Good Shepherd Parish

Braddock/ Braddock Hills

Madonna del Castello Parish

Swissvale

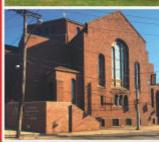
St. Maurice Parish

Forest Hills

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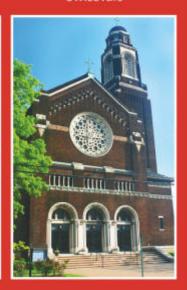
Swissvale











Good Shepherd

Braddock Avenue at Frazier St. Braddock, PA 15104-1612

Sacred Heart

1600 Brinton Road Braddock Hills, PA 15221-4902

Parish Office

Phone: 412-271-1515 FAX: 412-271-1222

Parish Office Hours:

Mon. - Fri.: 9 AM - 1 PM

Parish Staff

Mrs. Michele Catone

Parish Secretary
Email: gshepoffice@comcast.net

Mr. Frank Koncerak

Director of Maintenance

Madonna del Castello Parish

2021 S. Braddock Avenue Swissvale, PA 15218

Parish Office

Phone: 412-271-5666 FAX: 412-271-2335

Website:

www.madonnadelcastello.org

Parish Office Hours:

Monday - Friday: 9 AM - 5 PM

Parish Staff

Kelly James

Parish Secretary madonnadelcastello1920@gmail.com

St. Maurice Parish

2001 Ardmore Boulevard Pittsburgh, PA 15221

Parish Office

Phone: 412-271-0809 FAX: 412-271-2415

Website: www.stmauriceparish.org

Twitter: @StMauriceFH

Parish Office Hours:

Mon. - Fri.: 9 AM - 12 PM 1 PM - 4:30 PM

Parish Staff

Norman E. Chapman, CAGO

Director of Music nchapman@saintmauriceparish.org

Cheryl Kirkland

Director of Religious Education ckirkland@saintmauriceparish.org

Kelley Rodgers

Business Manager krodgers@saintmauriceparish.org

Judy Kosar, LaVerne Caprara

Secretaries

jkosar@saintmauriceparish.org lcaprara@saintmauriceparish.org

Fr. Daniel A. Adjei

In Residence

Word of God Parish

7446 McClure Avenue Swissvale, PA 15218

Administrative Office: 2021 S. Braddock Ave Pittsburgh PA 15218

Parish Office

Phone: 412-241-1372 FAX: 412-271-2335

Website:

www.madonnadelcastello.org

Parish Office Hours:

Monday - Friday: 9 AM - 5 PM

Parish Staff

Deacon Ron Demblowski

Pastoral Associate wordofgodpa@gmail.com

Michael Burke

Music Director

Karen Flynn

Parish Secretary wordofgod1994@gmail.com

CLERGY TEAM

Fr. Frank D. Almade *Administrator*

Fr. Martin F. Barkin Senior Parochial Vicar

Fr. Albert J. Semler Senior Parochial Vicar

Fr. Jeremy J. Mohler *Parochial Vicar*

Mr. Joseph M. Dougherty *Deacon*

Mr. Keith G. Kondrich *Deacon*

Mr. Herb E. Riley

Deacon

This Week's Mass Schedule and Intentions (Confessions: Saturday, 12:00 Noon-1:00 PM at Word of God & St. Colman; 7:30-8:00 PM, Monday at St. Maurice)

Date	Time	Location	Intention	Offered By	
	4:00 PM	St. John Fisher	†Kathleen Cassella	Peg Crossey & Char Conn	
Sat. January 25 Vigil Mass	4:00 PM	St. Maurice	1) †Wedding Anniv. Bill (deceased) & Wilma Seng 2) †Linda Ann Boone	Wilma Seng Family Boone Family	
	5:30 PM	St. Colman	All Living & Deceased of our Parishes		
	5:30 PM	Madonna del Castello	†Patrick V. Bonacci	Mark Mastandrea	
	8:00 AM	Good Shepherd	†Joseph D. Korotko & Katelyn	Wife & Grandmother, Pauline Korotko	
	9:00 AM	St. Jude the Apostle	†Steve Minnaji	Family	
	9:00 AM	Word of God	†Paul Stecik	Bernie Stecik	
Sunday, January 26 Third Sunday in Ordinary Time	10:00 AM	St. Colman	†Lawrence Maccagnan †Joseph & Elizabeth Evancho	1) Tom Estocin 2) Children	
Oramary 1 me	10:00 AM	St. Maurice	†Dorothy Linn	Evelyn & Vince Mills	
	11:00 AM	Sacred Heart	†Irene Koncerak	Suzanne Craft	
	11:30 AM	St. John Fisher	The Living & Deceased Members of our Parishes		
	5:30 PM	St. Colman	All Living & Deceased of	f our Parishes	
Mon. Jan. 27 Weekday	8:00 AM	St. Colman	†Deceased McGeary Family— Alexander, Rose, Laura, Richard	Alexandra McGeary	
	7:00 PM	St. Maurice	†Robert J. Belavic, Sr.	Marc & Cheryl Kosko	
Tues. Jan. 28 Saint Thomas	7:00 AM	Sacred Heart	†Elizabeth Hopta	Mike Connolly	
Aquinas, Priest and	8:00 AM	St. Colman	All Living & Deceased of	f our Parishes	
Doctor of the Church	9:00 AM	Madonna del Castello	†Joan Abbenante	Carmella Coyne	
Wed. Jan. 29 Weekday	8:00 AM	St. John Fisher	1) †John Delanko 2) †Jane Frances Sheehan	1) Family 2) DePasquale Family	
	9:00 AM	Sacred Heart	†Harry Lucas	John Vahosky Family	
Thurs. Jan. 30	7:00 AM	Sacred Heart	†Robert Balogh	Family	
Weekday	8:00 AM	St. John Fisher	†John Hughes	Regina & Val Matta	
	9:00 AM	Word of God	†Cyril G. Beck	Daughter	
Fri. Jan. 31 Saint John Bosco,	8:00 AM	St. Jude the Apostle	1) †B'day Remem. Daniel J. Yates 2) †Michael & Margaret Volpe	1) Evelyn Yates 2) Family	
Priest	9:00 AM	St. Maurice (ECS)	†Patrick V. Bonacci	Mark Mastandrea	
Sat. Feb. 1	4:00 PM	St. John Fisher	†Brian Fitchwell	Ladies of Charity	
	4:00 PM	St. Maurice	†Dorothy Linn	Stephanie & Joe Venturella	
Vigil Mass	5:30 PM	St. Colman	†Jim & Pauline Seese	Children & Grandchildren	
	5:30 PM	Madonna del Castello	†John Zak	David & Debbie Fiumara	
	8:00 AM	Good Shepherd	†Joseph Sorokacs	Family	
	9:00 AM	St. Jude the Apostle	 For our Parish Families †Joseph LaGorga 	2) Lorenchick Family	
Sunday, February 2 The Presentation of the Lord	9:00 AM	Word of God	†John (Jack) Brown	Pat & Larry Furry	
	10:00 AM	St. Colman	†John & Alice Fallon Family †Concetta Palarino	Family Betty & Joe Dombrosky	
the Lord	10:00 AM	St. Maurice	†Carmine DeCrosta	The DeCrosta Family	
	11:00 AM	Sacred Heart	†Maddox Patrick Carroll	Ed & Karen Carroll	
Mal. 3:1-4 Heb. 2:14-18	11:30 AM	St. John Fisher	1) †Dorothy Lane 2) †John & Georgetti Payne	1) Sue & Paul Caple 2) Family	
Lk. 2:22-40	5:30 PM	St. Colman	All Living & Deceased of our Parishes		



Faithful Chronicles By Father Frank D. Almade

Somehow I missed it. Back on September 30th Pope Francis issued a decree that henceforth the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time is to be a time of reading, studying, celebrating and sharing the Word of God. I only learned about this new celebration about ten days ago. Today is the Third Sunday of Ordinary Time. Let me offer some thoughts about this new addition to the Roman Missal's calendar.

I think this is a great idea. The Word of God, the Sacred Scriptures, are essential to our faith lives. It is no coincidence that Pope Francis issued his decree on the feast day of St. Jerome, who was a fourth century biblical scholar, who translated the books of the bible from Hebrew and Greek into Latin, in a translation which would nourish European Christians for almost 1,500 years. It was also St. Jerome who wrote, "Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ."

It was only in 1943 that Pope Pius XII allowed Catholic scholars to study the bible in their original languages, and to work "across the aisle" so to speak with their colleagues in Protestant seminaries and Jewish schools. Scholars learned to distinguish in the bible between those ideas and concepts which are essential to the faith, and "extraneous information," such as geography, names and dates. It is also necessary to understand and identify the particular genre of the 72 books of the bible (gospel, letter, poetry, history, prophetic reflections, legend/myth, etc.).

Studying the bible was core to my seminary studies. My classmates and I were blessed with excellent teachers of the bible, and a wealth of authors available through journals and books. Further, we were the first generation of priests to learn how to preach from the expanded lectionary. Before 1970, the same readings from the bible were used year after year. With the lectionary of 1970, there is a three-year cycle of Sunday readings (with each year focused on a particular evangelist; in 2020 we'll listen to Matthew's gospel) and a two-year cycle of weekday readings. If you were to attend Mass daily for three years you would hear over 90% of the bible.

But the bible is certainly not just for seminarians or priests. The Fathers of the Second Vatican Council explicitly wanted all the faithful to read, study and pray the bible. No longer would reading the bible be "a Protestant idea." That old canard that "Catholics don't read the bible" was wrong. Every Mass said for 2,000 years has had at least two, and sometimes three or four readings from the Sacred Scriptures. Harkening back to the first centuries of the church, the books of the bible, and in particular the Gospels and the letters of St. Paul, were for everyone. It's a rare parish today which does not have at least one bible study for parishioners, led by priests, deacons, religious women and men, and laity.

Again, it is no coincidence Pope Francis set this "Word of God Sunday" near the annual Week of Christian Unity (January 18-25) and Day of Dialogue between Jews and Catholics (January 17). This shows the solidarity among all believers in the one living God, who are nourished by the Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament), and all Christians, who are fed by the New Testament and its proclamation of Our Savior Jesus Christ.

In the spirit of the pope's instruction, let me offer some suggestions for putting "Word of God Sunday" into action. First, purchase a good, up-to-date translation of the bible and have it available in your home. Among the best translations are the New American—Revised Edition, New Jerusalem, New Revised Standard Version, Contemporary English Version and Good News Translation (both from the American Bible Society). Second, come to Sunday Mass ten or 15 minutes ahead of time, to read the readings for that Mass, and see what words or phrases strike a chord within you. Third, try to pray the bible daily. It doesn't have to be a long passage, three or four verses, or one story or parable, are enough to ponder. (Since we are in the year of Matthew, his gospel might be a good place to start.) The Liturgy of the Hours (morning prayer and evening prayer) has short biblical passages too, as well as the beauty and challenge of the psalms.

Fourth, consider joining a bible study. Here you will have an experienced guide available to answer questions, guide your group, and help all of you to listen to the many and varied ways the same biblical passage can touch people. Fifth, pray to the Holy Spirit that the Word of God may find a home in your mind, heart and soul.

Happy Word of God Sunday!

Education / Faith Formation

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS



Our four RCIA candidates are back for the second half of their study and preparation to become full members of the Catholic Church this Spring at the Easter Vigil. They are now entering the period of the Catechumenate (a period of study and learning about the faith). A catechumen is a person who is studying and learning about their faith. These upcoming months are critical to their religious development and will lay a strong faith-formation for their lifetime. Thank you for keeping them in your continued prayers.



PRE-CANA: Did you recently get engaged over the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays? If so, congratulations from your Church family! A critical aspect of having a Catholic wedding in a Church is for our engaged couples to attend a Marriage Preparation Seminar in the year they are looking to be married. For our parishes, we call our session Pre-Cana. Our Pre-Cana sessions are led by our clergy team and married couples within our parish who will intelligently speak about important topics such as: A Sacramental Marriage, Finance, Parenting and Communication. We will offer our Pre-Cana

Marriage Preparation classes for our couples looking to be married in the Church this upcoming Spring. Please continue to read the bulletin for a date and time for our session. Again, wishing our newly engaged couples best wishes! May God Bless you both and your marriage!

†

The DEEP group with Fr. Mohler will continue to meet on Mondays twice a month at 6 PM in the St. Maurice chapel as we strive to grow deeper in our faith through Discipleship, Evangelization,

Eucharist and Prayer. Our upcoming meetings will include watching videos and having a discussion from the series "Restored: Stories of Encounter" about ordinary people whose lives have been radically moved by Jesus Christ to serve others in bringing Christ's light to dark and lonely places. **Upcoming meeting dates: Jan. 27, Feb. 10 & Feb. 24**. Questions or comments can be directed to Fr. Mohler at frmohler@outlook.com or 412-271-5666.

RETROUVAILLE has helped countless couples experiencing marital difficulty at all levels from disillusionment to deep misery. For confidential information, please call 412-277-3434 or email 3041@retrouvaille.org. We will be hosting two weekend retreats in 2020: Jan. 31-Feb. 2 and Sept. 11-13. Visit www.HelpOurMarriage.com.



East Catholic School Open House Sunday, January 26, 2020 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM Come and tour the facility Meet the faculty and staff

Child Protective Services Law: Report any acts of child abuse to Commonwealth of PA Hotline 1-800-932-0313.

Diocesan Victim Assistance Hotline: 1-888-808-1235.



PRO LIFE CORNER: Unless liberty is devoted to the defense of life, neither life nor liberty can survive. Without life, nothing else matters. Support and join pro-life today.

Hearing the Whisper of God: Silent Discernment Retreat For High School Men Feb. 1 & 2, Martina Spiritual Renewal Center in West View, sponsored by the Vocations Office. How can God be heard in the midst of a chaotic, busy world? Are you tired, overwhelmed and wondering what you are supposed to do with your life? Come for prayer, Mass, adoration, opportunity for confession, dynamic talks, brotherhood and quiet; no cost. To register, visit Pghpriest.com by January 27.



MORNING OF REFLECTION: will be held on Tuesday, February 4 at 10:00 AM in the St. Maurice Parish Center Lawrence Room. Chapters 4 & 5 of our new book will be discussed. Refreshments will be served.



BLESSING OF THROATS for the Feast of St. Blaise after Weekend Masses February 1 & 2 and on the Feast Day, February 3, 7:00 PM at St. Maurice.



YOUTH MINISTRY MISSION WEEK: will be held June 21 to June 26, 2020. Plans are underway to include teens from our grouping.

In January, applications will be sent to 9th thru 12th graders of our grouping. Returning college students are welcome. If you loved this mission experience in the past, it will be available to you again! New participants are really welcome.

EIGHT GREAT CHURCHES OF THE EAST

T-SHIRTS: Deadline for orders is Jan. 31. Please call Natalie Hyzy at 412-823-2564 to place your order. Make sure to provide size and make your check for \$12 payable to St. Colman Parish.



Fathers Almade, Barkin, Mohler & Semler wish to thank everyone who sent Christmas greetings through cards, baked goods and gifts. Your kindness and generosity is very much appreciated!

Wittsburgh

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Tuesday, January 28, 2020

6:30 PM - St. Vincent de Paul - Davin Room Thursday, January 30, 2020

7:00 PM - Bible Study - Parish Center Friday, January 31, 2020

6:00 PM - Night at the Races - Keane Hall Sunday. February 2, 2020

1:00 PM - Baptism Seminar - Parish Center

Prayer Line: 412-277-0693 or 412-871-3245

MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of **Anthony Destro**, from Alcoa Tax Dept., Ron Destro & Family, and Nancy and Friends Hair Salon.

THANK YOU: to all who contributed for the flowers that



were in the church for the Christmas holiday. Thank you also to the many volunteers who decorated and undecorated the church, many hands make a tremendous job much easier. Your help was greatly appreciated.



NIGHT AT THE RACES: Join us for the East Catholic Athletic Association Night at the Races on Friday, January 31 in the St. Maurice school cafeteria (Keane Hall). This fundraiser benefits all sports programs at East Catholic School. Doors open at 6:00 PM with a buffet dinner by Veltri's beginning at 6:15 PM. Races will begin at 7:00 PM. Other raffles include Super Bowl Pool, Lottery Tree Raffle, 50/50 and more. Advance admission is \$25 which includes a horse; admission at the door is \$25 with no horse. Individual horses only are \$10 each or 3 for \$25. Contact John Estocin at 412-352-7476 or estocinservices@aol.com for more information or to purchase tickets or horses. Thank you for supporting East Catholic School Athletic Programs!

*P*ankin / Swissvale



PARISH LIBRARY/GIFT SHOP

NEWS: Celebrate St. Valentine's Day

with us! Following 9:00 a.m. Mass Thurs., Feb. 13 until Noon, everyone is invited to the

Parish Library and Gift Shop for hot beverages and Valentine treats. The Parish Library will have a display honoring Saints Cyril and Methodius whose feast day is also February 14th.

Regular hours: Sundays—9:00-11:00 a.m.;

Thursdays—9:30 a.m.-Noon.

Convenient location: 1st Floor—Word of God Parish Center, 7436 McClure Avenue, Swissvale.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY BRUNCH: Parish



couples who are celebrating wedding anniversaries of 25, 30, 40, 50, 60 or more years of marriage in 2020 are invited to Dattilo Hall at Madonna Del Castello at 12:30 p.m. on Sunday, February 16th

for a special blessing and brunch provided by the parishes. The brunch is complimentary for couples. Contact: Helen Kondrich at 412-400-3322 or hkondrich1@msn.com by Monday, February 10th. No reservations will be accepted after the 10th.

This Week

Sunday - Collection of Food for Swissvale Food **Pantry**

9:00 AM to 11:00 AM - Library & Gift Shop open

Monday

6:30 PM Word of God Choir Rehearsal-Word of God

Wednesday

10:30 AM Legion of Mary - Swissvale Towers

7:00 PM Bible Study - Dattilo Hall

Thursday

9:30 AM to 12:00 PM - Library & Gift Shop open

Next Sunday

9:00 AM to 11:00 AM - Library & Gift Shop open

SWISSVALE COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY:



Collection of food is taken the last Sunday of each **month** at Word of God Parish (leave donations inside the entrances of the church); and at Madonna (leave donations in Dattilo Hall). Make out checks to "Swissvale Cares" and memo "Food Pantry."

The Food Pantry is located at 2028 Noble Street. Food distributions are 1st & 3rd Thursday each month, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Volunteers welcome. For information call Dario, 412-452-2792.

Prayer Line: 412-804-8858

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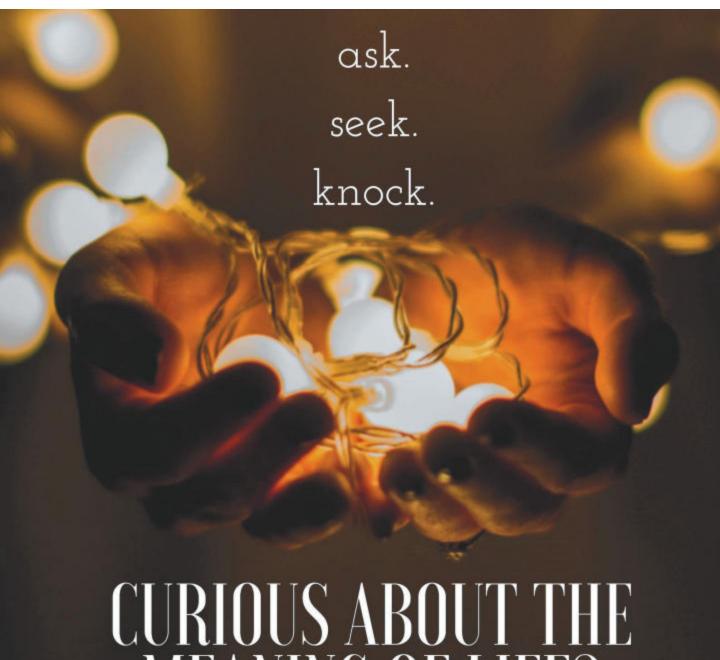
OUR GOOD SHEPHERD SOCIAL

8 29 35 50 73 CLUB: will sponsor our bingo Sunday. **February 9** at Sacred Heart Hall at

Thoughts to Reflect On and Share

"God did not lead us out of darkness just so we could live in the light, but so that we might be His servant and bring His light to others." -Deacon Herb

You can follow Deacon Herb on Facebook.



MEANING OF LIFE?

DISCUSSION & FREE DINNER

Discover Christ! Sundays at 4PM - 7PM St. John Fisher in Beaufort Hall February 16, 23 and March 1, 8, 22, 29 and April 5, 2020 Mark your calendar for our Retreat Day on Saturday, March 14, 2020

Learn more and register: https://stmauriceparish.org/welcome/



IN YOUR CHARITY, we pray for the souls who were buried recently: Cheryl Spina, Deborah Henderson, James Perry, and James Rossell, Jr. May their souls rest in peace with Christ.

Parish Stewardship - January 19

 Good Shepherd
 \$ 4,717.00

 Madonna del Castello
 \$ 1,693.00

 St. Maurice
 \$ 7,499.00

 Word of God
 \$ 4,400.00

Parish Share 2019: Please remember to fulfill your pledge by the Feb. 16th deadline. All money received over the parish assessment is returned to the parish. Please consider remembering the parish in your will.

Memorials

WORD OF GOD: Tabernacle Lamp is in memory of John (Jack) Brown from Jacqueline Brown.

WEDDINGS: Please contact the parish before you set a date.



BOOK DRIVE: The friends of the St. Maurice Sister parish will be sponsoring a book drive to benefit the building of a library for Ataase Catholic Primary School in our Sister Parish's

village of Ataase, Ghana. To help celebrate Catholic School's Week, the book drive will begin January 26 and continue until February 22. Please consider donating gently used or new books, school supplies or athletic equipment for children in grades 1-8. You may drop your donations in the bin near the Welcome Desk at St. Maurice Church or in the bin located near the band room in East Catholic School. Monetary donations will also be accepted to help to defray the cost of shipping. Checks can be made payable to St. Maurice Sister Parish. If you have any questions, please call Maribeth Rushe at 412-977-1019 or mrsrolandi@gmail.com. Thank you for your generosity.



CATHOLIC SCHOOL FAMILIES applying for the Bishop's Education Fund, please submit your Student Aid Form to the parish office at least two weeks before the deadline so Father can verify that you are eligible for the Fund.



BAPTISM SEMINAR: The monthly baptism seminar will be held on the first Sunday of the month at 1:00 PM in the St. Maurice Parish Center. All parents planning a baptism must attend a seminar prior to the baptism. Pre-registration is required; call the Parish Center Office at 412-271-0809 to register.



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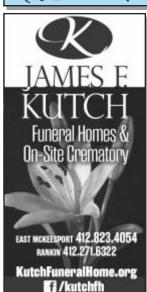
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	☐ Good Shepherd ☐ Madonna del Castello ☐	St. Maurice 🗖 Word of God
Name		CHECK ALL THAT APPLY:
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Email		

