

THE CHRONICLE

OF SAINT PAUL OF THE CROSS PARISH

*Blessed are those
who hunger and thirst
for righteousness,
for they shall be satisfied.*

~ Matthew 5:6



Living Catholic

- What we believe.
- How we love.
- How we pray.

Why compromise your child's education by enrolling in a school that doesn't meet their needs?



Choosing the best high school for your child's education shouldn't be a compromise. Challenging curriculum? Clean and safe school? An array of clubs? Competitive athletics? A welcoming environment?

What if a school offered your child all these benefits, plus core beliefs that align with your family's values? With all of the craziness in the world today, you still have choices, and you don't have to negotiate with your child's future.

At Seton LaSalle we proudly offer over 19 AP and 40 Honors classes. Cutting edge technology. Award winning teachers. National Merit Scholars. Undefeated sports teams & WPIAL Championships. Clubs for every interest. A 15-1 teacher ratio so your child won't feel like a number. In a nurturing environment that allows your child to remained focused on what really matters, getting a top-notch education. All less than 10 miles from home.

If you want to see for yourself how Seton LaSalle helps every student thrive, not just survive high school, call or visit us today, or scan the QR code to learn more.



**BE ENLIGHTENED. BE VALUED.
BE CONFIDENT. BE A REBEL.**



1000 McNeilly Rd
Mount Lebanon, PA 15226

(412) 561-3583 ext. 1127
admissions@slshs.org

Dear Parishioners & Friends...

My mother passed away in October of 2020 and was buried from our church. In the year or so leading up to her death, she was essentially homebound, so every Sunday I would either take her Holy Communion or offer Mass on her Dining Room table.

As the weeks passed, something interesting started to happen. Mom began to ask a lot of very simple questions about the basics of our Catholic Faith: "Michael, what does it mean when we say we believe in the resurrection of the body... the communion of saints... what happens to our bodies when we die... our souls?"

At first, Mom's questions were a bit disconcerting. How could this woman, who for her whole life was faithful and devout, never missed Sunday Mass, and frequently went to Confession not understand these basic tenets of our faith? Over time, I came to see that the cross of illness Mom bore every day for four years had begun to cloud the faith she had professed her entire life.

Speaking with Mom about the basic principles of Catholicism was a graced moment in my relationship her, and I know that simply reviewing the basics we Catholics believe brought her comfort as her life began to wind down.

Recently, one of the daily Mass readings came from Second Kings. It recounted the story of how, following a long period of neglect, the book of the Law of Moses was discovered in some dusty corner of the Jerusalem Temple.

When presented with the book, King Josiah had it read aloud to different groups of people. All were deeply moved by hearing what they had forgotten; namely, the basics of their Jewish faith. This simple reminder of the foundational elements of the Covenant God struck with Moses confirmed and renewed their faith, and they rededicated themselves to the Covenant and its promises.

Certainly, the past few years have been tough on all of us, and the faith of many has faltered to varying degrees. Therefore, in this issue of *The Chronicle* we have undertaken to present again the basics of what it means to Live Catholic – specifically what we believe, how we pray, and how we love.

It is my hope that this simple review of our Faith, coupled with the regular features this magazine offers, will serve to renew your faith and compel all of us to rededicate ourselves to following Christ in His one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church!

Sincerely,
Fr. Mike



Fr. Michael A. Caridi
Pastor

ABOUT SHCA

South Hills Catholic Academy (SHCA) is an independent Catholic elementary school serving Preschool-8th grade students in the South Hills of Pittsburgh.

The mission of the South Hills Catholic Academy (SHCA) is to assist parents in the Christian spiritual, moral and intellectual formation of their children by ensuring the total development of each child – body, mind, and soul.

SHCA prepares students for higher education through a curriculum built on the foundation of a Traditional Catholic education, with rich spiritual formation and a vibrant sacramental and devotional life.

The SHCA curriculum follows a three-step liberal arts approach known as a "trivium" consisting of grammar, logic and rhetoric. It is language-focused and follows a specific three-part pattern which is incorporated into each discipline of the integrated curriculum: supply the mind with facts and images, give the student logical tools for organization of facts, and equip them to express conclusions.

Most importantly, a Traditional Catholic education is a formal education with a classical-model curriculum that has an end-goal of the student learning to discern and to know how to use what he or she has learned to glorify God.

REGISTER NOW FOR 2022-2023!

Registrations are now being accepted for the 2022-2023 academic year. You may register by scanning the enclosed QR Code or on our website at SHCAcademy.com/school-forms.

To schedule a tour or register in person, please contact Principal Harmony Stewart at 412-631-3131 or at hstewart@shcacademy.com.



Additional information about SHCA may also be found on our website and social media platforms referenced above.

A Prayer to Our Patroness: Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal

O Virgin Mother of God, Mary Immaculate, we dedicate and consecrate ourselves to you under the title of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal.

May this Medal be for each one of us a sure sign of your affection for us and a constant reminder of our duties toward you.

Ever while wearing it, may we be blessed by your loving protection and preserved in the grace of your Son.

O Most Powerful Virgin, Mother of Our Savior, keep us close to you every moment of our lives. Obtain for us, your children, the grace of a happy death; so that in union with you, we may enjoy the bliss of Heaven forever. Amen.



Saint Paul of the Cross Parish
 400 Hoodridge Drive
 Pittsburgh, PA 15234
www.stpaulofthecross.com
 412-531-5964

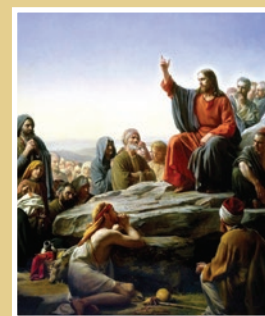
The Chronicle of Saint Paul of the Cross Parish is published twice a year in the Summer and Winter.

Fr. Michael Caridi, Pastor
mcaridi@stpaulofthecross.com
Fr. Richard Infante, Senior Parochial Vicar
rinfante@stpaulofthecross.com

Deacon Victor DeFazio
vdefazio@stpaulofthecross.com

Deacon Joseph Kosko
jkosko@stpaulofthecross.com

Deacon Philip Martorano
pmartorano@stpaulofthecross.com



Cover Art

The Sermon on the Mount
 by Carl Heinrich Bloch in 1877.
 Carl Bloch was born in Denmark and lived from 1834-1890. Bloch is recognized by many as the greatest artist ever to interpret the life and death of Christ through his many paintings.

CONTENTS

SUMMER 2022

FEATURE STORIES

4 Living Catholic
 What we believe, how we pray, and how we love: a simple but vital review of the basics of living an authentically Catholic life.



10 Family Spotlight:
 Meet the Lippert family – whose roots are deep into their faith, their church, and their community.



12 What exactly is a classical Christian education?
 It is simply the best method for teaching your child *how* to think – not simply *what* to think.



14 Ministry Spotlight:
Catholic Men's Fellowship
 Meet a group of amazing men who know what it means to Live Catholic.



FAVORITE SECTIONS

- 13** 100 years of Novenas to St. Anne
- 16** Faith Formation Youth & Adult
- 18** Parish Council Update
- 19** More Living Catholic: A Listing of Valuable Catholic Resources
- 21** A Life of a Saint: St. Gemma Galgani
- 22** Recent Events: Baptisms, Weddings, Communions, etc.
- 25** Upcoming Events: Not-to-miss dates

LIVING CATHOLIC.

Article by Tom McNulty. Photographs by Ed Macko.

**ONE THING IS NECESSARY, THE LORD TELLS US:
TO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD
AND TO LIVE BY IT.**

~ Fr. Reginald Garrigou-Lagrange, O.P.
The Three Ages of The Interior Life

How we live. The one thing necessary.

Life, it seems, has never been more difficult or confusing. If you find yourself world-weary and burdened, it would be good to remember that our Lord lived in difficult times, too – and also what He said to Martha and Mary: **“Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things, but one thing is necessary, Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her.”*** He knows what you are feeling and He wants to help you carry your burden.

If you’ve been gone for a while, just come back. Nothing can keep you from His love except you. He’s ready with open arms for all his lost sheep.

If you’ve come back, come a little closer. The more you know Him, the more you will love Him. What can you do to know Him better? To pray better? To serve better?

If you’re already closer, bring someone to Him. Is there someone you know who needs a little nudge back to the Church? Then here’s a little nudge for you to try.

* Luke 10:42

*Hail, Mary,
full of grace...*



What we believe

Catholics don’t just believe in God – we believe God, period. We believe what he has revealed to us through his son Jesus Christ – because he is God, who can neither deceive nor be deceived. That means everything – not just parts we prefer.

The Creed

The 10 Commandments

The 7 Sacraments

How we pray

In prayer, we lift our minds and hearts to God – as a child to a loving Father. There are four basic types of prayers: petition for ourselves, intercession for others, and prayers of adoration and thanksgiving. *The highest form of prayer is the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.*

The Mass

The Rosary

The Lord’s Prayer

The Angelus

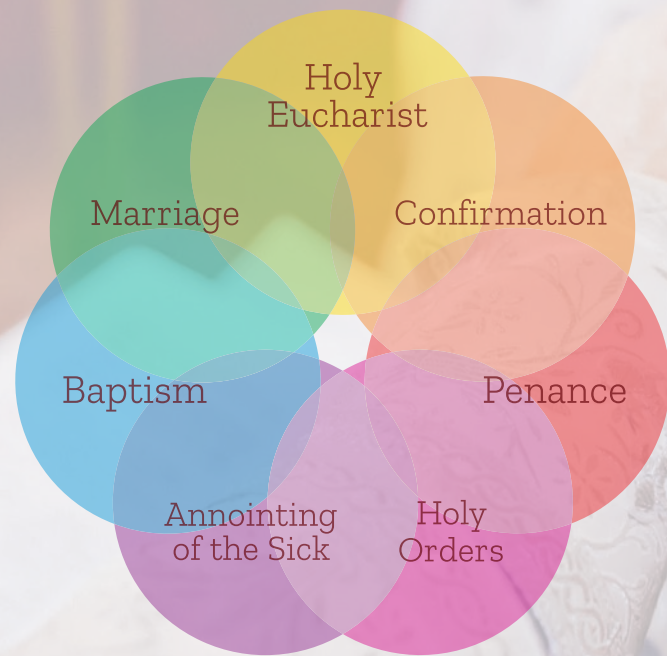
How we love

Factum non dictum. Actions not words. We put our faith into action, not to win salvation, but to prove our love for our Lord. These actions of charity traditionally are summed up in the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. We love God when we love our neighbor.

Corporal Works of Mercy

Spiritual Works of Mercy

I. What we believe...



The Seven Sacraments

Catholicism is unique in that it is a sacramental religion – these seven aids were instituted by Our Lord to grant His invisible graces by visible, outward signs.

The signs are simple: bread and wine in the Eucharist; water in Baptism; words of absolution in Penance; sacred oil in Confirmation; a holy bond between a man and a woman; the Anointing of the sick, and the calling to Priestly duty. These simple things are transformed by the Catholic Church into channels of grace as Our Lord desired.

They are the chief means of our salvation.

II. How we pray...

The Holy Sacrifice of Mass

is the pinnacle of the life of the Catholic Church.

Most Catholics fail to appreciate the wonder, the magnificence, the extraordinary miracle, that is taking place at the consecration during the Mass.

The Mass is the re-presentation of the Sacrifice of Our Lord on Calvary – **not** the Last Supper. That is, Calvary itself is made present to you – **you are there.**

You are present at the foot of the Cross on that Friday afternoon almost 2,000 years ago. **You are kneeling** with the Blessed Mother, Saint John and Saint Mary Magdalene.

YOU are there.

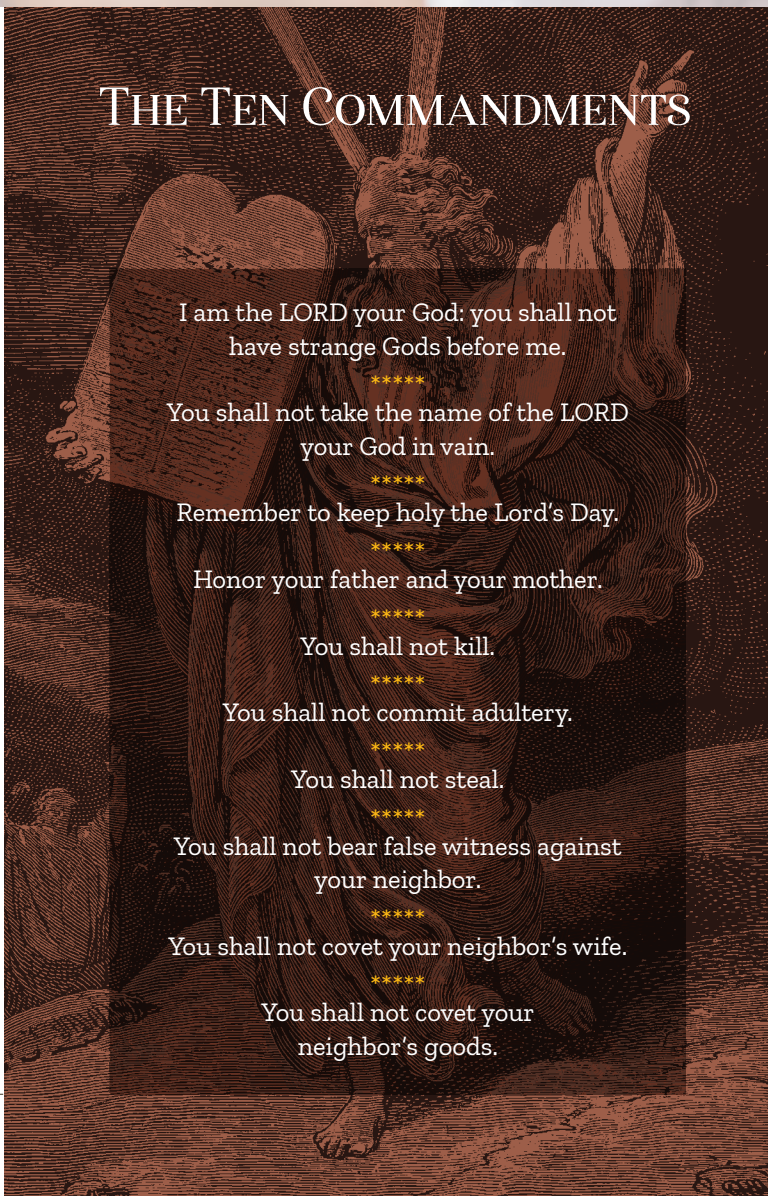
So when someone sings, "Were you there when they crucified My Lord?", you can answer, "**Yes, every time I go to Mass!**"



THE APOSTLES' CREED

I BELIEVE IN GOD, the Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and Earth; and in Jesus Christ, His only Son Our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into Hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into Heaven, and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty; from there He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. Amen.

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS



- I am the LORD your God: you shall not have strange Gods before me. *****
- You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain. *****
- Remember to keep holy the Lord's Day. *****
- Honor your father and your mother. *****
- You shall not kill. *****
- You shall not commit adultery. *****
- You shall not steal. *****
- You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. *****
- You shall not covet your neighbor's wife. *****
- You shall not covet your neighbor's goods. *****

Praying the Rosary

After the Holy Mass, the Holy Rosary is the most powerful prayer heaven has given us. Through it, we meditate on the mysteries of the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, our Lord – *not through our own eyes, but through the eyes of his Blessed Mother who experienced it all, in person.* We see what she saw and feel what she felt. As a result, through it, we draw closer to her Son, his words, his sufferings, and his triumph through the Holy Cross. In 1917, the Blessed Mother appeared at Fatima as **Our Lady of the Rosary** and asked her children to pray the Holy Rosary every day. We would do well to heed her words.

Sorrowful Mysteries

- Agony in the Garden
- Scourging at the Pillar
- Crown of Thorns
- Carrying the Cross
- The Crucifixion

Joyful Mysteries

- The Annunciation
- The Visitation
- The Nativity
- The Presentation
- Finding Jesus in the Temple

Glorious Mysteries

- The Resurrection
- Ascension into Heaven
- Descent of the Holy Spirit
- Assumption of Mary
- Coronation of Mary

Luminous Mysteries

- Baptism of Christ
- Wedding at Cana
- Proclaiming the Kingdom
- Transfiguration
- Holy Eucharist



The Angelus

The Angel of the Lord declared to Mary:
And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.

Hail Mary ...

Behold the handmaid of the Lord:
Be it done unto me according to Thy word.

Hail Mary...

And the Word was made Flesh:
And dwelt among us.

Hail Mary...

Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God, that we
may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Let us pray:

Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace
into our hearts; that we, to whom the incarnation
of Christ, Thy Son, was made known by the
message of an angel, may by His Passion and Cross
be brought to the glory of His Resurrection,
through the same Christ Our Lord.

Amen.



L'Angelus was painted by Jean-François Millet in the mid-19th century. It depicts a humble couple, pausing in the midst of their work day, to direct their thoughts to God, by praying **The Angelus**. The Angelus (above) is a set of three antiphons that reflect on the Incarnation of Christ at the Annunciation – when the Angel Gabriel announced God’s invitation to Mary, and she said “yes.”

*“Lord teach us to pray,
as John taught his disciples.”*

~ Luke 11:1

Our Father,
Who art in Heaven,
Hallowed be Thy Name,
Thy Kingdom come,
Thy will be done on Earth,
as it is in Heaven.

And give us this day, Our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

Amen.

Craft a plan for eternal life.

If you’re planning to have a life in heaven, you need to craft a plan for life down here. No serious athlete competes without rigorous training beforehand. So if we are to “run the race” as St. Paul told us, we must begin to create proper habits that will begin to transform our spiritual life. Here’s five simple suggestions to get yourself in spiritual shape:

1. Morning Offering

Our Lord told us to “pray always.” So we must begin to turn our whole day into a prayer. How do you do that? Well, the saints would pray a “morning offering” in which they would offer everything that coming day to Christ. We can do the same in just 15 minutes every morning.

2. Consistent Mass Attendance

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is the best possible prayer. Of course, every Sunday, holiday, and Holy days of obligation are a must. But can you attempt to make it to a daily Mass at least once a week? Of course you can.

3. Regular Confession

Monthly confession is recommended by the greatest saints. It gets easier the more often go and there is no feeling on earth comparable to that of a clean soul.

4. Daily Reading of Scripture

St. Jerome said “Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ.” There are abundant indulgences for reading the Bible every day. Who knows, you may even consider a program of reading the entire Bible in a year.

5. Nightly Examination of Conscience

Admitting your failures and being thankful for your accomplishments as your last act every night orients your soul toward God. Plus, you’ll sleep well and you’ll wake up well – with a focused mind and hopeful heart.

III. How we love

Corporal Works of Mercy

Feed the hungry

Give drink to the thirsty

Clothe the naked

Shelter the homeless

Visit the sick

Visit the imprisoned

Bury the dead

Spiritual Works of Mercy

Instruct the ignorant

Counsel the doubtful

Admonish the sinner

Bear wrongs patiently

Forgive offenses willingly

Comfort the afflicted

Pray for the living & dead

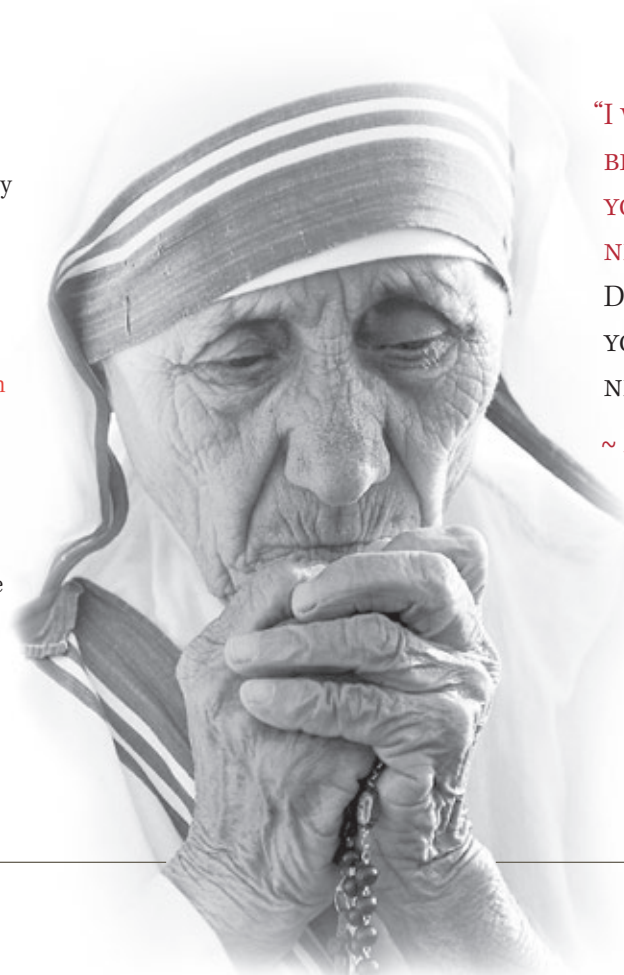
Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy

St. John challenges us:
“For he that does not love
his brother whom he has
seen, cannot love God whom
he has not seen. (1 John 4:20).

In other words talk is cheap.
Love means actions.

The Catholic Church has
traditionally summarized
these in corporal (body)
and spiritual (soul) works
of mercy. The body comes
first. Christ came forth
healing and casting out
demons before he came forth
preaching and offering the
promises of eternal life.
And so must we.

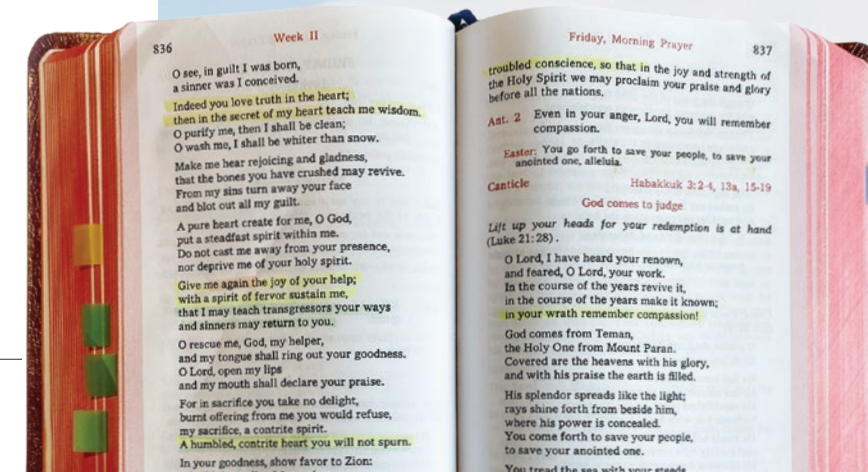
But healing only the body
is not enough. Recall the
healing of the ten lepers; only
one returned to praise our
Lord with gratitude for the
physical healing. And as
Our Lord says, “It is the
spirit that gives life; the flesh
profits nothing; the words
that I have spoken unto you
are spirit, and are life.”
(John 6:63). We show great
mercy when we are sensitive
and compassionate to the
souls around us. And espe-
cially to the pain, sorrow,
and despair that those souls
often are experiencing.



*“I WANT YOU TO
BE CONCERNED ABOUT
YOUR NEXT DOOR
NEIGHBOR.*

*DO YOU KNOW
YOUR NEXT DOOR
NEIGHBOR?”*

~ Mother Teresa



Story by Meghan Cox

Say “hello” to the Lippert Family.

Colorful custom ceramics, beautiful zinnias and growing plants make up the bountiful garden the Lippert family cares for on most nights. It’s a shared effort among these longtime parishioners of St. Paul of the Cross, whose story is rooted in the close-knit families and communities where they grew up.



Left to right: Lindsay, Gary, Olivia, Lois, J.T., and Kristy.

Gary and Lois (Jones) Lippert became a couple in their junior year at Brashear High School. Their weekends were centered around attending Saturday evening Mass at Brookline’s Church of the Resurrection and convening at Gary’s house for card games and fun.

After high school, Gary attended the University of Pittsburgh for engineering and Lois majored in accounting at Duquesne University. As commuter students they saw each other regularly, so they continued their tradition of attending Saturday evening Mass, and gathering afterwards with a group order from Wendy’s.

After college, Gary moved to Carlisle, Pa., to begin his career as an

industrial engineer. Though he enjoyed his work, after a few months he called Lois (who was working in finance at a local hospital) and made plans to look at engagement rings. Soon after, he moved back to Pittsburgh and they were married at the Church of the Resurrection.

Gary and Lois moved into their first home in 1991 and started a family of their own; first came Lindsay, then Olivia, son John Thomas “J.T.”, and finally, youngest daughter Kristy. As a young family, they continued their Saturday evening Mass tradition with Gary’s family, bringing children to convene with their cousins and family.

When oldest daughter Lindsay became school age, the choice for her education was easy: St. Anne School.

From Bingo, Santa Breakfast, volunteering at lunch, coaching athletics and serving on the athletic board to serving donuts at the parish fair, the Lippert family quickly became part of the close-knit school community.

Through their service, Gary and Lois modeled a way to serve God for their children. Olivia and Lindsay join their parents, who are eucharistic ministers, by serving as lectors at Mass. “That’s the way I was raised,” Lois said. “When help was needed, you went out and helped without asking for anything in return.”

Faith and community bind the Lippert family – they share grace before meals together and share prayer lists of intentions with each other. When Lois’ dad passed away on


Christmas Eve 2010, she was comforted that he had gotten his wish to be reunited with her mother in heaven. As the clock inched closer to midnight, the only place she wanted to be was at midnight Mass, there her friends and fellow parishioners welcomed her with open arms. That comfort continues to carry her through difficult times, where she places her trust in God over all. “I go to bed every night thanking God for all we have,” she says.

This September marks 35 years of marriage for Gary and Lois. They are most proud of their children and the close relationship they share. To young couples, the Lipperts stress the importance of talking to each other. “It’s too easy to get mad and walk away, and never resolve the issue.

We’re very honest with each other and communicate,” says Gary. To families, they stress the importance of bringing children (and a bag of Cheerios) to Mass from the start.

Looking back, they appreciate how their kids “keep each other honest and grounded.” Fun comes from being together, whether it’s traveling, playing cards, video games, fishing, or watching movies. J. T.’s fiancée, Tara, is learning to play “500 bid,” a family card game that Gary’s family once taught Lois. And many of Lois’ hobbies became shared family hobbies, as her daughters began to join her for pottery class and gardening. Lois is working on nativity sets for family gifts, and her Mary statue serves as a warm welcome to the Lippert home.

Much like their blooming garden, the Lippert family is on the brink of change in the weeks and months ahead. Gary and Lois will celebrate their anniversary with a trip to Michigan, and two of the Lippert children are settling in new homes close by. The family is growing by two – son J.T. will marry his fiancée, and daughter Olivia and son-in-law Zach are anticipating the arrival of their first child.

Gary and Lois look forward to starting this next chapter of their lives as “Lolo” and “Pap,” hoping their family continues to do things together and carry on the traditions of faith, family, community, and service to God that has linked them together for generations. 

BRINGING YOUNG MINDS TO LIFE.



Learn more about
South Hills Catholic Academy at
www.shcacademy.com



100 YEARS AND COUNTING.

If the reporting by the National Catholic Welfare Council News Service (today known as the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops) in 1932 is correct, this July marks our 100th consecutive Novena to Saint Anne.

That year, the news service provided two articles about our church; one regarding the Saint Anne Shrine, and the other noting that the first Novena was celebrated in 1923 with then pastor, Fr. Joseph Gerold.

The Shrine was the brainchild of Fr. Gerold's successor, Fr. Aloysius Angel, who was known for fostering the surge in devotion to Saint Anne.

The Shrine was originally built on Willow Avenue and dedicated on July 20, 1930 by Fr. Angel, and was constructed of stones quarried in many states including California, Alabama and Vermont and countries as far away as Brazil. One stone was secured from the old foundation of Sainte-Anne-de-Beaupre in Canada and another from the Immaculate Conception Shrine in Washington, D. C.

In 1989, in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the parish, the shrine, with its marble statue of Saint Anne and a young Mary, was dismantled, rebuilt, and rededicated at its current location.



AMIDST ALL THE RECENT TURMOIL AND CONTROVERSY IN EDUCATION, PARENTS ARE REDISCOVERING THAT A TRULY CATHOLIC, CLASSICAL CURRICULUM IS THE BEST PREPARATION FOR LIFE IN THIS WORLD – AND THE NEXT. THAT'S JUST ONE REASON WHY SOUTH HILLS CATHOLIC ACADEMY HAS BEEN REMARKABLY SUCCESSFUL IN ITS VERY FIRST YEAR.

At SHCA, Catholic classical education is Catholic first.

Students at SHCA celebrate Mass three days per week, with additional opportunities for Eucharistic adoration and confession. They also lead the Angelus or Regina Caeli every day at noon and engage in other traditional devotions throughout the day. The religion curriculum provides a solid catechetical foundation and lead students to a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ and his Holy Church.

Discover the lost tools of learning.

We build on what the late British author Dorothy Sayers called *"The Lost Tools of Learning"* – the traditional "trivium" (three ways) of grammar, logic and rhetoric. The grammar stage teaches basic facts – who, what, where, when. Later, logic makes connections between the facts and delves into the deeper "how," "why" and "what if" questions. Finally, rhetoric teaches how to express oneself articulately and persuasively. All three modes of the trivium are

used for every grade, but the balance shifts as the students get older.

The liberal arts aren't great because they're old. They're old because they are great.

The classical curriculum at SHCA is inspired by millennial-old educational tradition based on the liberal arts – "liberal," as in liberating the mind from much ignorance, error, illogic, and imprudence. Students are taught how to think, not what to think; how to distinguish truth and folly;

how to grow in virtue and shun vice; how to appreciate beauty and reject ugliness.

A classical curriculum that has formed some of the greatest minds throughout history.

And it still works today – embraced by young minds eager to learn: In math, students learn traditional arithmetic, rather than common core. In English, students learn parts of speech and diagram sentences. All will hone their memorization skills of poetry and famous speeches, and learn beautiful passages of Sacred Scripture by heart. They'll even tackle Latin, but don't worry, that doesn't start until the fourth grade! *Salve Regina!* 🔥



“Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!”

~Psalm 133:1

Article and photographs by Ed Macko

Pictured above left to right: Deacon Victor DeFazio, Deacon Philip Martorano, Ed Macko, Denny Costello, John Hans, Gerry Gillman, Peter Stelmaszynski, John Lewandowski, Andrew Barnhart, Pete Mullen, John Raimondi, Keith Barnhart, Gary Young, and Fr. Mike Caridi

WHEN A SENTENCE STARTS WITH THE WORD “BEHOLD,” IT WOULD BE WISE TO PAY ATTENTION TO WHATEVER COMES NEXT.

The world today can use a little more goodness and pleasantry. It can certainly use more unity. And it can use a few more men who *choose* to dwell in it.

It can use more men like the men of the Catholic Men's Fellowship. **And, it can also use you.**

In this verse, the term brothers seems to imply not only kinship – but an unbreakable bond between men. Perhaps for this reason, the very short Psalm 133 promises a special blessing for those men who *choose to act as brothers* and dwell in unity – “Life forevermore.”

The men of the Christian Men's Fellowship are brothers in this truest sense of the word.

Twice a month...

Catholic Men's Fellowship meets the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month in the Convent Dining Room at Saint Anne Church. Their main purpose being to understand more about their faith and, as iron sharpens iron, become better men. If they had a theme song, it just might be Bill Withers 1972 hit song “Lean on Me.”

*Lean on me
When you're not strong
And I'll be your friend
I'll help you carry on
For it won't be long
Till I'm gonna need somebody to lean on.
You just call on me, brother...*

This is what Christ expects of us. And it is the spirit of the Catholic Men's Fellowship.

Once a year...

Every year in October or November, the men of CMF top off the year by traveling two hours east to south central Pennsylvania and attend the Ave Maria retreat weekend. (The photos at the right are of the 2021 retreat.)

It's part spiritual, part renewal, part fun – there's daily Mass and opportunity for confession, great home-cooked meals, great conversation, semi-great golf, and other outdoor activities. Of course, you also have the opportunity to do nothing but relax, refuel, and breathe in the beauty of the Pennsylvania landscape.

Join us.

Like the army, CMF is always looking for a few good men. Whether you're searching or satisfied; whether you're a doctor or a lawyer, an outdoorsman or a golfer (especially a golfer); one thing you most certainly are is welcome. 🔥



Contact John Raimondi at 412-344-9690 for more information about the Catholic Men's Fellowship.



from Don Fontana, Director of Adult & Youth Faith Formation

ADULT & YOUTH FAITH FORMATION

It's been quite an active year for all ages of our ministry groups – and we have even more scheduled for this fall and the coming year.

The year began with an in-depth, four-week plunge into the study and structure of the Bible – through the FORMED Series production: **OUR STORY: A Basic Introduction to the Bible for Catholics**. Over the course of four Tuesday evenings in January and February, our group watched the series, participated in a facilitated discussion, and deepened their understanding of the Bible through Catholic eyes.

In May, another FORMED presentation: **DISCIPLINE 101: For Beginning Parents (And Those Who Could Use a Review)**, by widely acclaimed clinical psychologist, author, professional speaker, and national radio and television host, Dr. Ray Guarendi, helped new and experienced parents understand and address the myriad issues and concerns of parenting today.

Parish youth were kept busy throughout the year, beginning with ice skating at PPG Place, working the parish Fish Fry, putting together Pentecost crafts for our parish shut-in's, and staffing the booth at the parish fair. Throw in the Annual Turkey Bowl game and it adds up to quite a year.



Spring was highlighted by a dinner and conversation with pastor, Fr. Mike Caridi along with a visit from Dry Bones Ministries Camp Director Shawn Madden.

Assisted by South Hills Catholic Academy Principal, Mrs. Harmony Stewart, along with Office Administrator, Megan Christ and Sacristan, Andrew Barnhart. Fr. Mike discussed the challenges faced by our youth during and after Covid, along with their needs and desires from the parish.

Shawn Madden closed out the evening with an invitation for our youth to attend Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Camp in Volant, PA. – a camp on the banks of Neshannock Creek providing youth in and around Pittsburgh with opportunities to encounter Jesus Christ through the beauty of nature.

For more information on Dry Bones Ministries and Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Camp, visit:

www.drybonespgh.org

Living Catholic: THE MORNING OFFERING

A good habit to form is to make your first moment of the day a moment of praise to God. Even before your feet hit the floor, make the Sign of the Cross and voice a prayer, like this one here:

O Jesus,
through the Immaculate Heart of Mary,
I offer You my prayers, works, joys
and sufferings of this day for all
the intentions of Your Sacred Heart,
in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass
throughout the world,
in reparation for my sins,
for the intentions of all
my relatives and friends,
and in particular for the intentions
of the Holy Father.
Amen.



*Wallace
Bethel Park Flowers*

(412) 831-1660
4945 Library Road | Bethel Park, PA 15102
Weddings | Funerals | Anniversaries
Special Occasions

DIOCESE OF PITTSBURGH PILGRIMAGES

Fulfill your dream now – travel on a Pilgrimage!
All Pilgrimages are \$4,299 and include airfare, hotel, touring, and most meals.



**Ireland
The Emerald Isle**
with Fr. Brendan Dawson
& Fr. David Egan
October 22-31, 2022



**Padre Pio
Eucharistic Miracles
of Italy**
with Fr. Terry O'Connor
November 1-10, 2022



**Israel, The Holy Land
The Footsteps of Jesus**
with Bishop William
Waltersfield
February 10-20, 2023
(+ Jordan option)

For more information, download pilgrimage brochures from our website or call Belinda at 724-481-1700 or email her at belinda@APilgrimsJourney.com.

Ready to book? Call 855-784-7687 and ask for the Help Desk.

www.apilgrimsjourney.com



from Johnna Mernick, Chair of Pastoral Council

PARISH & FINANCE COUNCIL UPDATE

THE CHIEF ROLE OF THE PASTORAL AND FINANCE COUNCIL AT SAINT PAUL OF THE CROSS PARISH IS TO ACT AS THE PRIMARY CONSULTATIVE BODIES WHO PROVIDE COUNSEL TO THE PASTOR ON VARIOUS MATTERS. BUT THAT'S JUST THE BEGINNING.

The Pastoral Council is instrumental in bringing about community building activities such as last fall's Ministry Fairs and the more recent Donut Sundays. They have also recommended more frequent faith formation opportunities for adults – which will be rolled out later this year.

The Finance Council – comprised of parishioners who have expertise in financial matters – approve and oversee the annual budget. Recently, they reviewed the results of the regular diocesan audit of our parish finances and made recommendations to Father Mike and the parish staff. They have also been assisting Father Mike in the process leading up to the sale of the Saint Winifred campus to the South Hills Catholic Academy.

Over and above their regular responsibilities, the Pastoral and Finance Councils have been instrumental in planning our major capital project – *Forward in Hope* – which will unfold over the coming years. Their insight was critical in reviewing the Master Plan for our parish facilities that was developed by the DLA+ architectural firm, also in choosing Lynch Development Associates (LDA) to conduct a feasibility study for a Capital Campaign. Earlier this year, LDA completed their feasibility study to determine if our parish would be able to raise adequate funds to support the renovation and building project that was proposed by DLA+ last year.

As you may recall, a multi-phased project was proposed by DLA+ that would restore the interior of Saint Anne Church and install an elevator from the church downstairs to Harkins Hall which would be reconfigured into several smaller accessible meeting rooms for various ministries and organizations. The capital project would culminate with the demolition of the current rectory and the new construction of a Parish Center housing a large multi-use hall and parish offices.

The Lynch Development feasibility report recommends that our parish a Capital Campaign initiate this year to raise \$3 – 3.5 million to be collected over several years. Additionally, at this point, the parish has secured the necessary permissions from the Diocese of Pittsburgh to conduct the campaign directed by LDA.

The hope is that the funds raised through the campaign, coupled with the proceeds from last year's sale of the former Saint Anne School building, and the anticipated sale of much of the Saint Winifred property to the South Hills Catholic Academy, will enable our parish to realize the goals outlined above.

While there are still a lot of moving parts to this whole endeavor – and plans may have to be revised depending on the amount we raise and the price of the project –but the Pastoral and Finance Councils are optimistic that by starting in the near future, these dreams of moving Forward in Hope will soon become a reality.



"Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all." ~Aristotle

Living Catholic:
RESOURCES FOR THE MIND AND HEART

There is a plethora of excellent Catholic resources to be discovered online and in print. Whether you are new to the faith or well "seasoned," here are a few suggestions to get you started, advance your knowledge, and care for your soul.

Online

Institute of Catholic Culture

A treasure trove of live events, lecture, courses, webinars, study tools, Gospel reflections, and more. Over 1,000 hours of recorded Catholic content. All for free. No exceptions.

instituteofcatholicculture.org

Science of Sainthood

An excellent series of video courses and Scripture lessons that will walk you step-by-step down the path to sainthood. Founded by Matthew Leonard. Paid subscription.

www.scienceofsainthood.com

St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology

The research and educational institute run by Scott Hahn offering numerous free and paid resources.

stpaulcenter.com

FORMED.org

A massive volume of Catholic content from more than 60 organizations helping individuals, families and parishes explore and deepen their faith. **Go to formed.org : Select Sign up > Sign up as a parishioner > Type St. Paul of the Cross > Select and click Next > Register with name and email.**

Books

Twelve books that will magnify your spirit and bring justice to any home library:

Catechism of the Catholic Church

Christian Prayer:
The Liturgy of the Hours

The Confessions
St. Augustine

Imitation of Christ
Thomas à Kempis

The Interior Castle
St. Teresa of Avila

The Story of a Soul
St. Therese of Lisieux

The Collected Works of
St. John of the Cross

The Light of Christ
Fr. Thomas Joseph White, O.P.

Theology and Sanity
Frank Sheed

Summa of the Summa
Peter Kreeft

Three Ages of the Interior Life
Fr. Reginald Garrigou-LaGrange O.P.

The Divine Comedy
Dante

find stylish,
supportive
shoes that will
fit your little
one perfectly
at Stride Rite
Pittsburgh.



4000 Oxford Drive, Bethel
Park, PA 15102

(412) 854-4322

@StrideRitePittsburgh



**Remember to register
your K-8 children
in Faith Formation**

*"All your children shall be
taught by the Lord, and
great shall be the peace of
your children"*

Isaiah 54:13



**Classes begin in
September**

**Monday evenings from 5-6pm
at South Hills Catholic Academy**

To register:

Visit the parish website under
the "Religious Education" tab
or call 412-631-3131

Saint Paul of the Cross Parish and South Hills Catholic Academy

 **THE LIFE OF A SAINT:
Saint Gemma Galgani**

*"Lift yourself
up to Him,
who has lowered
Himself to you."*

– St. Gemma Galgani

St. Gemma Galgani was the spiritual daughter of our parish's patron, St. Paul of the Cross. She was an Italian mystic often referred to as the "Daughter of Passion," for her intense replication of the Passion of Christ. She was born on March 12, 1878, in a small Italian town near Lucca.

At a very young age, Gemma developed a love for prayer, and always had a smile for everyone. Unfortunately, her chronically ill health forced her to quit school before finishing. Throughout her life, Gemma had many mystical experiences and received many special graces. These were often misunderstood by others, causing ridicule. She accepted these heartaches as reparation for her own sins and the sins of others, remembering that Our Lord had also been misunderstood and ridiculed.

At only 19 years old, Gemma became the mother-figure for her seven brothers and sisters until they were old enough to take over the responsibility. At that time, two young men actually proposed marriage to her, however, she refused. She desired to pray and speak only to God.


Returning home, Gemma became very ill with meningitis and feeling herself tempted by the devil, Gemma prayed for help to the Venerable Passionist, Gabriel Possenti, and through his intercession, was miraculously cured.

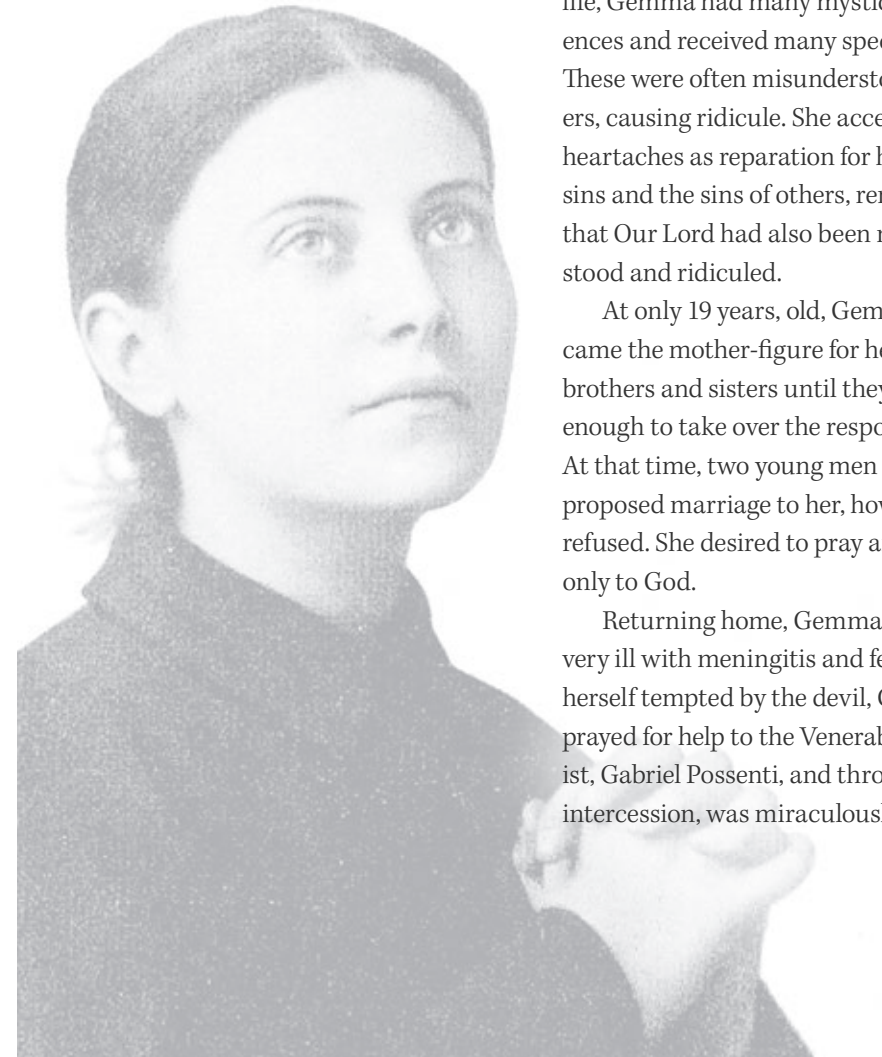
On June 8, 1899, Gemma had an internal impulse that some unusual grace was to be granted to her. She felt pain and blood coming from her hands, feet and heart. These were the marks of the stigmata which refer to the appearance of the wounds of the crucified Jesus Christ that appear on the bodies of some men and women whose lives are so conformed to His that they reflect these wounds as redemptive love for others.

Each Thursday evening, Gemma would fall into rapture and the marks would appear. They remained until Friday afternoon or Saturday morning when the bleeding would stop and the wounds would close – leaving only white marks in place of the deep gashes. The white marks remained on her skin until her death.

In 1903, Gemma was diagnosed with tuberculosis. At the start of Holy Week that year, she began suffering greatly and died on Holy Saturday, April 11 at age 25. The Parish Priest in her company said, "She died with a smile which remained upon her lips, so that I could not convince myself that she was really dead."

Gemma's life-long desire to become a Passionist nun was thwarted because of her continued poor health but she offered this disappointment to God as a sacrifice. Her prediction that the Passionists would establish a monastery at Lucca came to pass just two years after her death.

Today, Gemma's relics remain at that same Passionist monastery in Lucca. 



A.T. Merhaut

Supplying quality religious goods and vesture since 1960.

(724) 443-5830

4684 William Flynn Hwy
Allison Park, PA 15101

Conveniently located on Route 8 in Allison Park
Just 1 mile south of exit 39 on the turnpike.

Visit us online: www.merhaut.com
and Facebook: facebook.com/ATMerhaut



THE ANNUAL PARISH WOMENS' RETREAT took place over the weekend of March 25th-27th at the newly renovated St. Paul of the Cross Retreat Center. Ten women attended this year to participate in programs and workshops centered on the theme of Finding Lasting Peace and Serenity in Christ. We also had several first time attendees this year who all agreed it was an excellent Lenten experience and look forward to joining us on retreat in the future.

OUR SYNOD SESSION

On March 7, parishioners gathered in the Convent Dining Room on the St. Anne Campus to answer the call of Pope Francis to advise him on discerning God's mission for the Church.

In the small-group breakout sessions participants discussed five core questions and ten fundamental topics relative to our parish community, our diocese, and the universal Church. The two-hour session was enthusiastically embraced by all, leading to a Spirit-led and spirited conversation.

Nearly one hundred such sessions were held throughout the diocese with summaries forwarded to Bishop Zubik to help him prepare for the Global Synod in 2023.

Thank you to all who participated!



Fr. Richard Infante Mike Aquilina Chris Chapman

**MARCH 3, 2022
LENTEN SPEAKER SERIES**

This Lent, three speakers shared points of reflection in preparation for Easter. **Senior Parochial Vicar, Fr. Richard Infante** led the speaker's series off discussing "The Family at the Center of Our Faith." Recognized author and long-time **EWTN television personality, Mike Aquilina**, followed with his thoughts on "The Call to Holiness and the Problem of Clericalism." **Seton LaSalle High School Religion Teacher and former Diocese of Pittsburgh Director for Religious Education, Chris Chapman**, closed out the series discussing "Our Lady of Fatima and the Call to Prayer and Penance."

NEWLY BAPTIZED

- Elizabeth Etta Vicinie.....June 27, 2021
- Briggs Benjamin Lea.....June 27, 2021
- Claire Elizabeth ChambersJuly 11, 2021
- Scarlett MacLean CornellAugust 1, 2021
- Alexander Paul Shenal.....August 8, 2021
- Lyla Marie Sacunas.....August 15, 2021
- Claire Joan Todd.....August 22, 2022
- Eleanor Marie O'Connor.....August 28, 2021
- Savannah Lynne Grab.....September 5, 2021
- Lily Ann Welsch.....September 12, 2021
- Isabella Marie Rowe.....September 12, 2021
- Isaac Louis Whitfield.....September 19, 2021
- Liam James McGartland.....October 3, 2021
- Bryson Matthew Aggazio.....October 10, 2021
- Peter Anthony Smythers.....October 17, 2021
- Kensley Theresa Sakolsky.....October 24, 2021
- Valentino Francis Palastro.....November 7, 2021
- Noah Robert Smith.....November 14, 2021
- Violet Deborah Zajac.....November 28, 2021
- Oliver George Totin.....December 5, 2021
- Colin Michael Scheerer.....December 19, 2021
- Joseph Robert Sirianni.....January 2, 2022
- Josephine Marie Luckey.....January 2, 2022
- Maia Valentina Strinden.....January 9, 2022
- Eric Dean Strinden.....January 9, 2022
- Lucas Daniel Strinden.....January 9, 2022
- Joanna Vera Kaminski.....January 15, 2022
- Hannah Elizabeth Kiefer.....January 22, 2022
- Weston Thomas Boss.....March 6, 2022
- Christian Thomas Boss.....March 6, 2022
- Theodore James Frantz.....March 6, 2022
- Cassidy Jade Bushmire.....April 3, 2022
- Sloan Virginia Fritz.....April 16, 2022
- Donald Leslie Fritz.....April 16, 2022
- Emmett Charleston Joyce.....April 24, 2022
- Noah Patrick Dukes.....April 30, 2022
- Jason Christopher Dukes.....April 30, 2022
- Anthony Robert Dukes.....April 30, 2022
- Mason James Kraszewski.....May 8, 2022
- Lucy Rae Horan.....May 14, 2022
- Logan Andrew Coholic.....May 15, 2022
- Iris Ann Rombach.....May 22, 2022
- Liliana Laura Ranella.....June 5, 2022
- Colin William Fusco.....June 12, 2022
- William Gerald Klesta.....June 19, 2022
- Benjamin Zappala Waldron.....June 26, 2022

FIRST COMMUNION MAY 2022



- | | | | |
|------------------|---------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Htet Aung | Charlotte Gilmore | Isabelle Martin | Ivan Selvoski |
| Michael Barker | Joshua Greenfield | Evelyn McNeely | Vincent Semplice |
| Sophia Blume | Bradley Guth | Kiera McNeely | Fiona Sibbo |
| Nicholas Bofo | Lila Howell | Cylas Murla | Elliot Spratt |
| Leila Brownlee | Jason Hughes | Viet Nguyen | Eric Strinden |
| Santina Buchanan | Christopher Killang | Tuan Nguyen | Maia Strinden |
| Rosalyn Calabro | Avery Kish | Kamila Norkevicus | Emma Thomas |
| Kinley Cornell | Leia Krupp | Wesley Nowicki | Jonah Thornton |
| Rosalind Curtis | Mitchell Lenigan | Zachary Paolicelli | Jada Truan |
| Carmelina Danley | Caitlin Lentz | Finnan Pisaniello | Michael Turkalj |
| Aubree Elliot | Charlotte Lewis | Luke Poppert | Talia Villani |
| Aiden Fleming | Sara Lieu | Aiden Reilly | Jase Weigold |
| Jack Gallagher | Miley Madden | Juliana Roman | Emma Wright |
| Ainsley Genis | Jacob Madl | Margaret Rowland | Alexander Wright |
| Tommy Gilmore | Cecilia Maegle | Jeffrey Selvoski | |

NEWLY CONFIRMED

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Gabriella Gracie Balkovec | Tyler Joseph Pirain |
| Moira Kenny Clougherty | William Robertson V |
| Mary Michelle Connell | Dominic Michael Routh |
| Flora Angeline DeFalco | Mathew Paul Sommer |
| Nathan Ambrose Disori | Elena Catherine Tatel |
| Alaina Nicole Dorin | Claire Morgan Tierney |
| Emily Elizabeth Gallagher | Allison Mae Vo |
| Andrew Joseph Hartung | Leon Patrick Vo |
| Jack Clyde Hrivnak | Michael Patrick Vogel |
| Pierce Andrew Latona | David Jesse Weidaw |
| Noah William Mathias | Timothy Burton Wolfe |
| Esther Mary McMahon | |
| Bennington Ethan Neill | |
| Brian Robert Opferman | |



RCIA CANDIDATES
April 16, 2022

- Donald Leslie Fritz
- Meredith Lee Benson

 **RECENT EVENTS** (continued)



NEWLY MARRIED

September 24, 2021
Nicholas Alan Boeggeman married
Nichole Michelle DeFazio

September 25, 2021
Steven Michael Franceschi married
Kelly Lynn Sakanich

October 2, 2021
Anthony Michael DeLisio married
Samantha Ann Ricci

October 15, 2021
Justin Charles Kovic married
Taylor Marie Hughes

October 16, 2021
Aaron Matthew Plopi married
Hillary Bridget Boxheimer

November 13, 2021
Adam Franco Nero married
Stephanie Lynn Reilly

December 11, 2021
Sebastian Augusto Cencich married
Emma Elizabeth Hartzell

March 4, 2022
Matthew Thomas Dahle married
Victoria Lynn Woods

April 9, 2022
Steven Anthony Manna, Jr. married
Samantha Lee Rosenthal

April 22, 2022
Raymond Paul Immekus married
Maria Grace Costanza

April 23, 2022
Kevin Matthew Marculaitis married
Theresa Louise Nee

April 24, 2022
Andrew Elias Joyce married
Melissa Lynn Burrell

May 28, 2022
Alexander Dale Johnson married
Kelsey Elizabeth Austin

June 11, 2022
Benjamin Donald Falcone married
Haley Elise Schepis



CHURCH & MINISTRY-SPONSORED EVENTS

- August 13** Women's Guild Trunk Sale
- September 8** Weekly Eucharistic Adoration returns to Saint Winifred
- September 19** March for Life bus trip to Harrisburg, PA
- October 6-8** Catholic Men's Fellowship Retreat at Ave Maria Retreat Center
- October 2** Pet Blessing at Saint Anne Campus
- November 20** Organ Renovation Concert in Saint Anne Church



August 28

YOUTH EVENTS

- August 28** Welcome Mass for South Hills Catholic Academy families at Saint Winifred Church
- September 1** South Hills Catholic Academy first day of school
- September 26** First meeting of Faith Formation
- October 29** Confirmation in Saint Anne Church



September 14

ADULT EVENTS

- September 14** The Miraculous Shroud of Turin: Presented by David Onsko
- November 1** Purgatory: The Forgotten Church (Movie Presentation)
- TBD** Weekday Morning Bible Study: The Bible and the Virgin Mary (a FORMED series)
- TBD** Weekday Evening Adult Education offering: Who Am I to Judge? Responding to Relativism with Logic and Love (a FORMED series)
- TBD** Advent Reflection Series: Dates & Times TBA



November 20

Do you want to help Pittsburgh Moms?

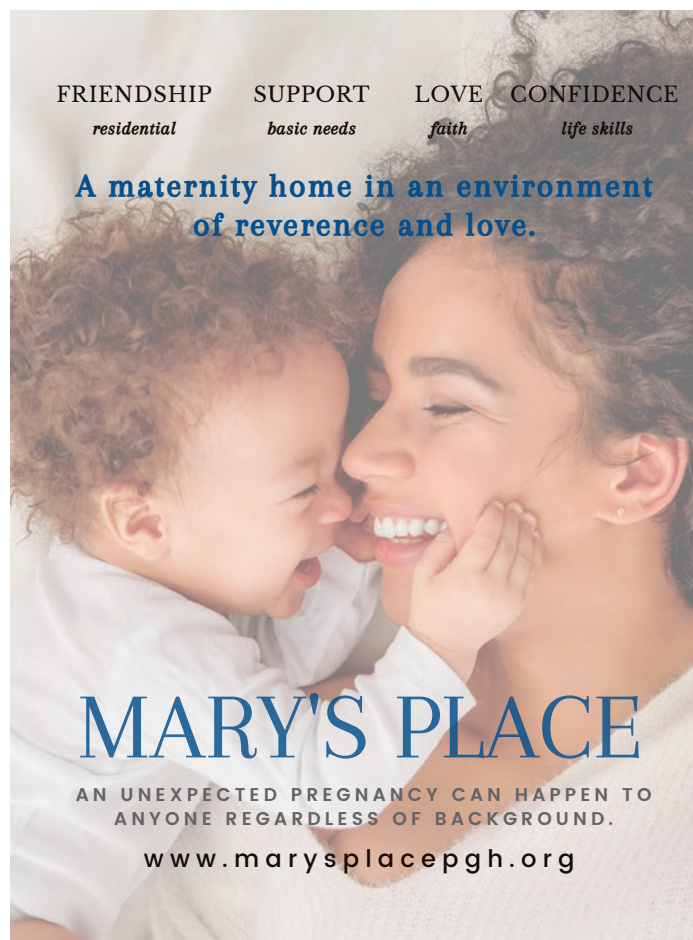


JOIN THE
**ST. PAUL OF THE CROSS
RESPECT LIFE GROUP**

CALL KATHY @412-344-9690

FRIENDSHIP SUPPORT LOVE CONFIDENCE
residential basic needs faith life skills

A maternity home in an environment of reverence and love.



MARY'S PLACE

AN UNEXPECTED PREGNANCY CAN HAPPEN TO ANYONE REGARDLESS OF BACKGROUND.

www.marysplacepgh.org



SAINT PAUL OF THE CROSS PARISH

400 Hoodridge Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15234
(412) 531-5964

www.stpaulofthecross.com

NON PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PITTSBURGH, PA
PERMIT NO. 2472



Prayer to St. Michael

St. Michael the Archangel
defend us in battle.
Be our protection against
the wickedness and snares
of the Devil.
May God rebuke him,
we humbly pray, and do Thou,
O' Prince of the Heavenly Host,
by the divine power of God,
cast into Hell Satan
and all the evil spirits
that roam throughout the world
seeking the ruin of souls.
Amen.