

Mary and the Nativity

THE CATHOLIC ACCENT

VOLUME 65, No. 4, FALL/WINTER 2025

Our Advent Journey

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Light of the World*

Joy, Trust and Hope

Mary in the Nativity

PLUS

***One Jubilee Year
comes to a close
as another begins***

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THE STAFF OF THE CATHOLIC ACCENT

INSIDE THIS ISSUE



ADVENT 2025

Sister Jeanne Marie Vonder Haar walks us through the season that is not for the faint of heart. 4-5



A NEW JUBILEE YEAR AHEAD

Bishop Larry J. Kulick looks back on the Jubilee Year of Hope and forward to the 75th Jubilee of the Diocese of Greensburg. 6-7

THE DIOCESE OF GREENSBURG GETS READY FOR ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY ... 8

See our 2026 Diamond Jubilee Year Calendar.



WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT MARY?

Father James B. Morley, pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish, Irwin and Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, North Huntingdon, explains what we know about the Blessed Mother. 12-13



MARY IN THE NATIVITY ... 16-17

From her first conversation with the angel Gabriel to the birth of our lord, Benedictine Father Justin Matro, pastor of Saint Bartholomew Parish, Crabtree, tells us about Mary's Joy, Trust and Hope.

VISITING THOSE INCARCERATED

Father Andrew J. Hamilton tells about ministering to those in prison. 26-27

A LIFETIME OF VOCATION

He's been a priest in our Diocese since its beginning. Father Alexander L. Pleban walks us through its history. ... 28-31

BRINGING HELP, HOPE AND HEALING

Catholic Charities offers hope to those with various needs. ... 22-23

PARTICIPATE IN THE SEASON OF ADVENT

See our Advent Calendar ... 20-21



CHRIST IS OUR HOPE ... 32

Read Bishop Kulick's Christmas Message to the faithful of the Diocese.



ADVENT EVENTS AND CHRISTMAS MASSES

Plan to journey through Advent in parishes across the Diocese and see scheduled Masses for the Nativity of the Lord. 34-37

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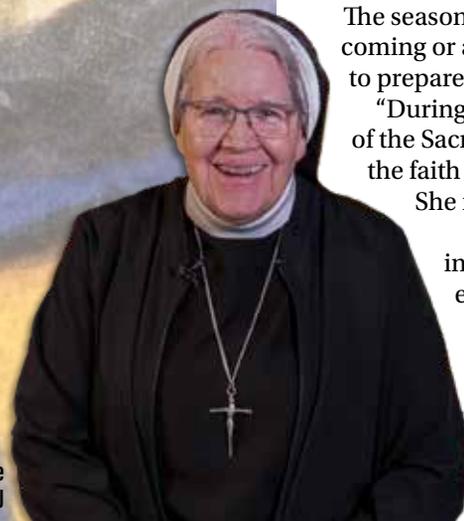
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Advent

Preparing for the Light of the World



Sister Jeanne Marie
Vonder Haar, ASCJ

The season of Advent begins in the Church on Nov. 30. The word "Advent" means the coming or arrival of something significant. In the Church, Advent is a time for the faithful to prepare for Christmas — the birth of Christ.

"During this time, we are waiting for Jesus to come to us," said Sister of the Apostles of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Jeanne Marie Vonder Haar. Sister Jeanne Marie is currently the faith formation director at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral Parish, Greensburg.

She reminds us that preparation needed during Advent can take many forms.

"It is not only a season to remember Jesus in history, when he came as a baby in Bethlehem, but also His coming to us today through the sacraments, through each other, through the people that we meet and encounter each day. It's also a time of preparation for his second coming at the end of time."

Sister Jeanne Marie spent most of her religious life in elementary education at schools in Pennsylvania, New York City, Rhode Island, and Saint Louis, Mo., where she was born. Growing up in a family of nine children, Sister Jeanne Marie understands the demands parents face today but said it's never too early to teach the young Church about the importance of the season of Advent, recalling how her family commemorated the time.

"In our family, when I was growing up, we gathered around the kitchen table, and we would light a candle each night and then we would pray together as a family," Sister Jeanne Marie recalled. "Our parents gave us a little baby Jesus and we each had a little pink crib. Each day, if we did a sacrifice, we got to put a little piece of straw in the crib." She said the family would then sing "Happy Birthday" to Jesus. "Whoever sang the best got to blow out the candles that night," Sister Jeanne Marie said. On Christmas morning, she and her siblings would bring their cribs with the baby Jesus in each and put them under the Nativity scene beneath the Christmas tree.

Symbolism plays an important role in the season of Advent. Sister Jeanne Marie, who holds a Master's in early childhood education and in theology/liturgical studies, suggests there are many ways we, as Catholics, can use symbols and traditions in this time of preparation.

One of the more common symbols is the Advent wreath, which holds four candles, three purple or violet and one pink or rose colored. One candle is lit each week, with the pink or rose candle being lit on the third Sunday of Advent, also known as Gaudete Sunday.

"As we enter Advent, the seasons change and it's dark, so we light the candles because the light of Christ is coming to us," Sister Jeanne Marie said. "We use the purple candles as a sign of penitence and it's also a sign of royalty. On the third week, we use the pink one, as we are rejoicing because we are closer to Christ's birth."





Sister Jeanne Marie said making a Jesse Tree can also be an activity for families.

“We go through the history of Jesus’ family tree, and we place an ornament each day on the tree,” she said. “The tree begins with Adam and Eve and goes all the way to Jesus.”

Sister Jeanne Marie suggests developing practices that are geared towards family. She encourages reading the Nativity story to children and for families to set up a manger scene, placing one piece of the set into the manger on a daily basis, saving the baby Jesus as the last piece on Christmas Eve.

She also encourages prayer and reflection for families.

“When I was growing up, we had a Christmas Novena at church that started nine days before Christmas,” she remembered. “I think that was a way for my mom to get us out of the house so she could do something. I always loved going to the Christmas Novena, my dad would take us. It’s an example of families praying together, even if making an intentional prayer asking the Lord to come into our hearts and let family members share how the Lord touched them that day.”

Adults also can use the time of preparation. We are told through Scripture to stay awake, be ready and be watchful.

“For myself, it’s not about how much I have to get done or how much has to get done. It’s a time of silent reflection even amidst the busyness of our day, even with getting ready for Christmas with the shopping and buying of food and the cleaning. We need to take that time, even if it’s five or 10 minutes to sit down and say, ‘What is this season about, who are we waiting for and how are we going to let the Lord touch us so he can come to us in our hearts during this time.’”

Sister Jeanne Marie recommends reading Scripture and paying close attention to the Gospels and readings of Advent, which, she said, centers our thoughts on the reason for Advent.

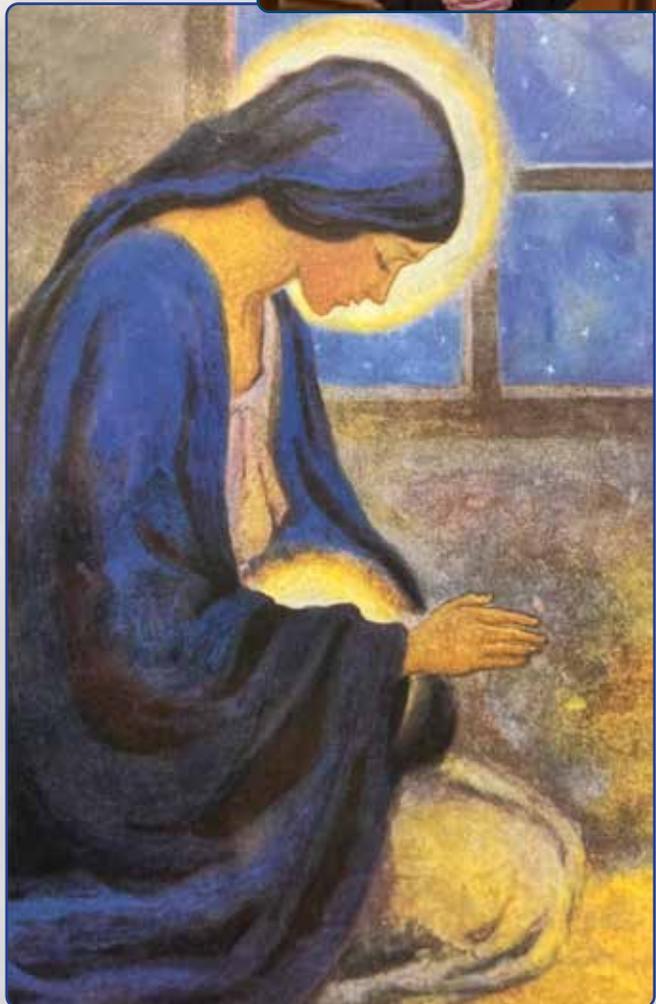
She also encourages the faithful to view Advent through the eyes of our Blessed Mother, Mary.

“One of the things I really like to reflect on is the picture of our Lady of the Millenia,” Sister Jeanne Marie said. “We see Mary waiting and we see the light of Christ is waiting to come into the world. If we look at Advent through her eyes, we can take a whole different perspective.”

Sister Jeanne Marie suggests we have to be ready for Him coming to us, and we have to be aware of those moments when he comes into our lives.

“We have to take time to understand what we are doing during Advent and how we are preparing our hearts for His coming. All the other things, the wrapping and the gifts, will fall into place if we know what the center of our heart should be.”

PHOTOS: Getty Images,
The Catholic Accent Staff



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Jubilee Year of Hope closes

A bishop in white and gold vestments, including a mitre, is shown in profile, holding a large, dark wooden cross. The background is a solid green color.

As we approach the end of the Church's liturgical year with the celebration of the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, I have been reflecting on the many blessings and opportunities we've experienced during this Jubilee Year of Hope to draw closer to our Lord. At the same time, my thoughts turn toward 2026, when we will celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of the Diocese of Greensburg — a celebration of 75 years of A Legacy of Faith.

The Diocese of Greensburg will officially conclude the Jubilee Year of Hope on the Feast of the Holy Family on Dec. 28. I will preside at the Solemn Closing Mass at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral at 11 a.m., and I warmly invite all of you to join us for this special celebration.

This Jubilee Year of Hope provided us, as disciples of Christ, with many opportunities to live out the hope we know comes from Jesus Christ, and to share that hope with others. As our late Holy Father, Pope Francis, reminded us, we are called to be missionaries of hope, bringing the light of Christ into the world through our families, our workplaces, our communities, and our daily lives.

Pope Leo XIV has continued the theme of sharing our hope with the world, emphasizing that if we are to be true instruments of God's love, we must serve those most in need. Not just the physically or financially poor, but also those who are spiritually impoverished and desperately need the gift of our hope and faith.

It is my prayer that this Jubilee Year has been a time for all of us to draw closer to Christ through the celebration of the sacraments, through participation in our Diocesan Jubilee events, and through a renewal of heart and spirit. May the conclusion of this time of grace strengthen us to be ever more faithful disciples of hope as we enter the new year.

One of the highlights of our Jubilee Year was our Diocesan Pilgrimage to Rome in March and early April. We had the privilege of passing through the Holy Doors of all four Papal Basilicas and witnessing the beauty of the universal Church gathered in faith. To see pilgrims from around the world speaking many languages and coming from diverse cultures, united in prayer was a profound reminder of the universality of our Catholic faith. As we processed through the Holy Door into Saint Peter's Basilica, the sense of unity in Christ was palpable. In Him, we find our true and lasting hope.

Our pilgrimage was also a way to bring the heart of our Diocese to Rome. Through the use of technology and our multimedia and social media platforms, we received prayer intentions, often several times a day. We carried those intentions with us as we visited the holy sites, and it was moving to know that so many of you were spiritually united with us, even though we were separated by distance and time. Truly, we journeyed together as one Church from the Diocese of Greensburg.



as *Diamond Jubilee* begins for Diocese



We are especially blessed that our Diocese will experience two consecutive years of significance: the universal Jubilee Year of Hope in 2025 and the 75th anniversary of the Diocese of Greensburg in 2026. 2026 also commemorates the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States of America. The coming year will be a wonderful opportunity not only to mark historic milestones, but also to renew and reinvigorate the faith of our people throughout the four counties of our Diocese and our nation.

Our Diamond Jubilee will offer many opportunities for worship, celebration and growth in faith. There will be special Eucharistic celebrations, Forty Hours devotions in parishes, and observances of key historical dates, such as the establishment of the Diocese on March 10, 2026, and the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, our Diocesan patroness. We will also offer pilgrimages to historic churches within the Diocese and to the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, as well as Lenten Evenings of Reflection, social outreach, and advocacy programming.

There will be wonderful opportunities for all of us to come together in friendship and fellowship, not only in our 78 parishes, but as the Diocese of Greensburg as one family in faith. As we begin the celebration of our Diamond Jubilee, let us worship, pray, learn, serve, and grow together — like the many facets of a diamond, each shining brightly with the light of Christ

May God Bless you,

+ Larry J. Kulick

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



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2026

Diocese of Greensburg *Diamond Jubilee Calendar of Events*



February 18, 2026

Ash Wednesday Mass and Distribution of Ashes

Celebrated by
The Most Reverend Larry J. Kulick, JCL
Bishop of Greensburg
Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Greensburg
5:30PM

February 23, 2026

Lenten Evening of Reflection

Location to be determined
6:00PM

March 3, 2026

Lenten Evening of Reflection

Location to be determined
6:00PM

March 10, 2026

Mass of Thanksgiving on the 75th anniversary of the establishment of the Diocese of Greensburg

Celebrated by
The Most Reverend Larry J. Kulick, JCL
Bishop of Greensburg
Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Greensburg
6:30PM

March 12, 2026

A Celebration of Catholic Schools Breakfast

Stratigos Banquet Centre, North Huntingdon
8:00 -10:00AM

March 19, 2026

KNOW HIM: Diocese of Greensburg

Christ Our Shepherd Center, Greensburg
2:00PM and 6:00PM

March 25, 2026

Lenten Evening of Reflection

Location to be determined
6:00PM

April 2, 2026

Chrism Mass

Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Greensburg
10:00AM

June 2026

Diocesan Family Social Event

Christ Our Shepherd Center, Greensburg
Date and Time to be announced

August 14, 2026

Marian Devotions and Candlelight Procession

Christ Our Shepherd Center, Greensburg
7:00PM

August 15, 2026

Mass celebrating the Diocesan Patronage of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Celebrated by
The Most Reverend Larry J. Kulick, JCL
Bishop of Greensburg
Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Greensburg
12:00PM

September 19, 2026

Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception Washington, DC

October 7, 2026

Diocesan Awards and Recognitions Solemn Evening Prayer

Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Greensburg
Reception at The Westmoreland Museum
of American Art, Greensburg
6:30PM

November 2, 2026

Mass commemorating all the faithful departed of the Diocese of Greensburg

Celebrated by
The Most Reverend Larry J. Kulick, JCL
Bishop of Greensburg
Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Greensburg
6:30PM

November 22, 2026

Concert Solemnity of our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Greensburg
3:00PM

December 12, 2026

Closing Liturgy of the 75th Diamond Jubilee Diocese of Greensburg Night Market

Mass celebrated by
The Most Reverend Larry J. Kulick, JCL
Bishop of Greensburg
Christ Our Shepherd Center, Greensburg
2:00 – 8:00PM

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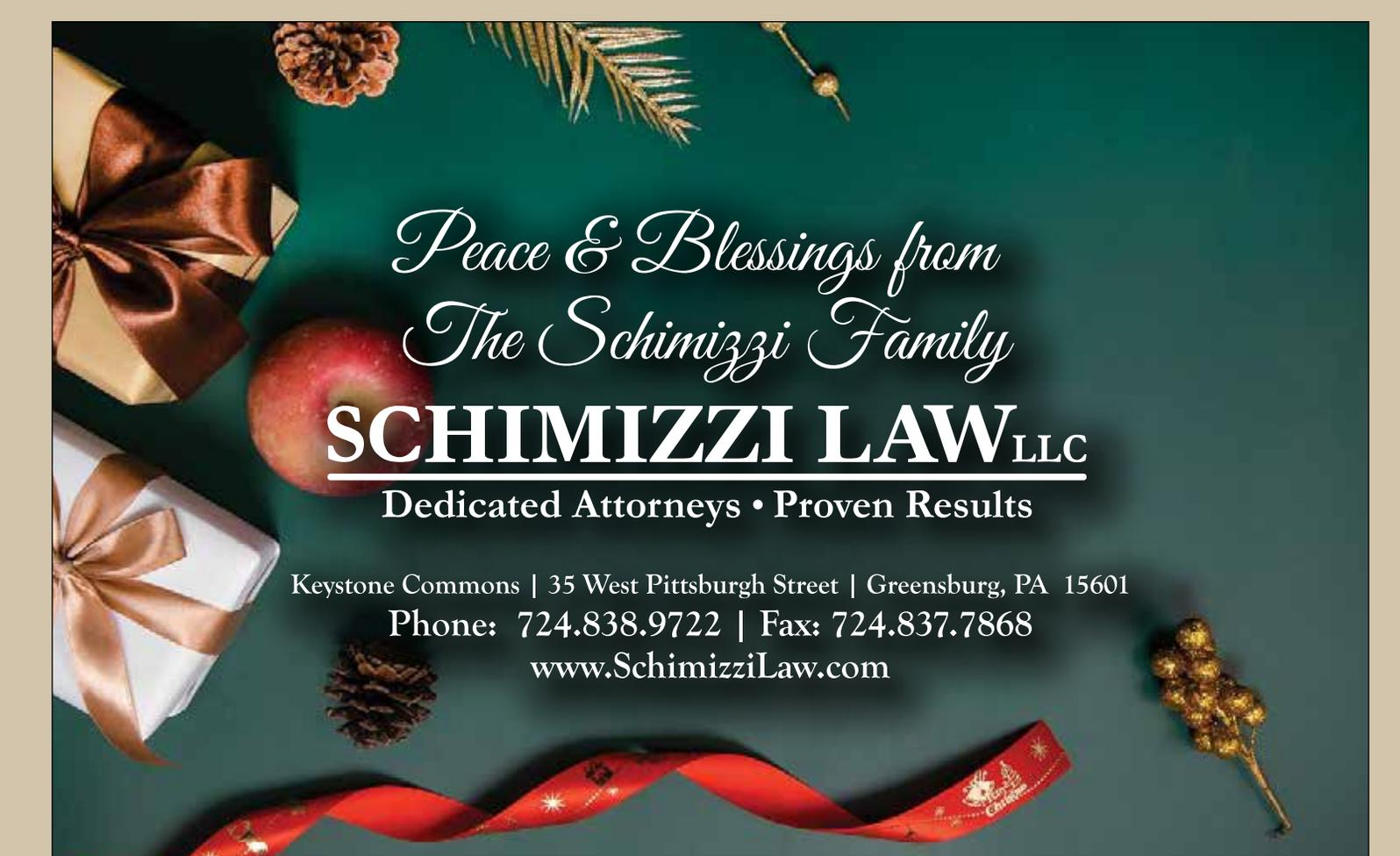
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What do we know about Mary?



We know she is a central and revered figure in history. She is our Blessed Mother, the mother of Jesus and the Mother of our Church. But what do we know about Mary?

"Prior to the Nativity, we know Mary was a young Jewish girl, holy, brought up in the faith," said Father James B. Morley, Pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish, Irwin, and Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Parish, North Huntingdon. "We also know, through tradition, that Mary's parents were Saints Joachim and Anne." Very little is known about them because they are not mentioned in the New Testament.

Through tradition, we believe that they were respected members of the Jewish community and that they wanted to become parents so much that Joachim went into the desert to fast and pray that God would hear their prayer. It is said that an angel told them that they would soon have a daughter who would become famous throughout the world.

"While little is recorded about them, people throughout Church history have had tremendous devotion in pondering their roles as mother and father to the Blessed Virgin Mary," Father Morley said.

Months after Joachim returned from the desert, Mary, our Blessed Mother, was born, without sin, to be remarkable and destined by God.

"Mary, we believe, was born without the stain of original sin and also human and was able to choose God with her free and whole heart and with all of her love," Father Morley said.

"When the angel Gabriel appears, she may have been anxious; she didn't have all of the answers, but in her total outpouring of love, her fiat as we call it, she accepts and says 'Let it be done to me according to your word,'" Father Morley explained. The angel responded by saying "Hail, Mary, full of Grace, the Lord is with you."

Father Morley said Mary's response was a true "Yes." "It gives us the rest of the story, it gives us the Incarnation," he added.

Father James B. Morley



Many often wonder if Mary and Joseph had additional children. Sometimes we read in the Gospels the word "brother." Father Morley explains that the Greek word for "brother" was used often for other family members.

"Our faith teaches us, and it is affirmed by Church Councils, that Our Lady was perpetually and totally giving of herself to God," Father Morley said. "She was wholeheartedly a gift to God and had no other children." We believe Saint Joseph was also chaste and gave his whole life as protector to his wife, the Blessed Mother, and as foster father to Jesus on earth.

Father Morley believes the Blessed Mother was able to show compassion like we would never understand with her concern for others and her humility. We also see Mary's gentle nudging of her son at the Wedding at Cana, where Jesus performs His first miracle.

Throughout His life on Earth and through His ministry, Mary was always present. Before His death on the cross, Jesus tells His disciple, John, the one He loved, to take Mary into his home and care. There she continued her humility, her love and her care, being present with the Apostles.

"It is true that Our Lady would have been assumed from her earthly life into heaven," Father Morley said. "I would just like to contemplate the very last breath Mary breathed on earth; when it was time to go home and she was taken into heaven."

We look to our Blessed Mother as a great intercessor, as our Mother, to guide us to her Son because of her perfect trust in God and in her Son.



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Joy Trust and Hope

Mary in the Nativity



It was a visit and a conversation we believe that Mary wasn't expecting. At the Annunciation, the Archangel Gabriel appeared, saying to her "Rejoice, Graced One" "She's shocked because he's obviously singling her out. The term 'graced one' gives us the indication that she is sinless. And as a sinless being, she doesn't reflect upon herself. So she's startled by what sort of greeting could this be," said Benedictine Father Justin Matro, Pastor of Saint Bartholomew Parish, Crabtree, and assistant professor of spiritual theology at Saint Vincent Seminary, Latrobe.

As we know, Gabriel continues to tell Mary that she should not be afraid and that she is going to have a son. Mary may have been confused at that point.

"The angel made it clear that she would have a child but she would also remain a virgin — that the child would be the Son of God and that she would be overshadowed by the Holy Spirit," Father Justin added. "Immediately, her mood is going to match the joy of the angel, and she will say, 'Be it done to me according to your word,' and she states in pure joy that she is at His service."

It is Mary's joy and trust that Father Justin says set the rest of the Nativity story.

"The sign to demonstrate that everything is true is that her cousin, Elizabeth, is to have a child, of course, John the Baptist," Father Justin explained. "Mary is then guided by the Holy Spirit to visit Elizabeth, and as soon as she greets Elizabeth, there is again a great movement of joy; and when Elizabeth hears Mary's voice and the child in her womb leaps, again, a great joyous movement."



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Father Justin Matro, OSB



PHOTOS: Getty Images,
The Catholic Accent Staff



In that instance, Father Justin said Mary's role is to bring Jesus to John the Baptist, and that initiates John's role as a forerunner for Jesus Christ, preparing people for His coming through repentance and baptism.

We know Mary was betrothed to Joseph. He, too, is confused now that Mary is with child, and he doesn't understand how that could happen. We know that Joseph was a righteous man and doesn't want to expose Mary to punishment, so he thought about a quiet divorce.

"Whatever Joseph was thinking, he has the dream that provides the vision that his role and his place is firmly established. Joseph is told that he shall name the child Jesus," Father Justin explained. "He understands that he has a place and this has all been designed by God, and he gladly cooperates with that role."

On so many levels, the Nativity story is also a story of trust and acceptance.

"Mary and Joseph have followed the rule of humanity. They have gone to Bethlehem, Joseph's ancestral home, where he must be registered, and he is to appear for the census. There is no room for them, yet there is trust. There is a stable made available, and it's not the most desirable of residences to be in, so Mary and Joseph settle in there. So again, it's humble but somehow trusting," Father Justin said.

When the Lord is born, the angels first alert the shepherds, who were not considered to be the most gracious of characters in those days. They accept the news at face value and rush to the manger in Bethlehem, trusting in the word of the angels to see the baby wrapped in swaddling

clothes. Within time, the Magi will come, and again with a sense of trust and receptivity of God's will.

"And, of course, Herod wants to kill the baby, but God takes care of his son through Joseph, who leads his family into Egypt where there is a large Jewish community and a place to live," said Father Justin. "This is all based on the ongoing levels of Mary and Joseph trusting."

The joy, trust and hope is often counter to how Mary is portrayed in movies and television programs, according to Father Justin.

"They always present Mary as anxious about the news that she would bear the son of God," he said. "Saint Luke presents a whole line of joy because her trust in God is so complete and she is reliant upon God. God will take care of this. Her joy is that Emmanuel has come, God is with his people, and she has a child that in her mind would be whatever God wants."

As we journey through Advent, Father Justin encourages the faithful to use Mary as a model in preparation for the celebration of the birth of Christ.

"Mary didn't sweat the small stuff. Mary completely trusted in God's presence. Realize who this is about and what it's about," he said. "What matters is Jesus has come to us. God has sent His only son. That's how deeply He loves us, and that is what Christmas is all about."



Christmas Night Market

SATURDAY
DEC 13

2:00 - 8:00 PM

**Mass with
Bishop Larry J. Kulick
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ADVENT CALENDAR

HOPE



Sunday, November 30
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Friday, December 5
Place shoes out for a visit from St. Nicholas



Wednesday, December 10
Pray for our priests and religious



Monday, December 1
The King of Glory is coming!
Read Psalm 24:7-10



Wednesday, December 3
Offer kindness to somebody today



Tuesday, December 9
Call or text a neighbor just to check in

Christmas Night Market

SATURDAY
DEC 13

2:00 - 8:00 PM

Mass with
Bishop Larry J. Kulick
4:00 PM

Christ Our Shepherd Center
2900 Seminary Drive, Greensburg

JOY



Sunday, December 14
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT



Thursday, December 18
O come, O come Emmanuel



Friday, December 19
Take a break from the noise and sit in quiet reflection.

Monday, December 22
Remember your parish this Christmas with a gift of time, talent and treasure



Tuesday, December 2
Plan to receive
the Sacrament
of Reconciliation
before Christmas.



Saturday, December 6
The Feast of Saint Nicholas
Give a small gift
to those less fortunate.



Monday, December 8
Feast of the Immaculate Conception
Pray a Hail Mary for peace



Thursday, December 4
Read the Nativity
story to Children



Thursday, December 11
Be thankful
for your blessings
Pray an Our Father

PEACE



Sunday, December 7
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Monday, December 15
Rejoice
for the Lord is Near!



Saturday
December 20
Pray for those
grieving the loss
of a loved one.

Friday, December 12
Feast of Our Lady
of Guadalupe
Pray a decade
of the Rosary
for world peace.



Tuesday
December 16
Send a card or
call someone
who faces loneliness.

LOVE

Wednesday, December 17
Pray for our deceased brothers and sisters



Tuesday
December 23
Prepare your heart
for the birth
of our Savior



Sunday, December 21
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Wednesday December 24
As the Advent season concludes,
we celebrate the anticipation of the Savior's birth.
May your Christmas Eve be filled with hope and peace.

Thursday,
December 25

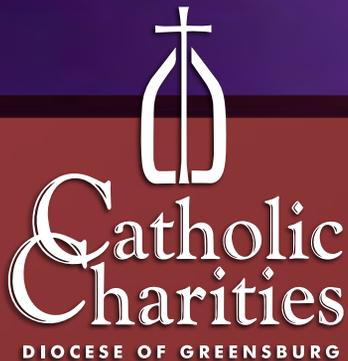
CHRISTMAS

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;
and the government will be upon his shoulder,
and his name will be called
"Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace".

Isaiah 9:6



Bringing Help,



Melaney Hegyes
Managing Director
of Catholic Charities of the
Diocese of Greensburg

Imagine losing an adult child and then finding out, at a later stage in your life, that you must take over the role as a parent to your grandchild or grandchildren. It's not an uncommon situation across the four counties of the Diocese. Melaney Hegyes, Managing Director of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Greensburg, knows it's a situation that can happen to anyone at any time.

"We had a phone call recently like this," she said. "The caller was not sure of where to begin or what to do."

Hegyes said resources provided through Catholic Charities enabled this client to share concerns and to provide direction for the care of the children.

"We were able to walk the client through the process of who to call next. I am very proud that my team can respond to these situations and be there for an individual who is having a hard time making critical decisions and decisions that have to be made quickly so that the children don't have to suffer the pain and knowledge of the unknown. It gave the client the ability to support the children who needed the client the most."

Sometimes, with the new arrangement of extra children or foster children moving into a household, a child may not have a bed in which to sleep. Hegyes said Catholic Charities has been working this year with Christian Layman Corps of Greensburg and its Bed for Every Child Program to provide a bed, bedding and a dresser for children in need in Westmoreland County.

Offering this type of guidance and support is one of the many services Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Greensburg offers to those living in Westmoreland, Fayette, Armstrong, and Indiana counties. It is part of the mission of Catholic Charities to bring help, hope and healing to God's people as the charitable, service and outreach arm of the Bishop and the Diocese of Greensburg.

The days leading up to the holiday season can be the most difficult for those suffering financial hardship, the homeless, those without utilities, or food, and those suffering from loneliness and isolation.

"Maybe you are an older adult who has lost your connection with your children or family and you are all alone," Hegyes said of the many older people who feel isolated, especially during the holiday season. "We have supportive volunteers that are willing to make phone calls or stop in to see how you are doing."

Hegyes said older adults have specific needs. Catholic Charities staff works with volunteers who will reach out to older individuals to make them aware of services offered and services available through other providers.

Hegyes said many programs in the area focus support for Christmas gifts for those with children 12 and under. That is why Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Greensburg likes to make sure teenagers across the four counties are not forgotten.

"Their families are choosing between heating their homes or feeding their children, and a Christmas gift is something that is not on their mind because they know they won't be able to provide it," Hegyes said about the annual Catholic Charities Teen Christmas Program.

Hope and Healing



She added the program has wonderful sponsors and volunteers dedicated to making sure teens across the Diocese receive gifts.

Catholic Charities, working with Catholic schools of the Diocese of Greensburg, was able to provide student counseling services in 10 of the Diocese's 12 Catholic schools this year.

"Our counselors help students who may be navigating challenges, whether it's with their studies, with their friends or with their peers," Hegyes said. "We are able to help them because, as we know, education is so important for our young children, and we hope that we can be that extra support that they need."

Damage from high winds, heavy rain or flooding can happen anytime. Hegyes said Catholic Charities has been able to increase its disaster response for those affected in Westmoreland and Fayette counties through a partnership with United Way of Southwestern Pennsylvania, Westmoreland County Community Action and other organizations.

In addition to providing emergency food boxes, baby supplies, rent and utility assistance, counseling and behavioral health services, Hegyes encourages those in need to see the many other ways Catholic Charities can help.

"When you experience these types of situations, it can also cause you to feel that you are alone and feel that you are in need of that listening ear from a person who is supportive." Hegyes said. "We are here to help."

PHOTOS:
Getty Images,
The Catholic
Accent Staff



**Catholic
Charities**
DIOCESE OF GREENSBURG

If you would like to learn more about services, to volunteer or to donate in support of those in need, visit

CCharities.org

If you have a need, contact Catholic Charities

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***“I was in prison,
and you came to me ...”***



Father Andrew J. Hamilton

The Advent and Christmas seasons can be a lonely time for those who are without family, those who have suffered loss, those who are infirmed, and those who are forgotten. The forgotten are often people we don't even think about during the hustle and bustle — those who are incarcerated.

In the Parable of the Sheep and Goats, Jesus tells us to show acts of compassion, including visiting those in prison. Before he became Parochial Vicar and then administrator of Saint Bruno and Saint Paul parishes in Greensburg, Father Andrew J. Hamilton served the parishes of Southern Fayette County. During that time, he ministered and visited those in prison.

For those behind bars, Christmas is always a difficult time, away from family and loved ones.

After celebrating Christmas Day Masses for his parishes, Father Hamilton would hop in his car and head to the prison. Meantime, at his rectory, his family would gather to begin preparations for a family Christmas dinner. For Father Hamilton, Christmas dinner plans would have to be put on hold for a few hours while he tended to the flock behind the walls of the State Correctional Institution at Fayette, a maximum-security state prison in La Belle, Fayette County.

“It was so moving for me while celebrating the Eucharist there with them because in a way, this is their family,” Father Hamilton said. “It’s what they know right now, and how much it meant to them that I was there with them, sacrificing something else and treating them with great dignity and providing them with sacraments.”

Father Hamilton says going into prison is very much like one would expect. There are long hallways that lead into additional security hubs. Once past the hubs, Father Hamilton would move onto the Education Department where the Chaplaincy is located.

“On a typical Sunday, I would have Mass in the morning followed by confessions or whatever the guys needed, then I would have a couple of hours of visiting, doing rounds at places like rehabilitation



housing units, which is considered solitary confinement,” he said. His visits continued with prisoners who were infirmed or facing other health problems or undergoing physical therapy.

Father Hamilton focused his prison ministry on the redemption of the human person because the entirety of our faith is about our own redemption.

“Nobody is beyond salvation and nobody is beyond returning to the Lord and actually making a conversion of life,” Father Hamilton said. “Maybe they are there for heinous crimes or whatever it might be, but that doesn’t mean that they can’t come to a full recognition of the crime they committed or the people that they have harmed and ask for God’s forgiveness in that place, to go from being a sinner to being a saint, as all of us seek to bring the Lord into our life and transform us.”

Inside the prison walls, Father Hamilton says it’s a relationship of mutual respect between him, the guards and the incarcerated.

“I think on a basic level, prisoners are just looking for someone to listen to them and respect them and from there you form a relationship that helps them in their spiritual needs,” he said.

He also helped many who looked for information about the Catholic faith.

“It could be the first time they have heard Christ preached,” Father Hamilton said. “One gentleman that I worked with for a time loved praying the rosary. Once he got a rosary and he was able to learn the prayers, he told me how would go around the yard and it relaxed him and helped him meditate on who Jesus is through the eyes of Mary. He was moved by that devotional practice of the Church.”

He also treated the Catholic community in prison like a parish by giving them a normal parish experience.

“We would pray the rosary together; we would pray the Stations of the Cross. It gave them a feel of community in the midst of prison because that’s what guys are looking for — an authentic good community in the midst of a difficult situation,” Father Hamilton said.

He was even able to bring a Lenten fish fry into the prison courtesy of the volunteers at of Saint Peter Parish in Brownsville.

Father Hamilton is grateful that he was able to help, especially those getting ready to leave the facility and return to society.

“I remember one inmate. It was his last week with us there. We said special prayers of blessing and protection over him and that God go with him and really support him. How hard could it be from being in prison for many years and then going back into the world, not the world that you know. Not to be fearful of that but to trust Christ to lead you,” Father Hamilton said

“It was really a beautiful way that I could have a priestly ministry that sent him forth into the world to be an image of Christ and an image of redemption. That’s the ultimate, because no matter how low you are, Christ will pick you up from that place and set you up again and you can do good in the world.”



PHOTOS:
Getty Images,
The Catholic
Accent Staff



For those who complain about the length of a Mass, trying to get from the pew to the parking lot to move onto other things during this busy season, Father Hamilton said the prisoners he shepherded had a different perspective, treating Mass like a liberation or freedom.

“They waited one week just for that one hour that they could spend together praying with me as the priest,” he said. “We should reflect upon one of the great gifts that we are given in this world that we take for granted. Things like the sacraments that we have readily available, our parish communities, our freedom of movement.”

It’s something, along with corporal works of mercy, that Father Hamilton encourages the faithful to think about as they focus on these gifts during the season of Advent as we wait to celebrate the greatest gift of all.

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THEACCENTONLINE.ORG

A Lifetime Vocation

Father Alexander L. Pleban walks us through the history of the Diocese



Father Alexander L. Pleban

Listening to Father Alexander L. Pleban, 95, is an auditory version of the history of the Diocese of Greensburg. Father Pleban, who lives at the Neumann House, the Diocesan home for retired priests, is the only living priest whose ministry has spanned nearly 70 years and all of the Diocese's six bishops.

He was born in Wynn, Fayette County, in 1930. The town located between Hopwood and Fairchance was home to two coal mines and beehive coke ovens. John and Roselia Pleban, his parents, raised their three sons, Alexander, Leo and John, in a home where their Catholic faith and participation in Mass at Saints Cyril and Methodius Parish, Fairchance, and other liturgies were a part of life — but sometimes came with a reward.

“We would have Stations of the Cross on Fridays, and my dad would say, ‘If you go to Stations, we’ll take you to the movie after,’” Father Pleban recalled with a laugh.

As a youngster, Father Pleban noticed that the most important person in the community at that time was the parish priest, specifically his pastor, the late Father Thomas Harnyak.

“He was ancient, in my opinion, at that time, but that’s what made me want to be a priest like him. Once he found out that I wanted to be a priest, he helped me go to the seminary,” Father Pleban said.

Father Pleban was ordained to the priesthood May 23, 1957, by Bishop Hugh L. Lamb, the first Bishop of Greensburg, at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, Greensburg.

The family’s devotion to their faith and their parish would ultimately produce two priests, Father Pleban and his younger brother, Father Leo Pleban, who served the Diocese of Youngstown, Ohio, from his ordination in 1960 until his retirement. He died in 2022.

With his brother also serving as a priest, Father Pleban said it reminded him of Scripture passages that describe Jesus calling his fishermen brothers to be His disciples.

“Leo was a great priest,” Father Pleban said. “We were very competitive. We were golfers and very active in sports and we always preferred to beat one another than anybody else.” In some way, he looked at his older brother and followed along in his footsteps.

Following his ordination, Father Pleban was assigned by Bishop Lamb as an assistant pastor at Saint Florian Parish, United, in 1957, and then onto Saint Edward Parish in Herminie in 1959. That year, Bishop Lamb died after an eight-year episcopacy of steering the Diocese of Greensburg through its infancy.

“Bishop Lamb was responsible for Jeannette District Memorial Hospital, a Catholic hospital staffed by the Sisters of Charity,” Father Pleban recalled. Under Bishop Lamb’s leadership, a \$300,000 gift was provided to start construction of the facility, and additional loans were provided to make the hospital a reality. “Today it doesn’t even exist; it’s been demolished,” said Father Pleban.

Father Pleban also recalled that it was Bishop Lamb's vision that led to the building of eight Catholic schools, including Greensburg Central Catholic High School (now Greensburg Central Catholic Junior-Senior High School), where he made his final public appearance before his death from a heart attack on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception.



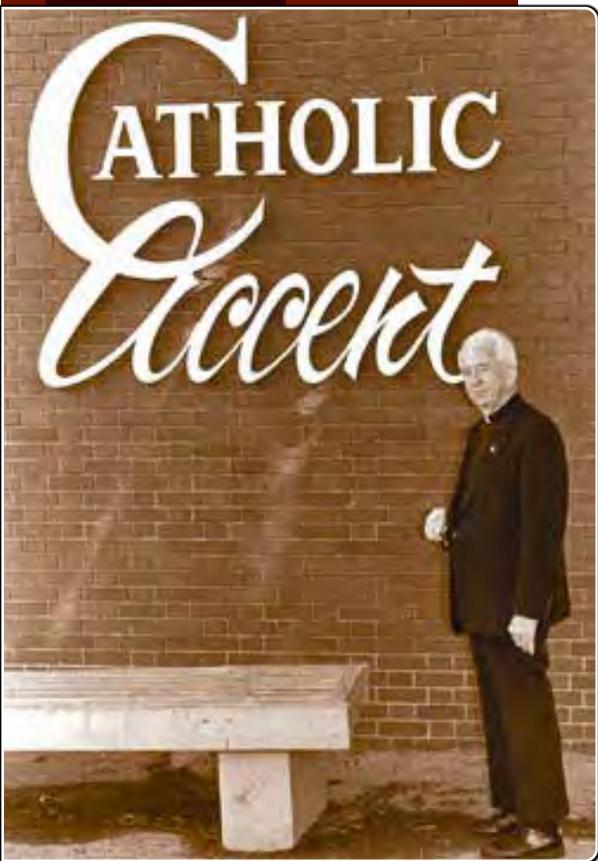
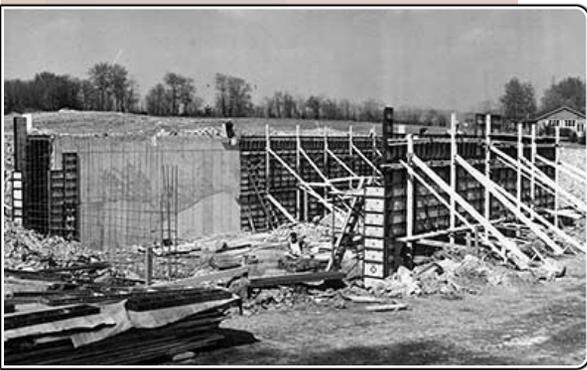
The Most Reverend
Hugh L. Lamb, STD
First Bishop of Greensburg



Father Alexander L. Pleban



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For priests, the young Diocese was far different than it is today.

“Today we have the Pastoral Center. In my time, we called it the Chancery Office,” Father Pleban said. “As a young ordained priest, I went to a three-story house at the corner of Park and Maple Streets in Greensburg where the museum is now located. That was our Pastoral Center,” Father Pleban said, reminding us of the current Pastoral Center on East Pittsburgh Street.

The 1960s ushered in a series of changes in the Diocese and for Father Pleban. In May 1960, Pittsburgh native, Father William G. Connare, was named by Pope John XXIII to become the second Bishop of Greensburg. Through the end of the 1950s and into the mid-1960s, the Second Vatican Council would meet in Rome. Their meetings resulted in a variety of changes that would transform the universal Church.

“Bishop Connare attended all of those sessions,” Father Pleban recalled. “Remember, when I was ordained a priest, my first years of celebrating Mass were in Latin facing away from the congregation.”

Among the changes Vatican II brought was Mass celebrated with the priest facing the congregation and in English in the American Church. Father Pleban recalled that changes were made at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral by Bishop Connare to ensure that the liturgy under Vatican II would be carried out in the local Church. Father Pleban said that Bishop Connare also realized the importance of connecting with his flock. Up until that point in time, Bishops were not as visible as they are today.

In 1961, Bishop Connare, with the help of then Chancellor Father Norbert F. Gaughan, established *The Catholic Accent*, the new Diocesan newspaper. Father Gaughan would be appointed Vicar General in 1970 and named Monsignor. He would be ordained as the only Auxiliary Bishop for the Diocese in 1975. Bishop Gaughan was a nationally syndicated columnist, was involved in the first television program called “Real to Reel” and hosted a weekly ecumenical program on WTAE-TV in Pittsburgh.

Seeing a momentum gathering in Diocesan communications and a need, Bishop Connare felt to better communicate with the faithful, and he sent Father Pleban to Duquesne University to audit classes in journalism, television and radio and appointed him executive secretary and liaison for *The Catholic Accent* in 1965.

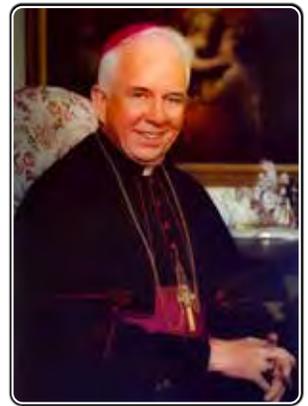
Father Pleban believes parishes became unified because of the publication. *The Catholic Accent* connected them with others across the Diocese. At that time, the newspaper was a weekly publication. Father Pleban remembers bringing Bishops Connare and Gaughan proofed copies of the latest edition of the newspaper for their review before publication.

“I would go down to the *Accent* office and wait, and sure enough, Bishop Gaughan would come down to the *Accent* office with red marks all over it,” Father Pleban chuckled. “When I look back, those were great days.”

Father Pleban worked very closely with Bishop Connare in his role with *The Catholic Accent* and in the public information office. It was a position that Father Pleban held until 1969 while serving as Pastor of Saint Joseph Parish, Everson, an assignment given to him in 1966. Father Pleban would go on to become Pastor of Holy Cross Parish in Youngwood and its former mission of Saint Gilbert in Hunker in 1973. He would return to Saint Edward Parish in Herminie in 1982 as Pastor for the next 12 years.

Father Pleban, who taught religion classes at Greensburg Central Catholic High School from 1960-64, said Bishop Connare was also dedicated to Catholic education with the creation of Geibel Catholic High School, Connellsville (now Geibel Catholic Junior-Senior High School), and the former Saint Joseph Hall, a minor seminary that now serves as a retreat center (Christ Our Shepherd Center) near Greensburg, in 1964.

Bishop Connare led the Diocese of Greensburg for 27 years, until 1987, under Pope John XXIII, Pope Paul VI, Pope John Paul I and Saint John Paul II. He died June 12, 1995, at the age of 83.



The Most Reverend William G. Connare, DD
Second Bishop of Greensburg



ABOVE: Father Alexander L. Pleban

Bishop Anthony G. Bosco was installed as the third Bishop of Greensburg at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral June 20, 1987. For nearly three decades, Bishop Bosco served in the Diocese of Pittsburgh as a priest and Auxiliary Bishop.

“It wasn’t like he was unknown to us,” Father Pleban recalled.

He remembered a time when he and his classmates at Saint Vincent Seminary, and some of the seminarians were having some academic issues. At the time, Bishop Bosco was a deacon, serving his last year in formation. Then Deacon Bosco tutored the students to help them in their studies.

“I always thought that was so good of him,” Father Pleban remembered, saying the future Bishop could have been out playing ball or enjoying his downtime.

As a communicator himself, Father Pleban recalled how Bishop Bosco embraced new media technologies as a means of evangelization and education.

He was very active in the media for much of his priesthood. He worked collaboratively with KDKA radio during Vatican II, hosted a television program, wrote a column, “A View from the Bridge,” for *The Catholic Accent*, and provided commentary for “Accent on Air,” the former diocesan radio newsmagazine. He also chaired the U.S. Bishops’ communications committee.

Under his leadership, “New Wine, New Wineskins: Revisioning the Parish through the Ministry of the Parish Pastoral Council,” a process that focuses on parish leadership, was established. He began a regionalization effort to help parishes in an area work together to fulfill the mission of the Church and promulgated the Diocesan-wide efforts “Journey of a Lifetime,” which focused on education in the Catholic faith as a lifelong process, and “Taste and See: Catechesis as Food for the Journey,” catechetical guidelines.

Under Bishop Bosco, Father Pleban was named Pastor of Saint Joseph Parish in Uniontown in 1994. At age 75, Bishop Bosco submitted his letter of resignation to Pope Saint John Paul II in 2002 and became Bishop Emeritus upon the ordination of Bishop Lawrence E. Brandt, the Fourth Bishop of Greensburg, on March 4, 2004. Bishop Emeritus Bosco died July 2, 2013, at age 85.

After a life serving in Diocesan offices and in parishes, Father Pleban turned 75 on May 9, 2005. At that point in ministry, many priests retire but remain active. Father Pleban, still the pastor of Saint Joseph Parish in Uniontown, was not looking for retirement.

“It was Bishop Brandt who was gracious enough to allow me to continue for as long as I wanted,” Farther Pleban said.

He recalls Bishop Brandt promulgated a Prayer for Vocations and established three vocation prayer chapels — in Latrobe, Indiana and Uniontown — to help raise awareness for prayer to increase vocations, and his work to establish poverty relief funding for those in need across the Diocese.

“He really had the foresight to take care of his priests and his Diocese,” Father Pleban remembered.

“Under Bishop Brandt’s leadership, the Diocese became solvent, financially and in many other ways,” Father Pleban said. Bishop Brandt ordained the Diocese’s first two permanent deacons in 2009, and four more in 2015. In 2010, he invited the first two Filipino priests to serve in the Diocese to begin the International Priests Program, and also ordained eight men to the priesthood during his tenure.



The Most Reverend Anthony G. Bosco, DD, JCL Third Bishop of Greensburg



RIGHT: Bishop Bosco on KDKA radio

PHOTOS: Getty Images, The Catholic Accent Staff



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





In 2009, the capital campaign, "Today's Challenge ~ Tomorrow's Hope," was launched. Despite taking place during the Great Recession, the campaign received overwhelming support, raising \$55 million in pledges and exceeding the original \$45 million goal.

Father Pleban also recalled Bishop Brandt's involvement in the renovations at the Diocesan Mother Church, Blessed Sacrament Cathedral, and noted that he created the Diocesan Heritage Center at Christ Our Shepherd Center to remember the history of the Diocese of Greensburg.



Bishop Brandt submitted his resignation to Pope Francis on his 75th birthday. After the ordination of Bishop Edward C. Malesic as the fifth Bishop of Greensburg April 24, 2025, Bishop Brandt became Bishop Emeritus, serving in that role until his death June 8, 2025 at age 86.

After 16 years as pastor at Saint Joseph Parish, in 2010 Father Pleban, at age 80, announced his retirement.

While his service as an active priest ended under Bishop Brandt, the Diocese would be served by Bishop Malesic and Bishop Larry J. Kulick, J.C.L., sixth and current Bishop of Greensburg.



ABOVE:
Bishop Brandt and Blessed Sacrament Cathedral renovations

The Most Reverend Larry J. Kulick, JCL Sixth Bishop of Greensburg



The Most Reverend Edward C. Malesic, JCL Fifth Bishop of Greensburg

While time and technology moved on from party lines to the iPhone, Father Pleban does not feel that the technology and changes he's seen over his 95 years have moved us away from God. He does think faith experiences shared in the families of today are very different from those shared when he was young. And he says the priesthood has changed with the times but the role remains the same. His advice to newly ordained or younger priests is to always make sure homilies resonate.

"Your time with the people is limited. You have that time at Mass for the homily, and that homily, to me in my priesthood, was one of the most important things. It was there that I touched the people, and I felt that the people reached back and touched me. Make it worthwhile," Father Pleban advised.

While no longer active in parishes, Father Pleban does celebrate Mass with his retired brother priests, relationships he's formed and cherishes while living at the Neumann House. He remains spry and quick with a smile or a joke. On occasion, when he is out and about, he is recognized by former parishioners or their families for the important role he has played in so many lives.

"I run into somebody and they tell me they remember the jokes I used to tell and the homilies that I preached, or that I visited the funeral home or married them, and that makes me feel good."





My dear brothers and sisters in Christ:

As our liturgical year ends and we begin anew our expectant Advent preparations, the anticipation of the celebration of the incarnation of Jesus Christ at Christmas is an opportunity for us to look forward with abundant faith, trust and most importantly, hope.

Despite the bright lights already on in homes across the Diocese and the hustle and bustle of the season, we are not immune from all the darkness that occurs due to our fallen human condition. Given what we see on the nightly news or what we read online or in newspapers, we may be tempted to ask ourselves, "Where is hope?"

Over the past year, we watched as the war in Ukraine continued to rage. We witnessed the conflict in the Holy Land and throughout the Middle East. We continue to offer our prayers with great hope that all of the parties involved in those conflicts may persist in moving towards a lasting peace.

Very soon, we will be solemnly closing the Jubilee Year of Hope. The Holy Year began with Pope Francis opening the beautiful Holy Doors, which serve as a witness to Christ as the "door" to our salvation. Just a few short months later on Easter Monday, the Holy Father was called home to the Heavenly Father. Despite our sadness, we have hope in our new Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV, as he leads our universal Church, united with all Catholics around the globe and especially the young Church who are longing for a renewal in their faith.

In the Diocese of Greensburg, the Most Reverend Lawrence E. Brandt, our fourth Bishop, passed away very unexpectedly in June. Bishop Brandt was instrumental in orienting us for the future during an important period of history in our Diocese.

He strengthened Catholic education and faith formation, he restored the sacrament of confirmation to later adolescence, and he established endowments to fund parishes, ministries and projects. Bishop Brandt was a fierce advocate for religious freedom and a defender of the Church's teachings on faith and morals. He established our Permanent Diaconate and International Priests programs. He has left us a legacy of faith and hope for the future.

We have hope for the future of vocations as we have received two new seminarians in our Diocese and Seminary Formation program. We have hope in the vibrancy of our parishes and our schools. In my journeys through our four counties this year, I was greeted by people who are passionately committed to their parishes, to strengthening ministries and catechesis, and to social outreach.

As Catholics, we are people of hope, a hope which has its origins in a stable in Bethlehem. Our hope is modeled by the trust of Mary who said "yes" to God's call. Our hope is the Word that became flesh, demonstrating to all of us that God loved us so much that he didn't send a representative. Instead, He gave us His only Son, whose birth, life, death, and resurrection have purchased for all of us the opportunity for eternal life. He freed us as prisoners of death with the birth of His son.

Jesus Christ, the baby in a manger in Bethlehem, the Incarnate Word of God, is our HOPE.

And so, my dear brothers and sisters, I invite you to rejoice in His birth, the greatest gift to humanity. In this season and throughout the year ahead, may we always live as a people of great hope because Jesus Christ has been born, died, and rose for our salvation.

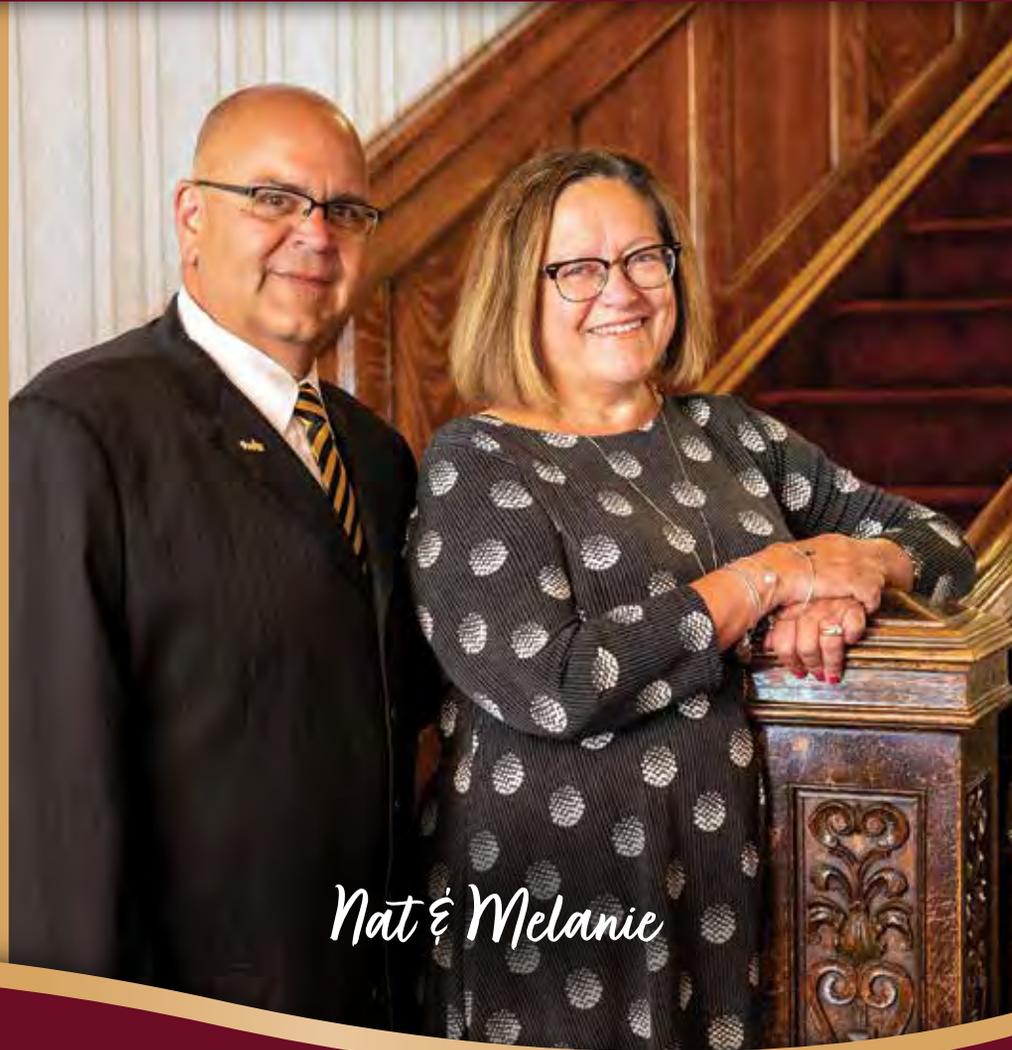
Please know of my prayers for you and your families for a blessed Christmas and joyous New Year.

Yours in the Hope of Christ,

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

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Advent Events

MONDAY, DEC. 1

Advent Study for Young Adults (20s through 40s): A deep dive into the typography of the Nativity

Saint Regis Parish
Trafford

7:00-9:00PM

TUESDAY, DEC. 2

The Candle of Hope: Lighting the Darkness with God's Promise (Advent Praise & Worship and Holy Hour of Adoration)

Saint Aloysius Parish
Dunbar

6:00-7:00PM

Eucharistic Adoration, Holy Hour and Reconciliation

Blessed Sacrament
Cathedral Parish
Greensburg

6:00PM

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 3

Advent Retreat

Saint Regis Parish
Trafford

6:30PM

FRIDAY, DEC. 5

Lessons and Carols

Blessed Sacrament
Cathedral Parish
Greensburg

7:00PM

SATURDAY, DEC. 6

Breakfast with Saint Nicholas

Saint Agnes Parish
North Huntingdon

9:00-11:00AM

Christmas Cookie Sale

Saint Rita Parish
Connellsville

9:00AM

Holiday Craft Show

Mother of Sorrows Parish
Murrysville

11:00AM-7:00PM

Holly Berry Fair

St. Mary, Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish
Kittanning

9:00AM-5:00PM

SUNDAY, DEC. 7

Bethlehem Project Basket Raffle

Blessed Sacrament
Cathedral Parish
Greensburg

Holiday Craft Show

Mother of Sorrows Parish
Murrysville

8:30AM-3:00PM

MONDAY, DEC. 8

Advent Study for Young Adults (20s through 40s): A deep dive into the typography of the Nativity

Saint Regis Parish
Trafford

7:00-9:00PM

TUESDAY, DEC. 9

The Candle of Peace: A Quiet Heart in a Noisy World (Advent Praise & Worship and Holy Hour of Adoration)

Saint John the Evangelist Parish
Connellsville

6:00-7:00PM

TUESDAY, DEC. 9

Advent Regional Penance Services

Saint James Parish
Apollo

6:30PM

THURSDAY, DEC. 11

Advent Regional Penance Services

Saint Gertrude Parish
Vandergrift

6:30PM

Saint Vincent Basilica Parish
Latrobe

7:00PM

FRIDAY, DEC. 12

Living Nativity

Saint James Parish
New Alexandria

5:00-8:00PM

Solemn Candlelight Rorate Mass at Christ

Prince of Peace Parish
Ford City

7:30PM

SATURDAY, DEC. 13

Advent Regional Penance Services

Saint Margaret Mary Parish
Lower Burrell

1:00PM

Saint Francis of Assisi Parish
Masontown Worship Site

1:00PM

Breakfast with Santa

Immaculate
Conception Parish
Irwin

9:00-11:00AM



For event times not listed below,
visit TheAccentOnline.org

SATURDAY, DEC. 13

Jubilee Mass with Capuchin Father John A. Pavlik

Blessed Sacrament
Cathedral Parish
Greensburg
12:00PM

Ugly Christmas Sweater 5K Run and 2 Mile Walk

Saint Bartholomew Parish
Crabtree
9:30AM registration,
11:00AM start time

SUNDAY, DEC. 14

Advent Regional Penance Services

Holy Cross Parish
Youngwood
2:00PM

Breakfast with Santa

Saint Raymond of
the Mountains Parish
Donegal
11:30AM

Lessons and Carols

Immaculate
Conception Parish
Irwin
7:00PM

MONDAY, DEC. 15

Advent Regional Penance Services

Saint Bruno Parish
Greensburg
5:30PM

Advent Study for Young Adults (20s through 40s): A deep dive into the typography of the Nativity

Saint Regis Parish
Trafford
7:00-9:00PM

TUESDAY, DEC. 16

Advent Regional Penance Services

Saint Martin Parish
New Derry
7:00PM

Saint Paul Parish
Greensburg
5:30PM

Saint Regis Parish
Trafford
6:00PM

The Candle of Joy: Rejoicing Even While Waiting (Advent Praise & Worship and Holy Hour of Adoration)

Saint John the Baptist Parish
Scottdale
6:00-7:00PM

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 17

Advent Regional Penance Services

Mount Saint Peter Parish
New Kensington
12:00PM

Saint Bartholomew Parish
Crabtree
7:00PM

Saint Benedict Parish
Greensburg
5:30PM

THURSDAY, DEC. 18

Advent Regional Penance Services

Our Lady of Grace Parish
Greensburg
5:30PM

Holy Family Parish
West Newton
6:00PM

Saint Rose Parish
Latrobe
7:00PM

FRIDAY, DEC. 19

Advent Regional Penance Services

Saint Anne Parish
Rostraver
6:00PM

Christmas Live Nativity

Church of the Good
Shepherd Parish
Kent
6:00-8:00PM

SATURDAY, DEC. 20

Advent Regional Penance Services

Blessed Sacrament
Cathedral Parish
Greensburg
11:00AM

Holy Family Parish
Latrobe
11:00AM

Christmas Around the World

Saint Bartholomew Parish
Crabtree
6:30PM

Christmas Live Nativity

Church of the Good
Shepherd Parish
Kent
6:00-8:00PM

SUNDAY, DEC. 21

Advent Regional Penance Services

Saint Mary of
Czestochowa Parish
New Kensington
6:30PM

Lessons and Carols

Saint Francis of Assisi Parish
Masontown Worship Site
2:00PM

MONDAY, DEC. 22

Advent Study for Young Adults (20s through 40s): A deep dive into the typography of the Nativity

Saint Regis Parish
Trafford
7:00-9:00 PM

TUESDAY, DEC. 23

The Candle of Love: Preparing Room for Christ in Our Hearts (Advent Praise & Worship and Holy Hour of Adoration)

Visitation of the Blessed Virgin
Mary Parish
Mount Pleasant
6:00-7:00PM

Christmas Masses

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 24

**Blessed Sacrament
Cathedral Parish**
Greensburg
4:00PM, 10:30PM

Christ the King Parish
Leechburg
4:30PM

**Church of the Good
Shepherd Parish**
Kent
6:00PM

**Immaculate
Conception Parish**
Connellsville
4:00PM

**Immaculate
Conception Parish**
Irwin
4:00PM, 6:00PM, 8:00PM

Mother of Sorrows Parish
Murrysville
4:00PM, 6:00PM

Our Lady of Grace Parish
Greensburg
4:00PM, 7:00PM, 10:00PM

Saint Aloysius Parish
Dunbar
4:30PM

Saint Ambrose Parish
Avonmore
9:00PM

Saint Bartholomew Parish
Crabtree
4:00PM, 7:00PM

**Saint Bernard of
Clairvaux Parish**
Indiana
4:00PM

Saint Cecilia Parish
Whitney
4:00PM, 8:00PM

**Saints Cyril &
Methodius Parish**
Fairchance
6:00PM

**Saint Francis of
Assisi Parish**
Footedale Worship Site
4:00PM

**Saint Francis of
Assisi Parish**
Masontown Worship Site
9:00PM

Saint Gertrude Parish
Vandergrift
4:00PM, 10:00PM

Saint Hubert Parish
Point Marion
4:00 PM

Saint James Parish
New Alexandria
4:30PM

Saint Joan of Arc Parish
Farmington
6:30PM

**Saint John Baptist de
La Salle Parish**
Delmont
4:00PM

**Saint John the
Evangelist Parish**
Connellsville
5:30PM

**Saint John the
Evangelist Parish**
Latrobe
10:00PM

**Saint John the
Evangelist Parish**
Uniontown
5:30PM

Saint Joseph Parish
Uniontown
4:00PM

Saint Mary (Nativity) Parish
Uniontown
8:30PM

Saint Matthew Parish
Saltsburg
4:00PM

**Saint Raymond of the
Mountains Parish**
Donegal
5:00PM, 11:00PM

Saint Rita Parish
Connellsville
9:00PM

Saint Rose Parish
Latrobe
4:00PM, 10:00PM

Saints Simon & Jude Parish
Blairsville
4:00PM, 10:00PM

**Saint Thérèse, Little
Flower of Jesus Parish**
Uniontown
4:00PM

**Saint Thomas More
University Parish**
5:00PM, 8:00PM

Sacred Heart Parish
Youngstown
6:00PM



THURSDAY, DEC. 25

**Blessed Sacrament
Cathedral Parish**
Greensburg
8:30AM, 11:00AM

Christ the King Parish
Leechburg
11:00AM

**Church of the Good
Shepherd Parish**
Kent
9:00AM

**Immaculate
Conception Parish**
Connellsville
10:00AM

**Immaculate
Conception Parish**
Irwin
12:00AM, 9:30AM

Mother of Sorrows Parish
Murrysville
9:30AM, 11:30AM

Our Lady of Grace Parish
Greensburg
10:00AM

Saint Aloysius Parish
Dunbar
9:00AM

Saint Bartholomew Parish
Crabtree
8:00AM, 10:30AM

**Saint Bernard of
Clairvaux Parish**
Indiana
12:00AM, 10:00AM

Saint Cecilia Parish
Latrobe
8:00AM

**Saints Cyril &
Methodius Parish**
Fairchance
9:00AM

**Saint Francis of
Assisi Parish**
Footedale Worship Site
9:00AM

**Saint Francis of
Assisi Parish**
Masontown Worship Site
11:00AM

Saint Gertrude Parish
Vandergrift
8:00AM

Saint James Parish
New Alexandria
12:00AM, 9:30AM

For Mass times not listed below,
visit TheAccentOnline.org



THURSDAY, DEC. 25

**Saint Joan of
Arc Parish**
Farmington
9:30AM

**Saint John
Baptist de La
Salle Parish**
Delmont
11:00AM

**Saint John the
Evangelist Parish**
Connellsville
12:00AM

**Saint John the
Evangelist Parish**
Latrobe
9:30AM

**Saint John the
Evangelist Parish**
Uniontown
12:00AM, 10:30AM

Saint Joseph Parish
Uniontown
10:00AM

Saint Mary (Nativity) Parish
Uniontown
8:30AM

**Saint Mary, Our Lady
of Lourdes Parish**
Export
12:00AM, 9:00AM

**Saint Raymond of the
Mountains Parish**
Donegal
10:00AM

Saint Rose Parish
Latrobe
9:00AM

Saint Sylvester Parish
Slickville
9:00AM

**Saint Thérèse, Little
Flower of Jesus Parish**
Uniontown
11:00AM

Sacred Heart Parish
Youngstown
10:30AM

SUNDAY, DEC. 28

**Blessed Sacrament
Cathedral Parish**
Greensburg
11:00AM Closing Jubilee Mass
with Bishop Larry J. Kulick

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 31

**Blessed Sacrament
Cathedral Parish**
Greensburg
4:00PM

Christ the King Parish
Leechburg
8:30AM

Saint Gertrude Parish
Vandergrift
4:00PM

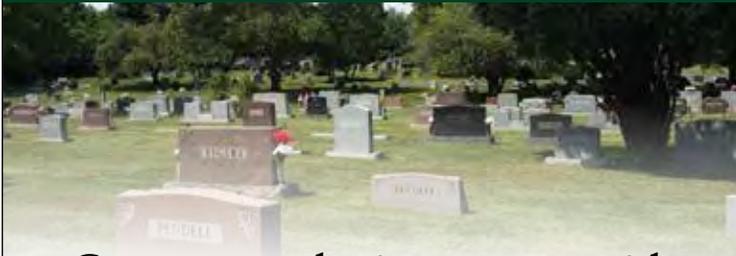
Saint James Parish
New Alexandria
4:30PM

THURSDAY, JAN. 1

**Blessed Sacrament
Cathedral Parish**
Greensburg
11:00AM



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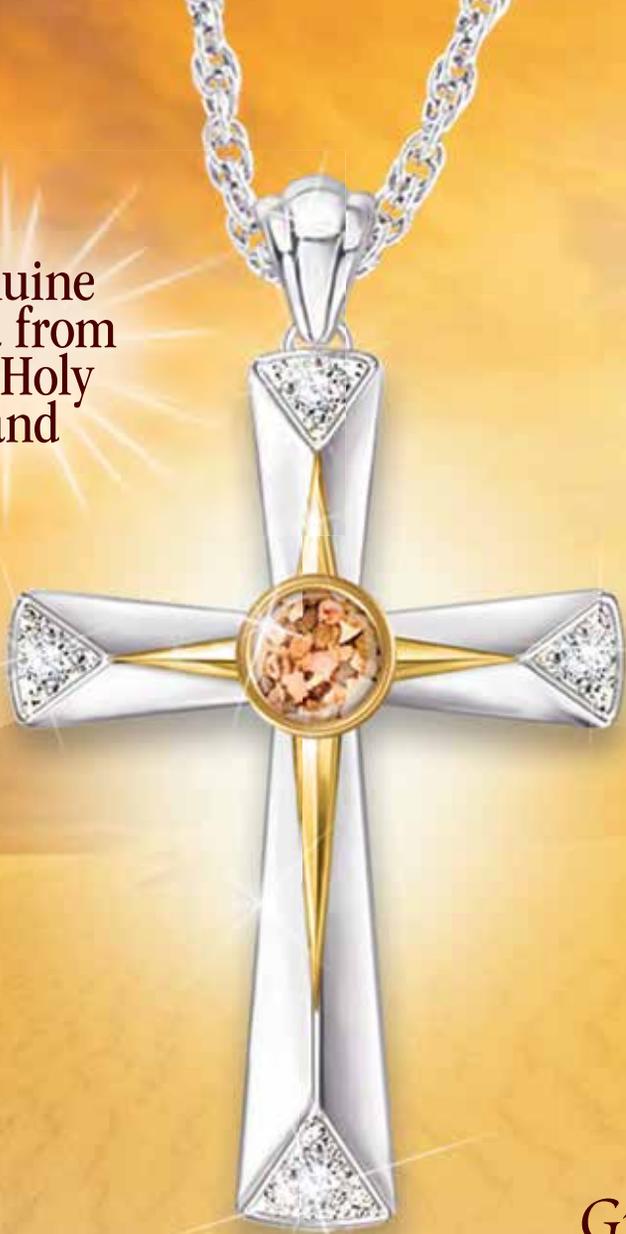
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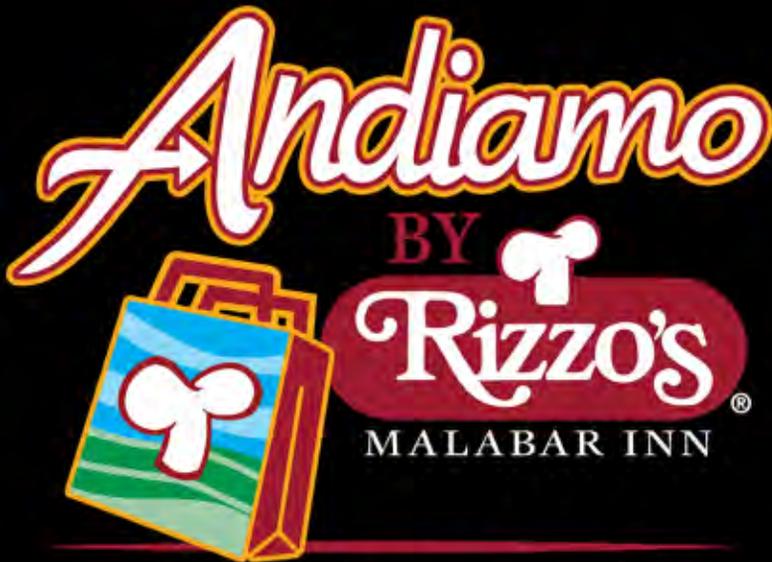
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