



Holy Child Church
240 S Main St, Mansfield, PA



Reverend Bryan B. Wright,
Pastor



Saint Mary of Częstochowa Church
144 St Mary's St, Blossburg, PA

WEEKEND MASSES
SATURDAY 4:00 PM, SUNDAY 11:15 AM

WEEKEND MASS
SUNDAY 9:00 AM

32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME November 12, 2023



PARISH RECTORY OFFICE HOURS
Monday, Tuesday, Friday: 9:30am - 2:30pm
Cemetery Business Hours: By Appointment
237 S. Main St, Mansfield, PA 16933
Phone: 570-662-3568 Fax: 570-662-2113
Email: hlychild@ptd.net

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

United with the Pope, we the members of Holy Child Parish seek to be a welcoming church, which fosters spiritual development and expresses charity by living in word and deed the life of Christ. Under the leadership of the bishop, our goals are to implement effective ministries through word, worship, and the sacraments, to enhance the spiritual growth of our parish family, and to encourage, through works of love and faith, the unity of the Church.

SACRAMENTS

Baptism: Please call the Parish Office to schedule a meeting with the Pastor and to schedule the ceremony.

Reconciliation: Confessions are heard on:

Saturdays: 2:15-3:00 pm Holy Child Church
First Fridays: 9:00-10:00 am Holy Child Church
First Saturdays: 10:00-11:00 am Saint Mary's Church
By appointment: please contact the Parish Office.

Matrimony: Couples should contact their Pastor at least six months before the planned wedding date.

Anointing of the Sick: Anointing and Holy Communion are available to the infirm and homebound. Please contact the Parish Office to arrange a visit.

New Parishioners: Welcome to Holy Child Parish! New parishioners are asked to register by contacting the Parish Office. Registration is a requirement for admission to our religious education programs and for reception of the Sacraments of Baptism, First Reconciliation, Confirmation, and Matrimony.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Saint Mary's:

8:30 am Sunday

11:30 am Monday & Tuesday

Holy Child:

10:45 am Sunday

5:15 pm Thursday

8:00 am Friday

3:00 pm Saturday



PARISH CONTACTS

Financial Secretary: Darlene Buck 570-662-3568

Secretary: Cara Clementi 570-662-3568

Cemeteries Manager: Cleo Warren 570-662-3568

Director of Religious Education: Darlene Buck 570-540-1332
catholic.dre.holychild@gmail.com

Good Neighbors: Tom Wierbowski 570-404-3028

Good Samaritans: Parish Office 570-662-3568

Health Ministry: Dotty Welsh 570-662-2057

Knights of Columbus, MU Council:

Scott DiMarco, Grand Knight, srdimarco@hotmail.com

Knights of Columbus, Blossburg Council:

Jim Weiskopff 570-662-7133

Ladies Guild: Patty Hutcheson 570-662-2034

Medical Equipment Loaning: Dotty Welsh 570-662-2057

"Spare a Prayer" Prayer Chain:

Maryjane Seifried

570-549-7550

seifriedmaryjane@gmail.com

Dotty Welsh

570-662-2057

dhjrw@ptd.net

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: Parish Office 662-3568

St. Mary's Hall: 570-638-2783; Holy Child Hall: 570-662-9996

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

~ prior to all Masses ~



MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Saturday, November 11 *Saint Martin of Tours, Bishop*
VIGIL, 32ND SUNDAY, ORDINARY TIME

4:00 pm, Holy Child: † Kaleigh Diehl (by Ann & Andrew Kulick)

Sunday, November 12 **32ND SUNDAY, ORDINARY TIME**

9:00 am, St. Mary's: † August Steve Hurban
(by Doug & Kathy Draxler)

11:15 am, Holy Child: † Parishioners

Monday, November 13 *Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini, Virgin*

12:10 pm, Holy Child: † John Pida (by Anna Bogaczyk & Family)

Tuesday, November 14 **Weekday**

12:10 pm, St. Mary's: † Jack & Agnes Worden (by The Family)

Wednesday, November 15 *Saint Albert the Great, Bishop,*

No Mass *Doctor of the Church*

Thursday, November 16 *St. Margaret of Scotland, St. Gertrude*

6:00 pm, Holy Child: † Marion Walkins (by Dawn Egan)

Friday, November 17 *Saint Elizabeth of Hungary, Religious*

8:30 am, Holy Child: † Bob Swinsick (by daughter, Jackie)

Saturday, November 18 *Dedication of Basilica of Sts. Peter & Paul*

VIGIL, 33RD SUNDAY, ORDINARY TIME

4:00 pm, Holy Child: † Parishioners

Sunday, November 19 **33RD SUNDAY, ORDINARY TIME**

9:00 am, St. Mary's: † John & Veronica Manikowski
(by The Family)

11:15 am, Holy Child: † Charlene Ploucha (by Paul & Adam)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

SATURDAYS—2:15 PM—HOLY CHILD CHURCH

FIRST FRIDAYS—9:00 AM—HOLY CHILD CHURCH

FIRST SATURDAYS—10:00 AM—SAINT MARY'S CHURCH



*The Sanctuary Light burns to remind us of the
Real Presence of Christ reserved in the tabernacle.*

Sanctuary Light Intentions, Week of November 12–18:

Saint Mary's: † Parishioners

Holy Child: The Clementi-Augustine Family

Contact the Parish Office for a Sanctuary Light intention.

PARISH OFFERINGS RECEIVED OCT 30 –NOV 5, 2023

Sunday Envelopes	\$4,458.00
All Saints	854.00
Loose	819.00
Candles	37.00
Fuel	35.00
Thanksgiving	30.00
Christmas flowers	30.00
Christmas	10.00
Total:	\$6,273.00
Cemetery Maintenance	57.00
Care & Education of Priests	51.00

Thank you for your ongoing support!

PRAYER LIST

PLEASE PRAY... We pray, always, for deceased parishioners, family, friends, and benefactors. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. For those serving our country: Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families in our time of need. For those who need special prayers:

* Charles Chamberlain	* Christopher Mortensen
* Richard Faber	* Richard Niemczyk
* Bernice Frederick	* Ethel Sandstrom
* Catherine Gallagher	* Lori Sherant
* Tom MacBlane	* Kenneth Simpson
* Tony Lupkowski	* Yolanda Tacka
* Jane Mahonski	

We ask this in the name of Jesus our Lord and Savior. Amen.



To request prayer for someone due to sudden illness, upcoming surgery, hospital stay, or those experiencing a hardship, please contact the Parish Office. To respect our parishioners' privacy, please ask and specify if their names are to be put in the bulletin, added to the prayer chain, or both.

"SPARE A PRAYER" PRAYER CHAIN

Contact: Maryjane Seifried at seifriedmaryjane@gmail.com or 549-7550 or Dotty Welsh at dhjrw@ptd.net or 662-2057.

Our Lord is always listening.

Please pray for our recently deceased.

**Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace. Amen**



Eugene Fessler

James Parnick, Sr.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Sun 11/12	Wis 6:12-16	Ps 63:2-8	1 Thes 4:13-18
			Mt 25:1-13
Mon 11/13	Wis 1:1-7	Ps 139:1-10	Lk 17:1-6
Tue 11/14	Wis 2:23-3:9	Ps 34:2-3,16-19	Lk 17:7-10
Wed 11/15	Wis 6:1-11	Ps 82:3-4,6-7	Lk 17:11-19
Thu 11/16	Wis 7:22b-8:1	Ps 119:89-91,130,135,175	Lk 17:20-25
Fri 11/17	Wis 13:1-9	Ps 19:2-5	Lk 17:26-37
Sat 11/18	Wis 18:14-16;19:6-9	Ps 105:2-3,36-37,42-43	Lk 18:1-8
Sun 11/19	Prv 31:10-13,19-20,30-31	Ps 128:1-5	1 Thes 5:1-6
			Mt 25:14-30

THOU SHALT NOT ~~KILL~~ COMMIT MURDER

Last Sunday, our Confirmandi had some questions about the Fifth Commandment... ***Are soldiers in war guilty of mortal sin?*** This question has some nuance, even in Catholic theology. It is not a sin to take the life of an aggressor, in defense of self or others. A “Just War” is defined as a defensive war against grave evil and is fought because peaceful options have been exhausted. A Godly soldier avoids wanton destruction and thus avoids the mortal sin of murder *if* they engage in combat righteously and justly—that is, if they do their duty to avoid innocent death.

What about snipers (or any preemptive attack on an enemy soldier)? Some view this as unjust because it fails to give a “fighting chance” to the enemy. However, a preemptive attack—whether a sniper shot or an ambush—may still be in defense of life from an aggressor. For example, many such operations are carried out to prevent mines from being planted in civilian areas, villages from being victimized, and bases from being set up in areas that would increase civilian casualties.

Unfortunately, modern law often departs vastly from the Commandments laid out for us by God. Many countries outlaw self defense and allow murder of the unborn.

Why is it permissible to put an animal to sleep to save it from suffering? Why are we not allowed to assist in a “merciful” death of a loved one? God gave us authority over animals, to use them for food and companionship, and to manage their populations. We are expected to be merciful to the animals under our care and to provide a swift, painless end, if possible. We are *not* granted the same authority over humans... whether we are motivated by violence *or* mercy...

As the Confirmandi astutely pointed out, we never know God’s plan. Maybe He intends to perform a miracle. Maybe we aren’t actually near death. We should view suffering as a gift that draws us closer to Christ by sharing in his suffering. As difficult as ***redemptive suffering*** is to grasp or accept, it is important that we—and those close to us—look to Christ and pray to grow in understanding and respect for the possibility of good to come of our suffering, so that we are spiritually strengthened in times of sickness and dying. We can offer our suffering for the souls in purgatory. We are *not* required to suffer *heroically* (when relief is available), but it is sinful to intentionally hasten death via dehydration or medication beyond what is required for pain relief.

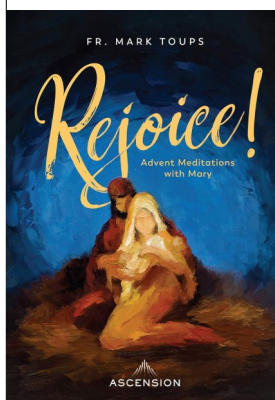
So, both suicide and assisted suicide (“euthanasia” or “death with dignity”) are considered mortal sins... is one worse than the other? This is a very nuanced subject because it depends on each person’s particular circumstances. The Catechism is clear that, for *mortal* sin, these “three conditions must together be met”: (1) “grave matter,” (2) “full knowledge,” and (3) “deliberate consent” (CCC 1857). Those who commit or assist in suicide may not be capable of consent due to the extreme emotional stress experienced at the time.

If murder is already a mortal sin, why does getting or assisting someone to get an abortion carry an excommunication? Jesus tells us that causing harm to children is one of the most heinous sins. Saying “Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone hung around his neck and be drowned in the depths of the sea.” (Matthew 17:6) ***What is excommunication?*** Excommunication is when we are censured from taking part in the communion of believers, the rites and sacraments of the church, and the rights of church membership, but is *not* removed from membership itself. It is not a banishment, but a “medicinal penalty” intended to invite the person to change behavior, repent, and return to full communion with the Church.

I continue to humbly try to reach these young members of our church. They *do* have questions, but modern society has quashed any comfort a child should have expressing their thoughts and concerns. Please pray for our Confirmandi to feel comfortable enough to ask questions and engage in dialog, and pray for me, brothers and sisters, that I may be able to answer them with the wisdom and grace necessary to keep them at home in the Church. ✠ Your Brother in Christ, ~Z. Buck (catechist)

MARIAN MINISTRIES

REJOICE! ADVENT BOOK STUDY



This book takes readers through the four weeks of Advent in the company of Mary. The reflections are simple but thought-provoking.

As in the past, we’ll form an online community for sharing and discussion. This year, Advent begins on **Sunday, December 3rd.**

Books will be provided. If you would like to join this prayer and study group, use the sign-up sheets in our churches or email Marian Ministries by **Monday, November**

20th at marian-ministries@outlook.com. For more information, call or text Linda Sampson at 570-404-2180.

LIVING ROSARY CELEBRATION

A lovely celebration of the Living Rosary took place last Saturday at St. Mary’s. The morning included Mass, Adoration, Benediction, and Confessions, followed by a social in St. Mary’s Hall. All parishioners are welcome to join our growing First Saturday family!



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 **Special Occasions**
Florist

Stop in to see
Nancy Furlong & Michele Sargent
15 N. Main Street, Mansfield, PA 16933
570-662-ROSE (7673)

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9:00 am - 6:30 pm
Closed on Sunday
Lunch 11-1 pm - Dinners 4 pm-Sold Out
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THE CATHOLIC CURRENT
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and the World to Christ.
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Fr. Robert McTeigue, S.J.
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<https://thestationofthecross.com/programs/the-catholic-current/>

Reminder for Funerals...

Eulogies are permitted during:


- ♦Funeral home vigil services
- ♦Graveside committal services
- ♦Luncheons after Funeral Masses


Eulogies are not permitted during
Funeral Masses (CCC1688). Thank you.

Book Recommendation
from Father Bryan...


A Church in Crisis:
Pathways Forward
By Ralph Martin

*May the Sacred
Heart of Jesus be
praised, adored, and
glorified throughout
the whole world, now
and forever. Amen.*



 **The Blessed**
Sacrament is
reserved in the
Tabernacle.

Please help to maintain a prayerful
SILENCE AND REVERENCE

 **Food**
Pantry

The local food
pantries need
our donations of
non-perishable
items.

Collection bins are in both churches.
Thank you for your support!

Your Ad
Here!

Please contact the
Parish Office.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



Nov 12: Bible Study: *End Times* (part 6/8), 12:30 HC Hall
 Nov 14: Ladies Guild, 6:00 pm, Holy Child Hall
 Nov 16: Knights of Columbus, 6:00 pm, Holy Child
 Nov 19: Bible Study: *End Times* (part 7/8), 12:30 HC Hall
 Nov 23: Parish Thanksgiving Dinner (reservations due 11/20)
 Dec 3: Family Advent Wreath-Making, 10am, Holy Child
 Dec 3: Bible Study: *End Times* (part 8/8), 12:30 HC Hall
 Dec 3: Knights of Columbus, 6:30 pm, Holy Child Hall
 Dec 6: Health Ministry, 10:30 am, Holy Child Hall
 Dec 10: Special Lectio: Our Lady of Guadalupe, by Cathy Asbury, 12:30 pm, Holy Child Hall
 Dec 12: Ladies Guild Dinner, 6:00 pm, Lambs Creek Inn
 Dec 21: Knights of Columbus Assembly, 6pm, Holy Child

GOBBLE UP THE CASH RAFFLE

Tickets & donations due in the collection /

Parish Office by this weekend!

Drawing: Tuesday, November 14th!



Thank you for supporting our Parish!

MUSIC · MEDITATION · PRAYER

LOCATION: QUEEN OF THE APOSTLES PARISH
 715 HAWTHORNE STREET, AVOCA, PA

DATE: NOVEMBER 26 TIME: 7:00 PM

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
 BEGINS AFTER 10 AM MASS

CONTACT: RECTORY #570-457-3412



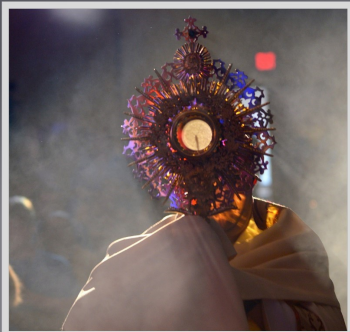
MARK FORREST
 IRISH TENOR

MARKFORREST.COM

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Sponsored by the Diocesan Offices for Parish Life and Vocations

GUEST SPEAKER: DR. CHRIS HAW, UNIVERSITY OF SCRANTON



Thursday,
 December 7th

7:00 PM

St. Maria Goretti Church
 42 Redwood Drive - Laflin

SPEAKER, RECONCILIATION,
 AND SOCIAL.

Community Thanksgiving Dinner

You're invited!

Thursday, November 23rd

Holy Child Hall

HOLY CHILD PARISH ANNUAL COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER

Volunteers are needed for this special event. If you'd like to help in any way please fill out the volunteer form below and drop it in the collection basket or call the office.

JOIN US FOR DINNER!

Please fill out the reservation form below and drop it in the collection basket or call the office if you would like to eat with us from 12-2 or prefer to pick-up your meal. For the homebound, delivery is available to the Mansfield, Covington and Blossburg areas.

RESERVATIONS DUE BY MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20TH.

YES! I/we would like to volunteer for Thanksgiving dinner.

NAME: _____

Phone #: _____

____ make a dessert (please bring to HolyChildHall by 9am Thanksgiving morning. Door will be unlocked during business hours on Wednesday as well.)

____ prepare for dinner ____ (8-10) ____ (10-12)

____ deliver meals (arrive by 10:30)

____ serve 12-2

____ clean-up starting at 2 PM

YES! I/we would like to join you for Thanksgiving dinner.

NAME: _____

Phone: _____

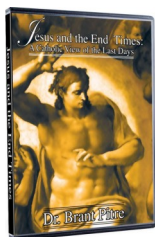
in party: _____

____ dine-in

____ pick-up (11 - 11:30)

____ delivery

Delivery address: _____



BIBLE STUDY: *JESUS & THE END TIMES;* *A CATHOLIC VIEW OF THE LAST DAYS*

Have you ever wondered what the Bible teaches about the End of Time? Many Catholics have heard of “the Rapture”, the “Antichrist”, and the Second Coming, but are unsure exactly what to believe. The Catholic Church has very explicit teachings about these topics. What is the meaning of Jesus’ prophecies of tribulation and the coming of the Son of Man? Are we in the “end times” now? Why did Jesus prophecy the destruction of the Temple, and how does it relate to the End of the World? Why is the Protestant belief in a secret “Rapture” a dangerous belief? What does the Bible teach about the coming of the Antichrist? What will the Final Judgment be like, and how will we be judged? These and many more questions will be answered in this 8-part series—surely Dr. Pitre’s most fascinating Bible study yet! Join us on Sunday, November 12th after the 11:15am Mass for part 6.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION: LA VIRGEN DE GUADALUPE

If you’ve never heard (or don’t recall) the amazing story of Our Lady of Guadalupe, you might’ve seen her incredible image. The details behind this apparition by Our Lady are even more beautiful and miraculous. Please join us for refreshments and a special presentation by Cathy Asbury on Sunday, **December 10th, following the 11:15 Mass.** You will gain a new appreciation and love for Our Lady and her gifts to us at Guadalupe... just in time for her Feast Day!



THIS WEEK ON **FORMED**

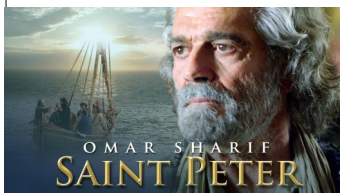
WEEK OF NOVEMBER 12, 2023

PAUL THE APOSTLE | THE BIBLE COLLECTION



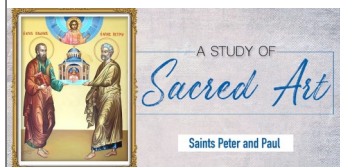
The church’s greatest enemy became Christ’s most prolific messenger. Beautifully shot in the Moroccan desert, a sweeping saga of the man who brought the Gospel to the Western world.

SAINT PETER



Watch the epic story of the spread of Christianity during the early years of the Church. This film follows the journey of St. Peter through his martyrdom on a cross.

SAINTS PETER AND PAUL



Join Dr. Ben Akers and Taylor Kemp to expand your knowledge of sacred art. In this episode, they discuss an icon depicting Saints Peter and Paul.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription!
To set up your free account, visit signup.formed.org and use zip code 16933 to search for and select our parish.

VETERANS WALL OF HONOR

Would you like to add a veteran? Please submit name, branch of service, rank, & when they served or in what war to the Parish Office.



Ladies Guild

NEW MEETING TIME:

6:00 pm

Second Tuesday of Each Month

STRONG VOLUNTEERS NEEDED...

...to lift heavy trays and pans of food for Funeral Lunches. Contact Patty Hutcheson at 570-662-2034. Thank you!

HEALTH MINISTRY NOTES

How time flies.....! Have you ever stopped to wonder at the advances and changes that have occurred just in your lifetime? I often think of my grandmother who saw the world go through two world wars, a Great Depression, and the four terms of FDR. She went from driving a team of horses to market on Saturday to driving the first truck in the area, of course with no seatbelts or child safety seats. Going from telephone operators, to party lines on rotary phones to push button phones to cell phones and computers. In spite all of the technology advances and the turn of a new century, one thing remained the same the customs and traditions of the holiday season. As the holidays approach, pass on those special traditions, foods and memories to the next generation. Start a new tradition within your family to include those less fortunate, those in nursing homes and those spending the upcoming holidays alone. Spread the love and joy of the season to all and as tiny Tim is often quoted to say, “God bless us, everyone.”



MANSFIELD SHOE BANK (First United Methodist Church of Mansfield, 67 E. Wellsboro St) requests financial donations. Thank you!



CHRISTLIFE™

DISCOVERING CHRIST
SEARCHING FOR MORE?

Join us in the Parish Center at St. Peter’s in Wellsboro **Wednesdays from October 4th—November 15th** from 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm for **Discovering Christ**. Come for a free delicious dinner, great conversation, an engaging talk, and the chance to share your thoughts and opinions about Jesus, Christianity, and the meaning of life. To learn more or to register, contact Norb @ 570-724-9095 / norb.josten@gmail.com

SPIRITUAL ADOPTION—MONTH THREE

Your baby is quite active in the womb now-although his mother won’t feel him for another couple of months. If his mother’s womb had a window, you could watch your spiritually adopted baby squint, swallow, and move his tongue. He can make a tight fist if you touch his palm. He obtains the oxygen his body needs through the umbilical cord. The baby you are praying for weighs one ounce. What a miracle he is!

“Lord God, you are the author of life. We are in awe and wonder at this tiny life that is forming in the womb. We, the spiritual adoption prayer warriors ask for their health and safety.”

