



HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES

Blessings to all our Partner Parish family members who are celebrating a birthday this week: Tiffany Fanelli, Jennifer DeSimone, Angela Edwards, Tavius Dawson, Ryan Winkler, Joseph Ukish, Constance Pistininzi, Kyle Gyenes, Mark Hult, Carina Janetka, Lori Tamasy, Bethany Perfetta, John Grasinger

Happy Anniversary to all couples celebrating an anniversary this week: Mark & Judith Begeman



ST. MATTHEW ALTAR ROSARY SOCIETY invites you to join in prayer on Friday, January 18th (Pro-Life March) to pray the sorrowful mysteries of the Rosary. You may do so from home or work. We are hoping for pledges of 30 minutes per person. Pledge sheets are at the church entrances so you may fill in your name and time.

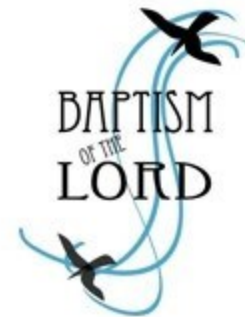
Christmas Poinsettias the majority of the Christmas poinsettias from all three parishes came from Feiling's Market in Avonmore. The large poinsettias at St. Sylvester's came from Jones Floral.



When using the social hall or meeting rooms at our partner parishes for any reason, it is your responsibility to clean up and return it to the order you found it. Thank you!

Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

Christmas time always ends with a feast in honor of the baptism of the Lord. This feast is celebrated on the Sunday after Epiphany, except when the Nativity of the Lord (Christmas) falls on a Sunday; then, in the United States of America, the Baptism of the Lord is transferred to a Monday. The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord proclaims a theophany, a revelation or manifestation of the divine Sonship of Jesus by his anointing and appointment to his messianic office. It is the feast that proclaims the Baptism that elevates believers to the status of sons and daughters of God. When Jesus came to the Jordan to be baptized, John the Baptist exclaimed: "I need to be baptized by you, and yet you are coming to me?" (Matthew 3:14). We might want to ask the same question. Why does Jesus come to be baptized? He is sinless; why does he need to receive John's baptism of repentance? Jesus answers, "It is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness" (Matthew 3:15). In other words, Jesus is baptized because this is God's plan for him—and for us. Jesus is baptized because we need Baptism. He opens the way for us, sanctifying the water, to wash away our sins.



Around the Diocese

March for Life - Friday, January 18th: Holy Family Church will take a bus to the March for Life in Washington, DC. Round trip cost is only \$25. Contact Shari Lewis to RSVP @ (724) 689-8967.

Christ the King Parish, Leechburg - will be holding a "King of Hearts" COSMIC BINGO on February 10, 2019 in the parish hall. Jackpot is \$1000! Minimum \$200 Bingo wins! Donation is \$30/card; extra cards are \$5 each—includes Bingo supplies, buffet & beverages. Doors open at 5:30 PM; Bingo starts at 7:00 PM. Call Franci @ 724-845-7360 or the parish office @ 724-845-8191. **Must be 21 or older.**

St. Ambrose
Avonmore

St. Matthew
Saltsburg

St. Sylvester
Slickville

PARTNER PARISHES OF THE DIOCESE OF GREENSBURG
A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust

January 13, 2019

Website: partnerparishesmas.org
A Warm Welcome to All

The Baptism of the Lord

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil:
5:00 PM—St. Ambrose

Sunday Masses
8:30 AM—St. Sylvester
11:00 AM—St. Matthew

Weekday Masses:
Mon.—8:30 AM, St. Sylvester
Tues.— 8:30 AM, St. Matthew
Fri.— 8:30 AM, St. Ambrose

PARISH OFFICES & HOURS

St. Ambrose, St. Matthew & St. Sylvester
P. O. Box 617
Avonmore, PA 15618

Monday—Friday
9:00 AM—1:00 PM

Phone: 724-697-4129
Fax: 724-697-4484

St. Matthew Church Hall:
724-639-9338

St. Sylvester Rectory
Phone: 724-468-5794
Fax and church hall:
724-468-5765

Our Mission Statement

The Partner Parishes of St. Ambrose, St. Matthew & St. Sylvester, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, are committed to be witnesses of Christ in our local and faith communities. We invite one another to grow in a spirit of friendship and unity through the Word and the Eucharist. While striving to nourish our faith families, we encourage Evangelization, Service, Worship, Stewardship, and Leadership.

PASTORAL STAFF

Reverend John Harrold, Pastor
jharrold@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Deacon Dan Frescura
dfrescura@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Virginia Long, Partner Parish Financial Secretary
vlong@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Angela Palmiscno, Partner Parish Secretary
apalmiscno@dioceseofgreensburg.org

Kristin Andree, Partner Parish Web Coordinator
krisandree@comcast.net

Grace Sikora, Coordinator of Faith Formation, St. Ambrose
724-697-5112 or Parish Office 724-697-4129

Jessica Clawson, Coordinator of Faith Formation, St. Matthew
jgallek@gmail.com

Knights of Columbus—Council #15373



Confessions: First Saturday of the month, 11:00-11:30 AM at St. Ambrose or by appointment with the Pastor.

Baptisms: Please contact the parish office to schedule a date and formation session..

Marriage: Please contact the office at least six months before the wedding date to schedule marriage preparation sessions..

Pastoral Care to the Homebound: Please contact the parish office..

Eucharistic Adoration: First Thursday of the month, 6-8:00 PM. All are welcome.

RCIA: If you or someone you know is interested in becoming Roman Catholic, please contact the parish office.

St. Vincent de Paul Hotline: Please contact the parish office. St. Vincent dePaul poor boxes are at entrances of all partner parishes.

Bulletin Deadline: Please submit bulletin information via email or in written form to Angela Palmiscno at the parish office by Wednesday noon.

Mass Intentions for the Week

| | DATE | PLACE | TIME | INTENTION | OFFERED BY |
|----------|------------|---------------|----------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Saturday | January 12 | St. Ambrose | 5:00 PM | For the Parishioners | |
| Sunday | January 13 | St. Sylvester | 8:30 AM | +Louis Novak, Jr. & Laverna Novak | (Al & Audrey Novak) |
| | January 13 | St. Matthew | 11:00 AM | +Iola Gasperini | (Gary & Janice Rossi) |
| Monday | January 14 | St. Sylvester | 8:30 AM | +August Palmiscno | (Louise Shawley) |
| Tuesday | January 15 | St. Matthew | 8:30 AM | +Theresa DeLuca | (St. Matthew Altar Rosary) |
| Friday | January 18 | St. Ambrose | 8:30 AM | +Louise DeForno | (Mary Ringle) |
| Saturday | January 19 | St. Ambrose | 5:00 PM | +Helen Garzone | (Pat Calandrella) |
| Sunday | January 20 | St. Sylvester | 8:30 AM | +John (Wallio) Perfetta | (Jean & Family) |
| | January 20 | St. Matthew | 11:00 AM | For the Parishioners | |

PARTNER PARISHES STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

Sunday Offertory: January 5-6

| | St. Ambrose | St. Matthew | St. Sylvester |
|----------------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|
| Weekly collection: | \$ 2,599.50 | \$ 1,809.40 | \$ 3,010.00 |
| Christmas: | \$ 3,098.00 | \$ 1,927.00 | \$ 1,858.00 |
| Mary, Mother of God: | \$ 335.00 | \$ 222.00 | \$ 569.00 |

SERVING OUR COUNTRY. Please pray for our men and women in the military:

TSGT Matthew Leightner, Maj. Matthew Starsnic, Ryan McCauley, Col. Ross Monta, John Newcomb, Daniel Henderson, Ryan Nagg, Master Sgt. Jeremy Morgan, Tech. Sgt. Justin Morgan, Tyler Carnahan, Bartholomew Marsh-Slavin, Charles M. Angell II, Cpt. Jacob Berg, SRA Phillip Berg, Brandon May, Tyler Kunkle (Afghanistan), Martin Novak, Jr.



OUR PRAYER LIST—FRIENDS AND FAMILY: Ally Anderson, Helen Bozo, Kip DeGlau, Ronnie Edwards, Mary Fontana, Donald Gabor, Crysta Hixson, George Hollick, Wayne Jones, Sr., Valerie Leda, Gary Lemon, Marie Miller, Mary Musial, Val Palmer, Matthew Petika, Ludwig Sharek, Steve Sieczkowski, Natalie Trawinsky, and all who need our prayers.

EVENING FOR TEENS AND PARENTS WITH BISHOP MALESIC

Bishop Malesic will lead an evening for teens and parents “How do I make my faith a priority in this culture?” on Feb. 10 at Our Lady of Grace Parish, Greensburg. Teens will gather in the church at 6 p.m.; teens and parents will gather in the parish hall at 7:15. A social will follow. The event is open to students in grades 6-12 and their parents or guardians and is sponsored by Our Lady of Grace, St. Benedict and Holy Cross parishes. For information or to respond, call Katrina Coleman at 724-838-9480.

PARTNER PARISH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday, January 14, 2019

6:30 PM Pastoral Council, St. Matthew
7:00 PM Altar Rosary, St. Matthew

Tuesday, January 15, 2019

7:00 PM Finance Council, St. Sylvester

Wednesday, January 16, 2019

6:30 PM Journey Together, St. Sylvester
7:00 PM Finance Council, St. Matthew

Friday, January 18, 2019

March for Life

Saturday, January 19, 2019

11:00 AM Confession, St. Matthew

As you help those who are suffering, know in your heart the truth of the words “you are my beloved in whom I am well pleased”.

The next opportunity for Confession will be this Saturday at 11:00 AM at St. Matthew.



PARISH CENSUS UPDATES AND PICTURES - We are still waiting for **40 - 48% of households from all three of our parishes** to turn in a Parish Census Update. We are still waiting for **about 80% of you** to give us a picture to put in your parish records. We will be mailing out census forms to any households we have not heard from yet. Pictures may be turned in with your names on the back to Fr. John or you can submit him a digital copy at jharrold@dioceseofgreensburg.org.

To date, we have received: 89 forms from St. Ambrose parishioners (175 families/individuals) 51%
88 forms from St. Matthew parishioners (166 families/individuals) 53%
91 forms from St. Sylvester parishioners (159 families/individuals) 58%

We will also be asking people to submit a picture that can be attached to your records. This can either be a digital picture (preferably jpeg file) or regular picture that we will be able to scan.

To date, we have received: 22 pictures from St. Ambrose parishioners
25 pictures from St. Matthew parishioners
27 pictures from St. Sylvester parishioners

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE WELL MEN’S CONFERENCE MARCH 30

The diocese’s Men’s Ministry Team will host THE WELL Men’s Conference on March 30 at Greensburg Central Catholic. The event includes workshops, open discussions, the sacrament of reconciliation and adoration, and it concludes with Mass celebrated by Bishop Malesic. The keynote speaker will be Mike McCoy, an Erie native who is a former Notre Dame and NFL football star. Registration opens in January at www.dioceseofgreensburg.org/THEWELL.

“FOR THE GOOD OF THE PARISHES” OPEN FORUM

Fr. John and the Partner Parish Pastoral Council members invite you to an Open Forum on **Sunday, February 17th at 2:00 PM at St. Matthew Parish Social Hall**. Do you have questions about the way things are being done? Do you have suggestions as to things that would help to build up our parishes? Are you confused as to why certain things are being done? Let’s get together and talk about these things. Our hope is to do this once or twice a year to improve communication and participation in the parishes. The location will rotate as we do this. We will serve refreshments and snacks. This meeting is open to members of all three Partner Parishes to discuss issues about all three parishes. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend.