Historical Society (1986); Honorary Research Fellow, King's College, University of London (1987-88); Visiting Scholar, Heythrop College, University of London (1996-97)

FATHER CHAD FICORILLI,
OSB, 50 YEARS**Born:** McKeesport**Seminary:** Saint Vincent Seminary, Latrobe**Monastic vows:** simple profession, July 10, 1974; solemn profession, July 11, 1977**Ordained:** May 19, 1979, at Saint Vincent Archabbey Basilica by Bishop William G. Connare**Pastoral appointments:**

Parochial Vicar, St. Gregory the Great Parish, Virginia Beach, Va. (1979-84, 1986-92); Pastor, Sacred Heart Parish, St. Marys, Pa.

Service at Saint Vincent: Archabbey Vocation Guest Master (1975-78); assistant to the monastery groundskeeper (1974-79); Archabbey Socius of Novices (1984-86); Archabbey Associate Director of the Physical Plant (1984-86); Spiritual Director of the Benedictine Oblates at Saint Vincent (1985-86); member of the Ad Hoc Committee for renovation of Leander Hall (1984-85); Operations Manager, Saint Vincent Cemetery, and Project Manager of Deferred Maintenance at Saint Vincent Facilities Management Office (2009-11); Assistant Director, Archabbey Basilica choir guests and Assistant Food Service Supervisor (2017); infirmary driver (2018); consultant for Our Lady of Mercy Chapel, Saint Vincent Cemetery (2013-14); Assistant to the Director of Vocations (2023)

Diocesan appointments: Administrator and Pastor, Sacred Heart Parish, Youngstown, and St. Cecilia Parish, Whitney (1998-2003); Pastor, former St. Bernard Parish, Hastings (2003), St. Gertrude Parish, Vandergrift (2004-09), and the former St. Nicholas Parish, Nicktown (2011-12); Chaplain, Independence Health System, Latrobe (present)

Other: Moderator of Region 10, Diocese of Greensburg (2001-03)

FATHER JUSTIN MATRO,
OSB, 35 YEARS**Born:** Montgomery, Ala.**Seminary:** Saint Vincent Seminary, Latrobe**Monastic vows:** simple profession, July 10, 1984; solemn profession, July 11, 1987**Ordained:** May 27, 1989, by Bishop Anthony G. Bosco**Pastoral appointments:** Pastor, St. Bartholomew Parish, Crabtree (2012-present)

Service at Saint Vincent: At seminary, Assistant, Seminary Development Office (1987-91); Director of Spiritual Life (1993-2001); instructor (1990-99); faculty member (1999-present); Vice Rector and Dean of Human Formation (2003-26). At Archabbey, Socius of Novices; Director of the Retreat Program (1988-90); Vocation Director (2000-03); Associate Director of Vocations (2003-06)

FATHER ANTHONY JOSEPH
(JAMES) GROSSI, OSB, 25 YEARS**Born:** Butler**Seminary:** Saint Vincent Seminary, Latrobe**Monastic vows:** simple profession, July 10, 1995; solemn profession, July 11, 1998**Ordained:** May 22, 1999, at Saint Vincent Archabbey Basilica, Latrobe, by Bishop Anthony G. Bosco**Service at Saint Vincent:**

Director, College Bookstore (2000-present); Sacramental Minister for Saint Vincent College Campus Ministry (2003-present); Chaplain to the Apostles of the Sacred Heart of Jesus at Clelian Heights School for Exceptional Children (2022-present); Assistant Sacristan (1994-96); academic counselor at Saint Vincent College (1996-2000); dormitory moderator at the college (1997-98; 1999-2000); Benedict resident in Rooney Hall (2000-10); food service liaison for the monastery (2007-08)

FATHER BONIFACE (PATRICK)
HICKS, OSB, 25 YEARS**Seminary:** Saint Vincent Seminary, Latrobe**Monastic vows:** simple profession, July 9, 1999; solemn vows, July 10, 2002**Ordained:** May 15, 2004, at Saint Vincent Archabbey Basilica, Latrobe, by Bishop Lawrence E. Brandt**Service at Saint Vincent:**

Saint Vincent College faculty (2007-11); Associate Director of Spiritual Formation (2015); Director of Spiritual Formation (2016-present); adjunct faculty member (2016-present); Director for Alumni Affairs (2017-present); inaugural Director of the seminary's Institute for Ministry Formation

Other: completed Licentiate in Sacred Theology from the Angelicum in Rome, 2023

APOSTLES OF THE
SACRED HEART OF
JESUS

85 YEARS

**SISTER DOLORITA
COLIANNI**

Born: Youngstown, Ohio
Entered: Aug. 24, 1936, from St. Anthony's Orphanage, Oakmont

70 YEARS

**SISTER MARIA
BATTAGLIA**

Born: St. Louis, Mo.
Entered: Aug. 28, 1951, from Our Lady Help of Christians Parish, St. Louis

65 YEARS

**SISTER ELEANOR
PERFETTO**

Born: Providence, R.I.
Entered: Aug. 28, 1956, from St. Rocco Parish, Johnstown, R.I.

50 YEARS

**SISTER JEANNE
MARIE VONDER
HAAR**

Born: St. Louis, Mo.
Entered: Sept. 8, 1971, from St. George Parish, St. Louis

BENEDICTINE SISTERS

70 YEARS

**SISTER MICHELLE
FARABAUGH**

Born: Carrolltown
Entered: August 1952 from St. Benedict Parish, Carrolltown

65 YEARS

**SISTER NANCY
BOOTH**

Born: Canton, Ohio
Entered: Sept. 2, 1957, from the former St. Benedict Parish, Canton

**SISTER GEORGINE
SCHWEERS**

Born: Philadelphia
Entered: 1957, from St. Teresa of Avila Parish, Pittsburgh

FELICIAN SISTERS OF
NORTH AMERICA

70 YEARS

**SISTER MARY
JUSTICE
PRZYBOCKI**

Born: Barnesboro
Entered: Aug. 2, 1954, from St. Stanislaus Kostka Parish, Spangler

60 YEARS

**SISTER MARY
JEANINE
MOROZOWICH**

Born: Braddock
Entered: Aug. 6, 1964, from Immaculate Conception Parish, Irwin

SCHOOL SISTERS OF
ST. FRANCIS

65 YEARS

**SISTER KAREN
BUCO**

Born: Natrona Heights
Entered: August 1959 from St. Clement Parish, Tarentum

SISTERS OF CHARITY
OF NAZARETH

65 YEARS

**SISTER BARBARA
LENGVARSKY**

Born: Smock
Entered: Oct. 14, 1956, from St. Hedwig Parish, Smock

60 YEARS

**SISTER RAYNITA
KRISTOFKO**

Born: Johnstown
Entered: Feb. 15, 1962, from St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Johnstown

SISTERS OF CHARITY
OF SETON HILL

75 YEARS

**SISTER VIRGINIA
PASCARETTA**

Born: Pittsburgh
Entered: Sept. 8, 1949, from St. Basil Parish, Pittsburgh

70 YEARS

**SISTER MARIAN
GRACE BRANDT**

Born: Homestead
Entered: Sept. 8, 1954, from St. Mary Magdalene Parish, Homestead

**SISTER BRENDA
HELIS**

Born: Johnstown
Entered: Sept. 8, 1954, from St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Johnstown

**SISTER MARIAN
MADDEN**

Born: Pittsburgh
Entered: Sept. 8, 1954, from Sacred Heart Parish, Pittsburgh

**SISTER MARIE
THERESA RISHEL**

Born: Pittsburgh
Entered: Sept. 8, 1954, from Sacred Heart Parish, Pittsburgh

**SISTER MARIE
MARGARET WOLF**

Born: Pittsburgh
Entered: Sept. 8, 1954, from Resurrection Parish, Pittsburgh

65 YEARS

**SISTER JEAN
BOGGS**

Born: Pittsburgh
Entered: Sept. 8, 1959, from St. Bernard Parish, Mt. Lebanon

**SISTER DOROTHY
DOLAN**

Born: Pittsburgh
Entered: Sept. 8, 1959, from St. Stephen Parish, Pittsburgh

**SISTER LYN MARIE
DWYER**

Born: Bronx, N.Y.
Entered: Sept. 8, 1959, from St. Anastasia Parish, Inglewood, N.J.

**SISTER PAULINE
GRENTZ**

Born: Fairmont, W.Va.
Entered: Sept. 8, 1959, from Resurrection Parish, Pittsburgh

**SISTER MARY
PRICE**

Born: Pittsburgh
Entered: Sept. 8, 1959, from St. Anselm Parish, Swissvale

**SISTER LYNN
RETTINGER**

Born: Pittsburgh
Entered: Sept. 8, 1959, from Resurrection Parish, Pittsburgh

**SISTER JOYCE
SERRATORE**

Born: Pittsburgh
Entered: Sept. 8, 1959, from Resurrection Parish, Pittsburgh

**SISTER VERONICA
MARY SZALAJKO**

Born: Pittsburgh
Entered: Sept. 8, 1959, from Holy Family Parish, Pittsburgh

60 YEARS

**SISTER BARBARA
EINLOTH**

Born: Pittsburgh
Entered: Sept. 8, 1964, from St. Canice Parish, Pittsburgh

**SISTER KATHLEEN
GALLAGHER**

Born: Pittsburgh
Entered: Sept. 8, 1964, from Holy Innocents Parish, Pittsburgh

**SISTER EDITH
STRONG**

Born: Monroeville
Entered: Sept. 8, 1964, from St. Bernadette Parish, Monroeville

50 YEARS

**SISTER
KWANGSHIM OH**

Born: Hae-nam, South Korea
Entered: Feb. 16, 1975

SISTERS OF CHARITY
OF SETON HILL

25 YEARS



SISTER LAURA COUGHLIN
Born: Youngstown, Ohio
Entered: Sept. 26, 1999, from Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, Scottsdale, Ariz.



SISTER KAREN CUNNINGHAM
Born: Pittsburgh
Entered: Sept. 26, 1999, from All Saints Parish, Pittsburgh

SISTERS OF CHARITY
OF THE IMMACULATE
CONCEPTION OF IVREA

25 YEARS



SISTER VEYCE AGUSTINO MATONYA
Born: Dodoma, Tanzania
Entered: Dec. 11, 1999, from Veyula, Dodoma, Tanzania

SISTERS OF
ST. BENEDICT

60 YEARS



MOTHER MARY ANNE NOLL
Born: Loretto
Entered: Sept. 21, 1962, from St. Michael Parish, Loretto

SISTERS OF
THE HOLY SPIRIT

65 YEARS



SISTER MADALYN CHLEBOWSKI
Born: Owensdale
Entered: from St. Joseph Parish, Everson



SISTER GRACE FABISH
Born: Wampum
Entered: from St. Monica Parish, Wampum

60 YEARS



SISTER MADELINE HORNING
Born: Canton, Ohio
Entered: from St. Paul Parish, North Canton, Ohio

SISTERS OF MERCY
OF THE AMERICAS

70 YEARS



SISTER LUCILLE HOLTZ
Born: Greeley, Iowa
Entered: Sept. 8, 1954, from Immaculate Conception Parish, Cedar Rapids, Iowa

60 YEARS



SISTER MARY CLARE DONNELLY
Born: Pittsburgh
Entered: Sept. 8, 1964, from St. Elizabeth of Hungary Parish, Pittsburgh

SISTERS OF
ST. JOSEPH OF BADEN

70 YEARS



SISTER NANCY HUPERT (SISTER THOMAS)
Born: Altoona
Entered: Sept. 8, 1954, from Cathedral Parish, Altoona



SISTER MARGARET ANN PARRISH
Born: Pittsburgh
Entered: Sept. 8, 1954, from Assumption Parish, Pittsburgh



SISTER DOLORES PARTSCH (SISTER IMMACULATE)
Born: Johnstown
Entered: Sept. 8, 1954, from St. Patrick Parish, Johnstown



SISTER PATRICIA ROSSI (SISTER MARIE DOMINIC)
Born: Ebensburg
Entered: Sept. 8, 1954, from Holy Name Parish, Ebensburg



SISTER MARY ANN SIEDLARCZYK (SISTER WILLIAM MARY)
Born: Lilly
Entered: Sept. 8, 1954, from St. Brigid Parish, Lilly



SISTER NORMA ZANIESKI (SISTER MARIE WILLIAM)
Born: Rochester, Pa.
Entered: Sept. 8, 1954, from St. Cecilia Parish, Rochester

65 YEARS



SISTER ROSEANN GAUL (SISTER JOHN GREGORY)
Born: Ambridge
Entered: Sept. 8, 1959, from St. John Parish, Summitville, Ohio



SISTER REMIGIA KUSHNER
Born: West Aliquippa
Entered: Sept. 8, 1959, from St. Joseph Parish, West Aliquippa



SISTER DOLORES MONTINI (SISTER FRANCIS DOMINIC)
Born: Sewickley
Entered: Sept. 8, 1959, from St. Veronica Parish, Ambridge

60 YEARS



SISTER CAROLYN BODENSCHATZ (SISTER VIVIAN)
Born: Johnstown
Entered: Sept. 8, 1964, from St. John the Baptist Parish, Summerhill



MARY SEAMANS THE CATHOLIC ACCENT
JUBILEE MASS: Sisters join in a Mass celebrating jubilee anniversaries for religious orders April 30 in St. Joseph Chapel at Christ Our Shepherd Center, Greensburg. The Mass was celebrated by Bishop Larry J. Kulick.

OUR LADY OF HOPE
PROVINCE CELEBRATES

2024 Jubilarians

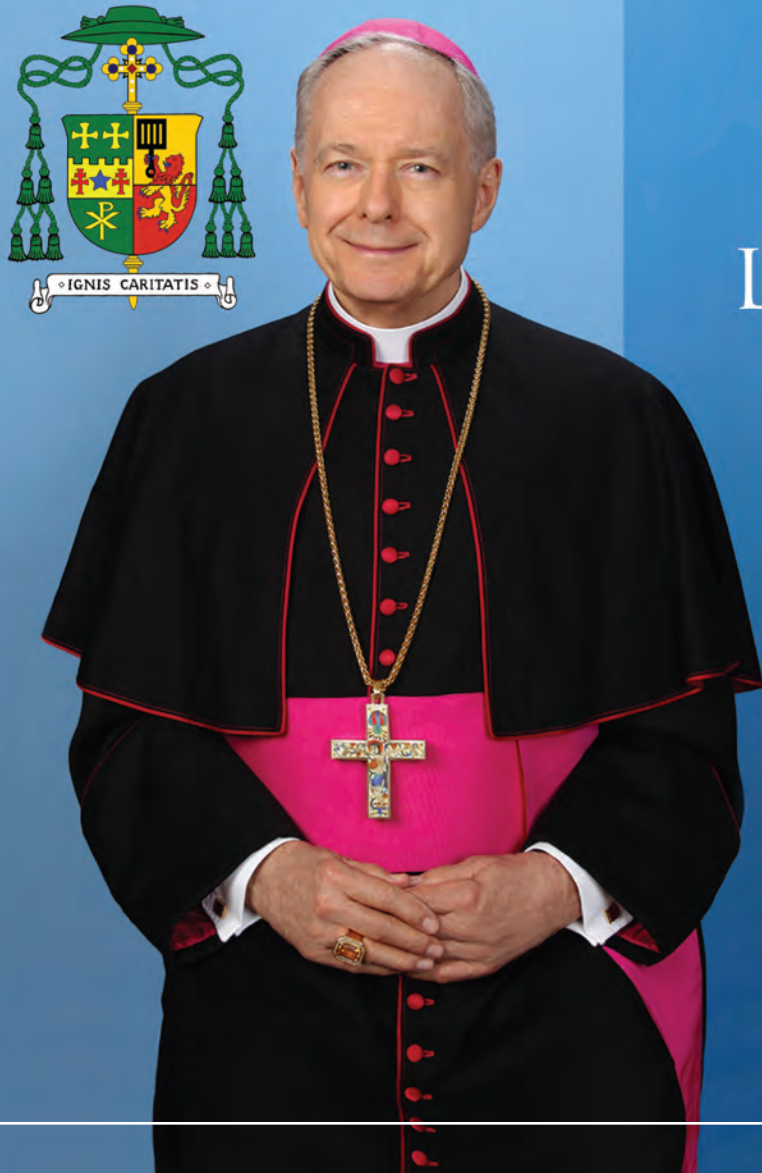
70 YEARS
SM Justice Przybocki

60 YEARS
SM Jeanine Morozowich

God bless our jubilarians for
transforming the world through
their lives dedicated to service.

FELICIAN SISTERS
OF NORTH AMERICA


FelicianSistersNA.org/Jubilarians



Congratulations
 BISHOP EMERITUS
LAWRENCE E. BRANDT

55 YEARS OF PRIESTHOOD
 20 YEARS OF EPISCOPAL MINISTRY

FROM
BISHOP LARRY J. KULICK
 WITH THE CLERGY AND THE FAITHFUL
 OF THE DIOCESE OF GREENSBURG



Diocese of Greensburg



Saint Agnes
 Roman Catholic Church

Fr. Daniel Ulishney, Pastor, and the parishioners and staff

Congratulate all Jubilarians,

Especially those who have served at St. Agnes Parish



45 years

*Monsignor Raymond
 Riffle*

Associate Pastor

1979 - 1982

Administrator, Pro-tem

January - June 1997



50 years

*Recently Deceased
 Father Rudy Koser*

Associate Pastor

1974 - 1978



55 years of Priesthood

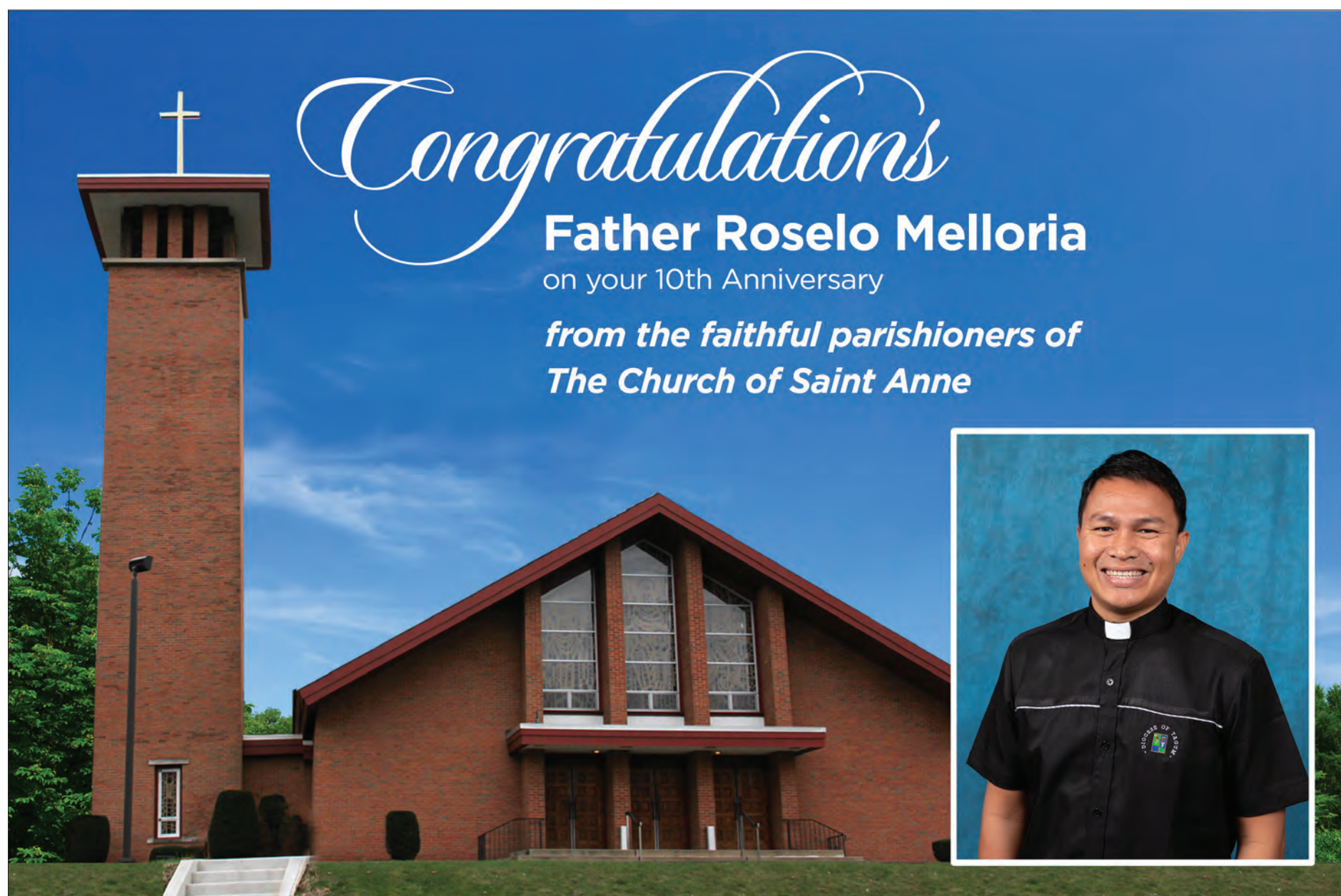
20 years of Episcopal Ministry

Bishop Emeritus Lawrence E. Brandt

Fourth Bishop of Greensburg, 2004 - 2015



*...and welcome Father Matthew Morelli
 as our new Parochial Vicar!*



*Congratulations to
Rev. John Euker,*

*former pastor at St. Mary, Mother of God Church—Freeport
and to all Jubilarians.*

*Thank you for touching the many lives with your compassionate
heart and for leading them towards the light of God's love!*

*Rev. Richard J. Kosisko, JCL
and St. Mary Parishioners*



Congratulations

**To those who have served the
Diocese of Greensburg
On your Milestone Anniversary
Of Ordination to the Priesthood**



**From
The Parishioners of Holy Cross Church**

Congratulations

Bishop Emeritus Lawrence E. Brandt

Father John Euker, former Pastor

Father Jim Tringhese, former
Associate Pastor

Father Rody Mejia, current Pastor
&

to all who are celebrating special
jubilees this year!

May God always bless you and your
works for many years to come!

*The Parish Family of
Saint John the Baptist,
Perryopolis*



*The Parishes of
Christ, Prince of Peace, Ford City
St. Lawrence, Cadogan
St. Mary, Our Lady of Guadalupe, Kittanning
St. Mary, Mother of God, Yatesboro
&*

The Very Reverend Eric J. Dinga, VF, Pastor

Extend our sincere congratulations to

His Excellency

***The Most Reverend Lawrence E. Brandt, JCD, PhD
Bishop Emeritus of Greensburg***

*on his 55th Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood
and his 20th Anniversary of Ordination to the Episcopacy*

Ad multos annos!



Congratulations 2024 Diocesan Jubilarians!

We give thanks to God and offer our congratulations to all of our priests celebrating anniversaries of
Priestly Ordination this year, especially:

***Father Segundino Laude
25th Anniversary***

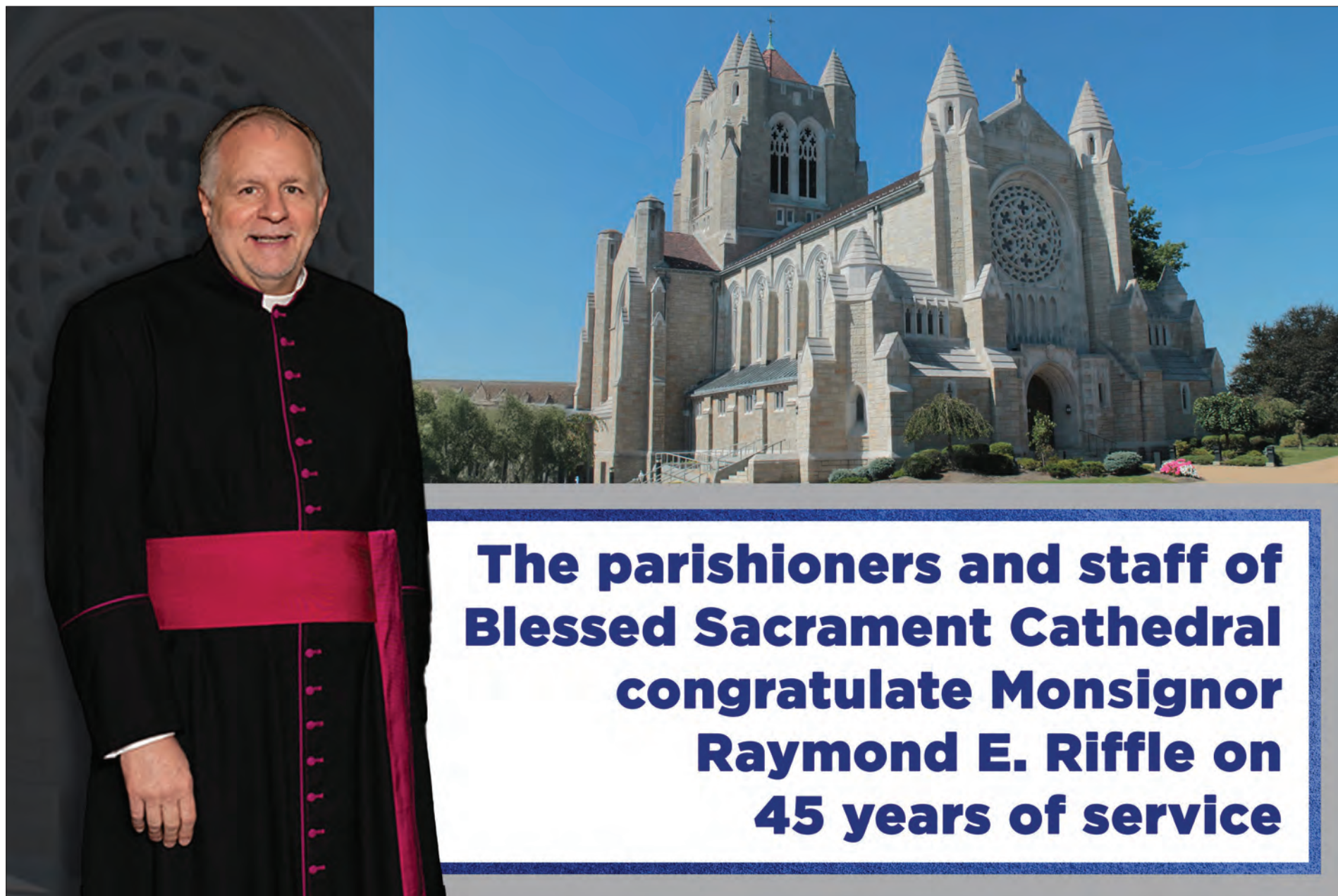
***Father Steve Bugay
40th Anniversary***

Thank you for your service to our Parishes and to the Diocese
of Greensburg. May God continue to bless you richly in your
ministry of service to Christ's flock!

From

*Parishioners of Church of the Good Shepherd, Kent, and
SS. Simon & Jude Parish, Blairsville*





CONGRATULATIONS, JUBILARIANS!

*Thank you for serving so many with joy
in your ministry. May you continue to
receive graces to sustain you in your work...*

Partner Parishes of Saint Bruno and Saint Paul

Very Reverend Lawrence Manchas, Pastor, VF
Reverend Peter Augustine Pierjok, O.S.B., Sacramentalist
and Deacon John Zombar

New vocations chapel in Kittanning

KITTANNING — Bishop Larry J. Kulick will celebrate Mass and dedicate the Diocese of Greensburg’s newest vocations chapel Aug. 14, the vigil of the Feast of the Assumption, at St. Mary, Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish. It will be the fourth vocations chapel in the Diocese; after its dedication, all four counties of the Diocese will have a vocations chapel.

Bishop Emeritus Lawrence E. Brandt will take part in the Mass and dedication. During his episcopacy, Bishop Brandt called for the creation of the chapels to encourage the faithful of the Diocese to pray for vocations. The other chapels are at Holy Family Parish, Latrobe; St. Therese, Little Flower of Jesus Parish, Uniontown, and St. Thomas More University Parish, Indiana.

The parishes of Armstrong County have played a role in the vocations journeys of many priests in the Diocese, including Father Eric J. Dinga, Pastor of St. Mary, Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, and the partner parishes of Christ, Prince of Peace Parish, Ford City, and St. Lawrence Parish, Cadogan, as well as St. Mary, Mother of God Parish, Freeport; Father Tyler J. Bandura, Pastor of St. James



FATHER ANTHONY J. KLIMKO FOR THE CATHOLIC ACCENT
Photos of seminarians hang on the wall of the vocations chapel at St. Therese, Little Flower of Jesus Parish, Uniontown.

Parish, New Alexandria; Father Andrew J. Hamilton, Parochial Vicar of the Roman Catholic Churches of Southern Fayette County; and Father James F. Petrovsky, now retired. Following the Mass and dedication, there will be a “Hearts for the Mission” party at the parish

to honor current seminarians, including Eli Halutick, whose home parish is Christ, Prince of Peace Parish. Halutick begins the Propaedeutic Stage in his formation for the priesthood this fall at Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary, Wynnwood. — *The Catholic Accent*

Bishop accepts new seminarian into formation

GREENSBURG — Bishop Larry J. Kulick has accepted Eli Halutick into the Priestly Formation Program for the Diocese of Greensburg. Halutick, a parishioner of Christ, Prince of Peace Parish, Ford City, will begin his Propaedeutic Stage at Saint Charles Borromeo Seminary, Wynnwood.



Eli Halutick

The Propaedeutic Stage provides seminarians with the groundwork they need to engage in priestly formation. The period of preparation enables them to enter properly into the life of the seminary with a solid foundation of human, spiritual, intellectual and pastoral formation. During this stage, participants begin to develop a life of prayer, study, fraternity and docility to formation, which takes place within the context of a smaller community, free from the academic stress of a typical undergraduate or graduate school curriculum.

Please continue to pray for all our seminarians and those discerning a call to the priesthood, diaconate or religious life.

Congratulations

Father Donald B. Conroy

60th Anniversary

Of

Priestly Ordination

From the Parishioners and Staff of

St. Bernard of Clairvaux Parish

Indiana, PA

Congratulations

TO FATHER DONALD B. CONROY

ON HIS 60TH ANNIVERSARY &

FATHER JOHN T. EUKER ON HIS

50TH ANNIVERSARY!

MAY GOD BLESS YOU & ALL OUR

PRIESTS CELEBRATING

MILESTONE ANNIVERSARIES!

WITH LOVE & THANKSGIVING,

HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC CHURCH, LATROBE

LET ALL THAT YOU

DO BE DONE IN *christ*



HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION 2024



Geibel Catholic Class of '24

- Victoria Anne Brown

Da'sjon Craggette

Ean Richard Glad

Halee Raine Hart

Nathan Thomas Johnson

Thomas William Kolencik

Lila Elizabeth Lancaster
- Allen Michael Lowery

Tessa Michele O'Neill

Aidan Ray Partridge

Madelyn Angel Ploskina

Gracie Ross

Luke Richard Shumar

Geibel Catholic's top students

Geibel Catholic Junior-Senior High School, Connellsville, held its 61st commencement exercises May 22. The 2024 graduating class had 13 students.



Valedictorian **Victoria Brown**, the daughter of Helen and Charles Brown, achieved highest honors for all grading periods. Memberships include the National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society and Penn State 4.0 Club. She is a Carson Scholar and a cheerleader, was on the basketball team and participated in musicals. She was awarded the school's Spanish, social studies and service hour recognition awards. She earned 35 college credits through the College in High School program. She plans to study anthropology/archaeology and public history at Mercyhurst University, Erie.



Salutatorian **Thomas Kolencik**, the son of Dana and Thomas Kolencik, earned highest honors throughout high school. Memberships include the National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society and Penn State 4.0 Club. He is a Carson Scholar. He served as student council president and helped to organize school events, and was on the soccer and basketball teams. He earned 45 college credits through the College in High School program. He plans to study electrical and computer engineering at Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh.

Greensburg Central Catholic Class of '24

- Izabela Aigner

Franco Alvarez

Benjamin Beech

Wesley BeHanna

Charles Blanchard

James Brewer

Ethan Brody

Abigail Chapman

Alynn Copley

Owen Cryblskey

Matthew Dalton

Lucia Daniele

Avery Davis

Carter Davis

Patrick DiCesare III

Nicholas Dlugos

Cara Dupilka

Ella Gill

Gabrielle Gombos

Josephine Goughnour

Ashlynn Johnson
- Addison Jones

Faith Joyce

Makenzee Kenney

Grace Kindel

Ava Kozar

Joseph Kudla II

Lydia Kurek

Joseph Longhi

Tommi Page Lookabill

Ella Machusko

Macee Magill

Peyton Malley

Peter Mazowiecki

Bram McGartland

Claire Miedel

Grant Miller

Mya Morgan

Michael Mullaney II

Michael Oldenburg

Courtney Papinchak

Benjamin Petnuch
- Camden Petrunak

Madison Plunko

Riley Polomoscanik

Brooke Rabensteine

Charisma Raszewsl

Riley Reese

Joseph Rehak

Logan Sebek

Anthony Semelka

Talia Serge

Mia Slike

Logan Snively

Eleanor Stasko

Evan Stasko

Antonia Stickle

Nicholas Szekely

Benedict Tropeano

Tyree Turner

Andrew Voetsch

GCC's Soli Deo Gloria Award



Joseph Kudla II is a parishioner of St. Anne Parish, Rostraver, where he is an altar server and assists with fundraisers. He is an Eagle Scout. At GCC, he was senior class president, participated in Columbian Squires, football, bowling, track and field, and chamber choir, and was an altar server and extraordinary minister of holy Communion. He plans to study history at Muhlenberg College, Allentown.



2024 GCC Principal Awardees

The following GCC students earned a minimum 4.2 GPA:

- Franco Alvarez

James Brewer

Ethan Brody

Owen Cryblskey

Nicholas Dlugos

Ella Gill
- Makenzee Kenney

Ava Kozar

Joseph Longhi

Peter Mazowiecki

Grant Miller

Michael Oldenburg
- Brooke Rabensteine

Logan Sebek

Eleanor Stasko

Nicholas Szekely



PHOTOS SUBMITTED



PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Kerygma Retreat opens hearts, deepens faith

By Mary Seamans

Multimedia Coordinator

GREENSBURG — In his recent pastoral letter “Donum Veritatis: The Gift of Truth,” Bishop Larry J. Kulick emphasizes his commitment to forming missionary disciples in the Diocese of Greensburg.

He writes, “we will offer discipleship retreats on a regular basis for all people of the Diocese to have this intimate encounter with Jesus, experiencing the proclamation of the Gospel in a clear and powerful way and renewing their participation in the sacraments.” (53)

The Kerygma Discipleship Retreat is the implementation of the Bishop’s plan to offer these opportunities to the faithful. While this retreat is new to the Diocese, its content is the Good News of Jesus Christ. In fact, “kerygma” is the Greek word for “proclamation” and refers to the Good News that our heavenly Father loves us so much that he sent His son, Jesus, to die and rise again to save us, and that Christ is with us always.

The Diocese held its first Kerygma Discipleship Retreat May 17-19 at Christ Our Shepherd Center, Greensburg. Many of the more than 50 participants described it as an amazing experience.

The Kerygma Discipleship Retreat is the perfect way to encounter and deepen our relationship with Christ in our often hectic lives, according to Vincent Reilly, Managing Director of the Office of Faith, Family and Discipleship.

“This retreat is designed so that all family members in a household can participate at the same time. The retreat is appropriate for everyone age 18 and up, no matter how actively they are practicing their faith or their life experience. It encourages participants to move from ‘knowing about Jesus’ to ‘knowing Jesus’ and ‘going to Church’ to ‘being Church,’ Reilly said.

Kate Parkinson, a Kerygma Discipleship Retreat leader, said the program is rooted in the Good News of Christ.

“The Kerygma Retreat is immersed in Sacred Scripture and the life of the early Church with time for small group discussions and prayer, the opportunity for the sacrament of reconciliation, adoration, the celebration of Mass and fellowship,” she said.

Those who participated in the first Kerygma Discipleship Retreat felt its experiential impact.

“I loved it. It was really deep, really enriching, really powerful, and I would encourage anyone, wherever you are in your faith life, to come and do this. It will take you even further than you can imagine,” said Vaughn Thomas, a parishioner of St. Barbara Parish, Harrison City.

“I just had a beautiful experience with the Holy Spirit and having my relationship with the Lord grow deeper and more personal. And also, in the Eucharist and in knowing my Catholic faith,” said Carolyn Cannizzaro, a parishioner of St. Anne



PHOTOS BY MARY SEAMANS
THE CATHOLIC ACCENT

At top, Vincent Reilly leads the Kerygma Discipleship Retreat; at right and above, participants immerse themselves in the experience.

All are invited to experience and be transformed at the **next Kerygma Discipleship Retreat Oct. 11-13** at Christ Our Shepherd Center, Greensburg. For more information or to register, visit DioceseofGreensburg.org/Kerygma-Discipleship-Retreat.

Parish, Rostraver. “Every person, every Catholic, should experience the love of God on a Kerygma retreat.”

“The Kerygma retreat is the most transformative retreat that I’ve been on. I’ve been to NCYC, and I’ve been on mission trips, and this is something completely different,” said Thomas Kopasko, a parishioner of St. Barbara Parish. “We got to hear God’s Word proclaimed, and I feel that I have been transformed. The speakers were amazing. I feel that I can go out into my community and make a difference in our Diocese. I encourage any youth to attend. It will deepen your faith. It’s been so, so beautiful, and a great experience.”

“The Kerygma Retreat is going to revitalize what community looks like in the universal Catholic Church. It’s going to improve how we pray, individually and as a group,” said Katelyn Waterhouse, a parishioner of St. Bernard of Clairvaux Parish, Indiana. “It empowers us with the Holy Spirit, so that when we go home, we can invigorate our domestic Church and our communities. For me, I had a beautiful table of strong women, and our 2½ days together built us up in faith, able to bring it out into the world.”





LORI PADILLA FOR THE CATHOLIC ACCENT

Bishop Kulick and Knights of Columbus arrive at Courthouse Square in Greensburg at the end of the Corpus Christi procession.

Bishop leads Corpus Christi procession through Greensburg

GREENSBURG — On June 2, the Feast of Corpus Christi, Bishop Larry J. Kulick led a Eucharistic procession from Blessed Sacrament Cathedral to Courthouse Square. The procession followed Mass at the cathedral.

"It has been a tradition in the Diocese of Greensburg to celebrate this feast day with a procession," Bishop Kulick said, recognizing that many parishes have similar celebrations in their own communities.

The procession was a sign of our faith in the heart of Westmoreland

County, he said. Normally, the procession would end at another church, but the ritual allows for it to end at "another suitable place."

It was Bishop Kulick's desire was to go to this center of our local church, not only as a public witness to the faith but to pray for all of those in need. The imprisoned, the sick and the elderly — all are united in this time of prayer.

After the procession arrived, Bishop offered prayer and a reflection before blessing the City of Greensburg with the Blessed Sacrament.

— *The Catholic Accent*

Diocesan pilgrimage to National Shrine set Sept. 21

GREENSBURG — Bishop Larry J. Kulick will lead a pilgrimage for the faithful of the Diocese of Greensburg to the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C., Sept. 21. Cost per attendee is \$135; the group will depart at 6:30 a.m.

During the pilgrimage, participants will honor Jesus, his mother Mary, the patroness of the Diocese of Greensburg, and his foster father Joseph, to whose protection and guardianship the Diocese of Greensburg has been dedicated.

Pilgrims will have the opportunity to tour the shrine and can participate in special devotions, go to confession and attend Mass exclusively for those from the Diocese, celebrated by Bishop Kulick. There will be an optional visit to the nearby St. John Paul II Center.

The pilgrimage is designed to call to mind our Diocesan patroness, Our Lady of the Assumption, as part of



MARY SEAMANS THE CATHOLIC ACCENT

Bishop Kulick's three-year dedication of the Diocese to the protection and guardianship of St. Joseph.

For more information or to register, visit DioceseofGreensburg.org.

— *The Catholic Accent*

Natural Family Planning Awareness Week

Natural Family Planning Awareness Week, a national educational campaign promoted through the Natural Family Planning Program of the USCCB, is July 21-27. The dates highlight the July 25 anniversary of the papal encyclical *Humanae Vitae*, which articulates Catholic beliefs about human sexuality, conjugal love and responsible parenthood.

The theme for this year's celebration is "Love Beyond Measure: Natural Family Planning, Supporting God's gifts of love and life in marriage." For information, visit www.usccb.org/topics/natural-family-planning/national-nfp-awareness-week.

Save the Date: Saturday, November 9, 2024

Spirited

2024 Women's Conference

Rejoice Always!

— 1 Thessalonians 5:16



Jackie Francois Angel

Bishop Larry J. Kulick

Dr. Mary Healy

DioceseofGreensburg.org/Spirited



Diocese of Greensburg

Bishop Kulick memorializes county's unclaimed dead

By **Cliff Gorski**
Editor

GREENSBURG — Some of them outlived their loved ones. Others were estranged from their families. Some were cremated more than 30 years ago. On a hillside beyond the boundary of the Westmoreland County Prison, 53 unclaimed remains were laid to rest in a special memorial service presided over by Bishop Larry J. Kulick on June 27.

"One of the corporal works of mercy is to bury our dead," Bishop Kulick told those gathered for the service. "We are doing that today as a fruit of our charity and our discipleship."

Whether a family could not afford to take on the financial responsibility of a proper burial, or if all efforts of tracking down relatives were exhausted, the remains sat in boxes in an evidence room in the Westmoreland County Coroner's Office.

Coroner Tim Carson was glad that a proper resting place was found for the 53 individuals.

"I think this is an important function of our duties in the Coroner's Office, and I appreciate the support of the community in doing this," Carson said.

Two of the individuals memorialized were veterans. Nolan M. Holliday served in the U.S. Navy during World War II, and Armand M. Bucci served in the U.S. Air Force during the Vietnam War. Members of the American Legion posts throughout Westmoreland County escorted their remains to the National Cemetery of the Alleghenies, where they will receive full military honors.

Joining Bishop Kulick for the ecumenical memorial service were the Reverend David Ackerman, Conference Minister, Penn West Conference of the United Church of Christ, and the Reverend Nick Poole from Calvary Church in Irwin. Each shared a reflection during the memorial service.

Bishop Kulick said the service brought together the community, regardless of political ideology, professional backgrounds or faith traditions. He said the service of commendation is a reminder to live in a way that is honorable, charitable and merciful, and said the memorial service is a beautiful sign of the unity of humanity rooted in faith.

"We see in this action that what we do is not the end. What we believe and what we do here is a sign of hope, a sign of belief in resurrection and of new life."



Above, representatives of the American Legion take veterans' remains for a military burial; at left, Bishop Kulick leads a prayer for the unclaimed remains of the 53 individuals honored during the service.

CLIFF GORSKI
THE CATHOLIC ACCENT

Catholic Charities is there for those in need

GREENSBURG — Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Greensburg is joining with the Catholic Charities network around the country to participate in We Are There, a national awareness campaign highlighting the life-giving services Catholic Charities agencies provide in their local communities.

For 70 years, Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Greensburg has brought comfort, hope and relief to our neighbors, regardless of their faith, in the four-county region of Armstrong, Fayette, Indiana and Westmoreland counties.

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Greensburg is committed to helping people achieve self-sufficiency with compassion and concern. Food and utilities assistance, baby supplies and mental health counseling are among the range of services offered to help meet the needs in its community.

"In our area, Catholic Charities is truly the link between those in need and the resources that can help them," said Managing Director Melaney Hegyes. "We are



committed to and have deep love for all of God's people, especially the aging, those at risk and mothers in need. We are always ready to provide help, hope and healing."

Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Greensburg continues to make an impact on the communities it serves. Since 2009, nearly \$600,000 has been distributed to nonprofit organizations through the Diocesan Poverty Relief Grant Fund for programming to ease

the burden of poverty. Last year, close to 3,500 individuals were assisted with heating fuel and utilities. More than 1,900 individuals were assisted with either rent, food or clothing. This outreach is assisted by volunteers who have logged more than 6,800 hours helping those in need by packing food boxes, staffing the Helpline, organizing the Baby Closet or assisting with the Teen Christmas Program. The work that Catholic

Charities does in the Diocese of Greensburg is mirrored by services provided at Catholic Charities agencies around the country. There are 168 independent Catholic Charities agencies and 3,900 collective locations spread out across the United States and its five territories. The Catholic Charities network served more than 15 million people last year and provided more than 30 million meals to those in need. The dedicated, selfless

staff of Catholic Charities agencies are aided in this work by the indispensable contributions of more than 215,000 volunteers nationwide. The services offered by each local Catholic Charities agency differ because they are tailored to the specific needs of the vulnerable members of their individual communities.

Catholic Charities USA, the national membership organization for Catholic Charities agencies, organized and launched the We Are There campaign. Over the coming months, the campaign will raise awareness for the work of Catholic Charities through a variety of national media outlets. Here in the Diocese of Greensburg, Catholic Charities will continue to highlight the different ways we aid and accompany our neighbors in need.

To learn more about the We Are There campaign, visit www.WeAreThere.US. To learn how to volunteer or make a gift supporting the work of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Greensburg, visit ccharitiesgreensburg.org.

— Catholic Charities staff

Scouts recognized at annual Convocation Mass

By Phil Brown
Contributing Writer

LATROBE — Bishop Larry J. Kulick exhorted Scouts from the Diocese of Greensburg to cling firmly to their moral principles and use their talents and skills to guide others to the Catholic faith.

Bishop Kulick spoke to Scouts during his homily as he celebrated the annual Diocesan Scout Convocation Mass at St. John the Evangelist Parish April 28.

During the Mass, the Bishop recognized 17 Catholic Scouts from the Diocese who have completed work on their religious emblems in the past year.

Bishop Kulick, who himself earned the rank of Eagle Scout, said the heart of Scouting is sacrificial love, love of God, love of country and love of others.

That love inspires Scouts to serve others as Jesus demonstrated to his disciples on Holy Thursday in the washing of their feet, he said.

"There is a common good that allows us to be people who reflect the goodness of God," he said. "We need to remind ourselves to work for something beyond ourselves.

"Be the beacon. Be witnesses of your beliefs."

Like Bishop Kulick, Chuck Boyer, chair of the Catholic Committee on Scouting for the Diocese of Greensburg, believes Scouting provides a pathway to strengthening faith in Catholic youth.

Boyer said the 12th point of the Scout Law — a Scout is reverent — is vital in helping Catholic Scouts embrace and nurture their faith.

It is the foundation of the other 11 points of the Scout Law, he said.

Scouts honored at the convocation had the opportunity to earn religious emblems and religious activity patches by completing faith-focused activities and projects.

"As parents or guardians, we want

what is best for our kids, not just now but for the future," Boyer said. "We want our kids to grow up to be good citizens and faithful Catholics.

"Catholic Scouting is a time-honored and fun way to support parents' efforts to raise their children to become responsible, well-rounded adults," he said, noting that Catholic Scouting has been a part of the vocation stories of many priests in the Diocese.

"An emphasis on awareness and discernment of vocations is an important part of both the National and Diocesan Catholic Committees on Scouting (DCCS) missions," he said.

In an effort to strengthen Catholic Scouting in the Diocese, Father E. George Saletrik, Diocesan Scout Chaplain and Pastor of St. John the Evangelist Parish, said efforts are underway to restore the Catholic Committee on Scouting to pre-pandemic effectiveness and the convocation to broader participation.

Boyer said Scouting parents or others interested in supporting the program should consider becoming members of the committee to help support the growth of Catholic Scouting.

Scouts who received the Ad Altare Dei Religious Emblem at the convocation are:

- Raymond Lutz, Troop 465, Holy Cross Parish, Youngwood
- Gabriel Snyder, Troop 205, Holy Family Parish, Plum
- Max Snyder, Troop 205, Holy Family Parish, Plum
- Nathan Collamer, Troop 205, Mount Saint Peter Parish, New Kensington
- Elijah Crivellaro, Troop 465, Immaculate Conception Parish, Irwin
- Jeremy Kaciubij, Troop 239, St. Barbara Parish, Harrison City
- Nate Owoc, Troop 239, St. Barbara Parish
- Logan Sage, Troop 239, St. Barbara Parish
- Tyler Sage, Troop 239, St. Barbara Parish



- Bradley Hoffman, Troop 480, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, North Huntingdon
 - Hunter Hoffman, Troop 480, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish
 - Zachary Hoffman, Troop 480, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish
- Scouts who received the Pope

PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Bishop Kulick greets Scouts at the annual Diocesan Scout Convocation Mass April 28 at St. John the Evangelist Parish, Latrobe. At left, Father E. George Saletrik speaks during the Mass.

Pius XII Religious Emblem at the convocation are:

- Max Snyder, Troop 205, Holy Family Parish, Plum
- Nathan Snyder, Troop 205, Holy Family Parish, Plum
- Scotty Clark, Troop 239, Immaculate Conception Parish, Irwin
- Anthony Poole, Troop 205, Mother of Sorrows Parish, Murrysville
- Benjamin Poole, Troop 205, Mother of Sorrows Parish

To learn more about ways you can advocate for Catholic Scouting, contact Boyer at boyercrui@gmail.com or Father Saletrik at gsaletrik@DioceseofGreensburg.org.

Scout wins scholarship

NORTH HUNTINGDON — The National Catholic Committee on Scouting (NCCS) has awarded Vincent Brown, a parishioner of St. Agnes Parish, North Huntingdon, and a member of Troop 293, the \$2,000 Emmett J. Doerr Memorial Scout Scholarship.

The scholarship is awarded for service and leadership in the community, school, Scouting and church. Brown is a cantor and musician at Mass and participates in the children's and adult choirs and the Diocesan Youth Choir. He served three summers as a Vacation Bible School teacher and has earned all four Catholic religious emblems offered by the NCCS.

A 2024 graduate of Serra Catholic High School, McKeesport, Brown will study biological and biomedical sciences at the University of Pittsburgh.



BISHOP KULICK TO CELEBRATE ASSUMPTION OF MARY WITH MASS, CANDLELIGHT PROCESSION

AUG 15: Bishop Larry J. Kulick invites the faithful of the Diocese of Greensburg to join him in the celebration of the Solemnity of the Assumption of Mary Aug. 15 at Christ our Shepherd Center, Greensburg. Bishop Kulick will celebrate Mass in honor of Our Lady of the Assumption, the patroness of the Diocese, at 7 p.m. in St. Joseph Chapel. An outdoor candlelight procession will follow, with the rosary recited in various languages, modeled after the custom at Lourdes, France. All are invited to attend, including parish groups. The photo at left is from last year's procession.

CATHOLIC ACCENT FILE PHOTO

YOUNG PEOPLE CONFIRMED: Bishop Larry J. Kulick continues to visit parishes around the Diocese to confirm young people. Below and on the next page are photos from confirmations for multiple parishes. Photos were submitted.



Christ, Prince of Peace Parish, Ford City; St. Lawrence Parish, Cadogan; St. Mary, Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, Kittanning; St. Mary, Mother of God Parish, Yatesboro; St. Patrick Parish, Brady's Bend



St. Barbara Parish, Harrison City; St. John Baptist de La Salle Parish, Delmont; St. Mary, Our Lady of Lourdes Parish, Export



St. Sebastian Parish, Belle Vernon; The Epiphany of Our Lord Parish, Monessen; St. John the Baptist Parish, Perryopolis; St. Peter Parish, Brownsville; St. Cecilia Parish, Grindstone; St. Anne Parish, Rostraver; Holy Family Parish, West Newton; St. Edward Parish, Herminie; Seven Dolars Parish, Yukon



Holy Trinity Parish, Ligonier; St. Raymond of the Mountains Parish, Donegal; St. Florian Parish, United; St. Cecilia Parish, Whitney; Sacred Heart Parish, Youngstown



St. Therese, Little Flower of Jesus Parish, St. John the Evangelist Parish, St. Joseph Parish and St. Mary (Nativity) parishes, Uniontown; SS. Cyril & Methodius Parish, Fairchance; St. Hubert Parish, Point Marion; St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Western Fayette County; St. Joan of Arc Parish, Farmington



St. Thomas More University Parish and St. Bernard of Clairvaux parishes, Indiana; Our Lady of the Assumption Parish, Coral; Church of the Resurrection Parish, Northern Indiana County; Church of the Good Shepherd Parish, Kent



St. Vincent Basilica, Holy Family and St. Rose parishes, Latrobe



Mother of Sorrows Parish, Murrysville; St. Regis Parish, Trafford



Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, St. Paul and St. Bruno parishes, Greensburg



St. Mary, Mother of God Parish, Freeport; St. James Parish, Apollo; Our Lady, Queen of Peace Parish, East Vandergrift; St. Ambrose Parish, Avonmore; St. Matthew Parish, Saltsburg; St. Sylvester Parish, Slickville

**THE ART OF ACCOMPANIMENT:**

Participants attend a three-day "Art of Accompaniment" workshop June 19-21 at Christ Our Shepherd Center, Greensburg. The workshop was sponsored by the Office of Faith, Family and Discipleship in partnership with The Institute for Ministry Formation at Saint Vincent College, Latrobe.

PHOTOS SUBMITTED



PHOTOS SUBMITTED

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS: Catholic Daughters of America, Court New Kensington 860, celebrated their 100th anniversary June 2. Monsignor Lawrence Dominik and Father Joel Sayson celebrated Mass at St. Mary of Czestochowa Parish, New Kensington. A brunch followed in Fellowship Hall. CDA State Regent Margaret Giordano and First Vice Regent Lisa McCann attended the gathering. Court officers pictured in the front row are Financial Secretary Eleanor Chodelka; Recording Secretary Catherine Collett; Regent Theresa Shields; and Vice Regent Cynthia Ansani. The group is seeking new members to join the CDA, which promotes spiritual growth, community service and fellowship. The court sponsors one major fundraiser each year, with proceeds supporting local charities and food banks.



MELISSA WILLIAMS BROWN FOR THE CATHOLIC ACCENT

From left: Elena Saeteros, Eric Joel Loja Guaman, holding his sister, Yaritza S. Loja Saeteros, and Thomas Loja.

Bishop celebrates confirmation in Spanish in Jeannette

By Melissa Williams Brown
Contributing Writer

JEANNETTE — Eric Joel Loja Guaman traveled further than most — across the globe — to receive the sacrament of confirmation at Sacred Heart Parish, where he's found his home away from home.

Guaman was born in the United States and raised in Ecuador, returning to the U.S. in 2023 when he was 14.

He proudly took the name Joseph after St. Joseph, foster father of Jesus, during his confirmation on Pentecost Sunday before friends and family of the Latino community at Ascension Parish in Jeannette, a place the tight-knit community can be found every Sunday evening at 6 p.m. for the Spanish Mass.

The confirmation Mass was celebrated on Pentecost Sunday by Fr. Christopher J. Pujol.

At the Mass, Bishop Larry J. Kulick reminded parishioners that the Holy Spirit is with us, too, and provides strength and gifts we use in our everyday lives as he confirmed them.

He told those in the Latino community that they always have a home at Ascension Parish and in the Diocese of Greensburg.

"Our heritages are so close. We hope you feel at home in the Diocese of Greensburg," Bishop Kulick said.

Father Christopher J. Pujol, Diocesan Episcopal Master of Ceremonies, celebrated the confirmation Mass in Spanish.

Benedictine Father Job Foote, Parochial Vicar for the partner parishes of Ascension and Sacred Heart, celebrates the weekly Spanish Mass. He relies on those in the Latino community for assistance, like Glenda Winge, a catechist who assisted with the confirmation,

and who Father Job introduced as director of religious education for the Latino community. She also manages the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program, though she holds no official title in the parish.

Winge said Father Job knows the language, understands the culture and cares for each member of the community.

"The Latino community from Ascension is very thankful to Father Job for his faithful commitment to weekly Spanish Masses and being part of the convivencia (communal co-existence/potluck) every week, which has contributed to create a tight-knit community," Winge said.

Winge described Guaman as a "humble, reserved, smart and respectful young man."

"During a catechetical presentation and reflection on the spiritual and corporal works of mercy, he shared with his catechist that he and his uncle were part of a missionary group back home," she said. "It wasn't until this recent lesson that he realized he had already done some of the works, not knowing they were called works of mercy."

The two visited underprivileged areas, teaching people about God while helping them with other tasks.

"It wasn't easy, but I learned much about that experience and I really liked it," said Guaman, whose family are parishioners of Ascension Parish.

Winge said the Latino community was honored to have Bishop Kulick celebrate the rite of confirmation, all in Spanish.

"The community was also grateful for the Bishop's heartwarming message and how appreciative he is of the Latino presence in the Diocese," she said. "Gracias, Bishop Kulick."



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LATROBE, PENNSYLVANIA

EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BINGOS

East Vandergrift — Our Lady, Queen of Peace Parish will hold bingo in the social hall Sundays, July 21, Aug. 4 and 18, and Sept. 8. Doors open at 1 p.m. and bingo begins at 2. Information: 724-478-4958.

Footdale — St. Francis of Assisi Parish will hold a Bingo Bash Sept. 15. Doors open at noon. Information: 724-583-7866.

Freeport — St. Mary, Mother of God Parish holds a monthly bingo at their Family Community Center the first Sunday of the month. Doors open at 5 p.m. and bingo begins at 6:30 p.m.

Harrison City — St. Barbara Parish hosts bingo the first Wednesday of every month (Aug. 7). Doors open at 5 p.m., with games at 6:45 p.m. The kitchen will be open, and free coffee will be provided. The facility is handicapped accessible. Information: 724-744-7474 or 724-744-4594.

BURGER BASHES

Irwin — Immaculate Conception Parish will hold Burger Bashes Aug. 10, Sept. 14 and Oct. 12.

Whitney — St. Cecilia Parish will hold a Burger Bash July 20 from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Upcoming dates are Aug. 17, Sept. 14 and Oct. 12. Information: 724-423-3777.

CAR CRUISE/SPAGHETTI DINNER

New Alexandria — St. James Parish will hold a car cruise and spaghetti dinner Sept. 8 from noon-5 p.m. (registration at 11 a.m.). Information: 724-668-2829.

CASINO DAY TRIP

Apollo — St. James Parish, Apollo, and Our Lady, Queen of Peace Parish, East Vandergrift, are sponsoring a day trip to Rivers Casino in Pittsburgh Aug. 14. Anyone 21 or older is welcome. The motor coach will depart from St. James Parish at 9 a.m. Cost is \$35 per person, which includes bus driver gratuity and \$20 in free play. Reservations: 724-478-4958.

CHRISTLIFE PROGRAM

Latrobe — St. Vincent Basilica Parish will offer the ChristLife “Sharing Christ” program Tuesdays, Oct. 1-Nov. 5, from 6:30-8:30 p.m., with a retreat on Saturday, Nov. 9, from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Sharing Christ is the third course of the ChristLife series and helps people who have completed “Following Christ” share Jesus Christ with others. To view an informational video, visit youtu.be/yUOJN-c0FDw. Registration/information: basilicaparishstv.org/christlife/or Teri Pomerleau, tpomerleau@dioceseofgreensburg.org or 724-539-8629, ext. 15.

DAY OF RECOLLECTION

Greensburg — Carmelite Brother John-Mary Winter will lead a Day of Recollection titled “Lord, Teach

Us to Pray” Aug. 10 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at Christ Our Shepherd Center. Saturday daily Mass will be offered, and lunch will be provided. Cost is \$25. Information/registration: www.DioceesofGreensburg.org/carmelite-events.

DINNER

Footdale — St. Francis of Assisi Parish will hold a pasta dinner and basket raffle Aug. 4 from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. in the Footdale Social Hall. Information: 724-583-7866

FESTIVALS

Crabtree — St. Bartholomew Parish will host its annual Our Lady of Mount Carmel celebration July 18-21. Information: 724-834-0709 or StBartholomewCrabtree.org.

Everson — St. Joseph Parish will hold its festival Aug. 3 from 5-9 p.m. and Aug. 4 from 4-9 p.m. Information: 724-887-6321.

Latrobe — St. Vincent Basilica Parish will hold its festival July 20 from 10 a.m.-8 p.m. at St. Vincent Grove. Information/ dinner reservations: basilicaparishstv.org (click on the festival tab).

Masontown — St. Francis of Assisi Parish will hold its Labor Day Festival Aug. 31-Sept. 1 from 5-10 p.m. Information: 724-583-7866.

Mount Pleasant — St. Pius X Parish will hold its festival July 28 from 11 a.m.-9 p.m. Information: 724-547-1911.

Murrysville — Mother of Sorrows Parish will hold its annual community festival Aug. 2-3 from 5-9 p.m. Information: 724-733-8870, mosfestival724@gmail.com or <https://sites.google.com/view/mosfestival>.

North Huntingdon — St. Agnes Parish will hold its festival Aug. 2-4. Information: 724-863-2626.

Trafford — St. Regis Parish will hold its festival July 19 and 20. Information: 412-992-1173.

Youngwood — Holy Cross Parish will hold its festival Sept. 14 from 5-9 p.m. and Sept. 15 from 11 a.m.-6 p.m. Information: Shelly Garris, garrisjsjl@gmail.com.

GOLF OUTING

South Greensburg — St. Bruno Parish will hold a golf outing Sept. 21 at 8 a.m. at Glengarry Golf Links, Latrobe. Information: 724-610-7489.

MAGNIFICAT BREAKFAST

Crabtree — The Greensburg Chapter of Magnificat — A Ministry to Catholic Women will hold a breakfast July 27 from 9 a.m.-noon at Rizzo’s Banquet Hall. Speaker will be Deborah Keefe, a Catholic therapist who developed the Music as Medicine program at the University of New Hampshire.



PHOTO SUBMITTED

GRADUATES HONORED: Seniors graduating from schools in the Indiana Catholic community were recognized at a Mass June 9 at St. Bernard of Clairvaux Parish, Indiana. The Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Court St. Bernard 339, provided brunch for the seniors and their families, the Grandmothers Corps gifted them with rosaries from Medjudorje, and the Legion of Mary gave them scapulars and medals. Pictured from left are Isabella Brunetto, Mariah Parks, Isabella Thompson, Hadley Long, Trey Adams, Gloria Kanick, brunch chairwoman, Cassie Michele, Daniel Carpenter and Barbara Minor, Catholic Daughters regent.

Cost is \$25 (\$20 for students). The next breakfast is planned Oct. 26. Information/registration: www.magnificatgreensburg.com or 724-836-2094 (online registration deadline July 20).

MEETINGS

Irwin — The Immaculate Conception Parish Creation Care Team meets the first Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m. in the Children’s Liturgy Room. The team’s focus is to study the encyclical “Laudato Si, Care for Our Common Home” and to turn the Pope’s vision into effective actions. Information, 412-916-8030 or chris@syncrous.com.

PLAY GROUP

Perryopolis — St. John the Baptist Parish offers its Luceitas (Little Lights) play group in its bilingual classroom Tuesdays from 10:30 a.m.-noon. Children newborn through age 6 are welcome.

RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES

Latrobe — The Oblates of St. Benedict, Latrobe Deanery, will meet July 21 from 3-4:15 in Brownfield Room 202 at Saint Vincent Archabbey. Benedictine Father Alfred Patterson will speak on “The Well and the Infirm in the Rule of St. Benedict.” Attendees may attend vespers at 5 p.m. and supper at 5:35 p.m. (supper reservations: Benedictine Father Donald Raila, 724-805-2291). Upcoming meetings are Aug. 18 (Benedictine Father Justin Matro on “Liturgy of the Hours”); Sept. 15 (Benedictine Father Isaac Haywiser, “Meditation and Contemplation in a Busy Life”); Sept. 22, Oblate Day (Benedictine Father Boniface Hicks on a topic to be announced); and Oct. 20 (Benedictine Brother Aidan Sheridan, “The Eucharist in Benedictine Spirituality”).

Latrobe — The Secular Carmelite Community is open to potential candidates. Meetings, held the second Sunday of each month at the

community in Latrobe, are open to anyone who feels they may be called to live a life of Carmelite spirituality. Information: ocdspa07@gmail.com.

RUMMAGE SALES

East Vandergrift — Our Lady, Queen of Peace Parish will hold a rummage sale Aug. 2 and 3 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. and Aug. 4 from noon-1 p.m. Information: 724-478-4958.

United — St. Florian Parish will hold a rummage sale July 25 from 6-8 p.m. (early bird sale, \$5 admission), July 26 from 8 a.m.-noon and 6-8 p.m., and July 27 from 8-11:30 a.m. (half price sale) and noon-1 p.m. (\$5 per bag sale). Friday and Saturday will include a bake sale and food available. Information: 724-423-5087.

SUPPORT

Harrison City — The St. Peregrine cancer support group meets monthly (usually the third Wednesday at 7 p.m.) at St. Barbara Parish.

Latrobe — Saint Vincent Basilica Parish is offering the 13-week divorce support program, Recovering from Divorce for Catholics, Wednesdays from 7-9 p.m. beginning Sept. 11. Topics include grieving, fear, anger, dealing with your former spouse, helping your kids cope, the power of your faith to heal and being single again. Cost is \$45. Registration/information: basilicaparishstv.org/divorce-support-group/ or Teri Pomerleau, 724-539-8629, ext. 15, or tpomerleau@dioceseofgreensburg.org. Deadline is Aug. 26.

Whitney — Grandparents Raising Grandchildren, an ecumenical social outreach mission of St. Cecilia Parish, Whitney, Sacred Heart Parish, Youngstown, and Trinity Lutheran Church, Latrobe, offers monthly meetings to provide grandparents information and interaction. Dinner and child care are provided. Information: 724-423-3777 or 724-537-7358.

EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUPPORT

Perryopolis — St. John the Baptist Parish offers a bereavement support group that meets the last Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Lodge Room. Those who have experienced loss of any kind are invited to join. Information: 724-366-0917.

VENDOR SHOWS

Derry — St. Joseph Parish will host an indoor flea market and vendor show Aug. 2-3 from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. during Derry's Great Garage Sale. Tables are \$15 for one day or \$25 for both and are available to vendors and people wishing to sell their items. Information: Mylene Nguyen, 724-694-5359 or mnguyen@DioceseofGreensburg.org.

Footdale — St. Francis of Assisi Parish will hold a vendor show Oct. 20 from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Information: 724-583-7866.

WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

Greensburg — The 2024 "Spirited" Women's Conference will be held Nov. 9. All women are invited to be renewed and refreshed. Speakers will include Dr. Mary Healy and Jackie Francois Angel. Information: Carolyn Cannizzaro, ccannizzaro@DioceseofGreensburg.org.

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Jeannette — All are invited to Mass in Spanish Sundays at 6 p.m. at Ascension Parish, Jeannette, with reconciliation at 5 p.m. Todos están invitados a la Misa Espanol en Domingos en Jeannette: La Santa Misa en Espanol, Todo los Domingos a 6 p.m., reconciliación a 5 p.m., Iglesia La Ascensión.

YOUNG ADULT EVENTS

New Alexandria — St. James Parish is planning young adult evening get-togethers July 26 and Aug. 9 at 6:30 p.m. at various locations. Information: cbailey@DioceseofGreensburg.org.



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Communications efforts honored for excellence

GREENSBURG — The Diocese of Greensburg's multimedia platforms, under the direction of Bishop Larry J. Kulick, were recognized this spring with multiple honors from the Catholic Media Association (CMA) and Communicator Awards.

The Communicator Awards

The Communicator Awards recognize excellence, effectiveness and innovation across all areas of communication. The awards honor work that transcends craft and makes a lasting impact.

This year, The Catholic Accent podcast, "Stunned Disciples," and its hosts, Jordan Whiteko, Multimedia Content Manager, Father Christopher J. Pujol, Parochial Vicar at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral Parish, Greensburg, and Episcopal Master of Ceremonies, and Father Andrew J. Hamilton, Parochial Vicar at the parishes of the Roman Catholic Churches of Southern Fayette, were honored for excellence in a religious broadcast.

In the 10-episode "Stunned Disciples," the three have lively discussions about the acts and miracles that Jesus performed that left His disciples stunned. To hear the award-winning podcast, visit <https://theaccentonline.org/thecatholicaccentpodcast/>

The Diocesan team that planned and executed the experiential KNOW HIM immersive events held throughout the Diocese of Greensburg last year were honored with an award of distinction. Honorees were Bishop Kulick; Monsignor Raymond E. Riffle, Vicar General and Rector at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral Parish; Vincent Reilly, Managing Director of Faith, Family and Discipleship; Kate Parkinson, executive assistant for the Bishop; Hollie Uccellini, who helped coordinate the events; and *The Catholic Accent* staff.

Catholic Media Association Awards

The Catholic Media Association's Catholic Press Awards honor the outstanding work of members who uphold the highest standards of professionalism and ethics in their field and celebrate their excellence and creativity in sharing the Gospel message. More than 3,000 entries were received from around the world. Diocesan efforts were honored with multiple awards.

• Advertising Business/Marketing Professional of the Year: first place, Jennifer Miele

For the second year in a row, Miele, Chief Communications Officer and Managing Director of Evangelization, was honored with first place. The judges said: "Jennifer Miele's unparalleled media evangelization transforms everything from podcasts to on camera hosting into gold. Her leadership not only produces diverse media but also cultivates community through engaging events and innovative apps enriching the diocese immensely."

• Multimedia Journalist of the Year: second place, Jordan Whiteko

The judges said Whiteko offers journalism that produces the kind of response that has touched many people and makes a difference in the local Church. "Jordan Whiteko's Catholic Accent podcast ("Stunned Disciples") engages guests and viewers, encouraging them to delve deeper into their faith, and is well produced, with the host coming across as natural, comfortable and putting everyone at ease while moving the conversations along. That skill as a professional communicator, combined as it is with the savviness of a strategist, though, is what really pushed Whiteko's entry over the top by ensuring his work would produce such great results for the church."

• Best Use of Video on Social Media — Liturgical Season Advent



JORDAN WHITEKO THE CATHOLICACCENT

From left: John Zylka, Valerie Rodell, Mary Seamans, Beth Tallentire, Bishop Larry J. Kulick, Robin Mull, Jennifer Miele, Jordan Whiteko and Cliff Gorski.

Ephemeral Content: first place, Bishop Kulick, Monsignor Riffle, Miele, Reilly, Whiteko, Robin Mull, John Zylka, Mary Seamans, Beth Tallentire, Cliff Gorski

The award was given for the creation of a 2023 Advent calendar that was made into a daily video posting on the Diocesan social media channels. The judges said: "Very creative use of video that was made into a visual Advent calendar. Using ephemeral video was a brilliant idea. Bravo, Greensburg."

• Hot Topic — The Eucharistic Revival: second place, KNOW HIM: Eucharistic Revival in the Diocese of Greensburg, Bishop Kulick, Monsignor Riffle, Miele, Mull, Zylka, Whiteko, Seamans, Tallentire, Gorski, Reilly

The Diocese was honored for the immersive and innovative KNOW HIM events throughout the Diocese. The judges said: "Creative and engaging messages to encourage participation in unique events. The Saint Sync app was an especially fun touch! Well done!"

• Best Special Supplement or Special Issue with Advertising Emphasis: second place, The Catholic

Accent Schools Edition, Bishop Kulick, Monsignor Riffle, Dr. Nancy Rottler, Miele, Mull, Zylka, Whiteko, Seamans, Tallentire, Gorski, Reilly

The judges said: "Ad designs are outstanding."

• Best Multimedia Package: third place, the Eucharistic Revival: KNOW HIM, Bishop Kulick, Monsignor Riffle, Miele, Mull, Zylka, Whiteko, Seamans, Tallentire, Gorski, Reilly

• Best Podcast Series, third place: The Catholic Accent Podcast, "Stunned Disciples," Bishop Kulick, Miele, Mull, Whiteko, Father Pujol, Father Hamilton, Reilly, staff of *The Catholic Accent*

• Best Social Media Campaign, honorable mention: Remember Our Parish at Christmas, Bishop Kulick, Riffle, Miele, Mull, Zylka, Whiteko, Seamans, Tallentire, Gorski, Paul Puleo, Michael Lucotch, Lindsay DeCario, Jane Long

The campaign included graphics for each parish along with a social media campaign in an effort to increase donations to each parish in the Diocese during the Christmas season.

— *The Catholic Accent*



2024 Communicator Award Winners of Excellence for Features-Host and Individual Episodes Religion & Spirituality



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