



Saint Michael Parish

**FIFTH
SUNDAY
OF
EASTER**

85 North High Street, Greenville, PA 16125
724-588-9800

**SUNDAY
APRIL
28
2024**

Saint Margaret, Parish's Mission Church
701 Denver Street, Jamestown, PA 16134

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UPCOMING EVENTS

STEWARDSHIP

Apr. 30 Divine Mercy Chaplet 3 PM.
May 3 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament begins after the 9 AM School Mass.
May 4 1st Communion Retreat 10:30 AM.
May 5 1st Communion -11:00 AM Mass.
May 9 Ascension Thursday Holyday.
May 13 Young at Heart meets at 11:30 AM in the Large Meeting Room.

Fourth Sunday of Easter
\$14,045.01

CSA
Pledged: \$88,375
Paid: \$64,340

Confessions on Wednesday's from 8-8:30PM and Saturdays from 3-4PM.

Look for Cemetery Cleanup Days in May!

THANK YOU FOR THE GENEROSITY YOU SHOW TO OUR PARISH!

St. Michael Church: In memory of Marie Dewolf (\$150). **St. Michael School Endowment:** In Memory of Adelaide Giangjordano (\$300).

Date / Mass	Lector	EMHC	Cantor	Accompanist	Altar Servers
May 4/4:30 PM	Charlie Demarest	Sandy Ohl, John Svirbly	Mary Smart	Sharen & Jerry Seiple	Krystal W. Mason M.
May 5/8:00 AM	Maureen Shine	Gabby Saulsbery, Patty Meehan			Avery W. & Duncan M.
May 5/11:00 AM	Linda Hajtol	Bea DeCiancio Brenda DelMaramo	Bob Hutchinson	Natalie Serrano	Ava & Sophie M., Maggie L.
May 8/ 6:30 PM	Patti Hayes	Kenda & Tom Hoover	Joe Presto	Kathy Williams	Duncan M. & John G.
May 9/ 9:00 AM	Vern Swartz	Mary Ann Marshall George Soros	Mary Smart	Lisa Demarest	Krystal W.,Mason M.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Weekday Masses Tues- Fri 9AM /First Sat 9AM
Saint Michael Church

TUESDAY, APRIL 30

Saint Pius V
Joseph Bonaquist (K. of C.)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1

Saint Joseph the Worker
Valjean Armor (John & Barbara Miller)

THURSDAY, MAY 2

Saint Athanasius
Sr. Barbara Regan (Chris Pander)

FRIDAY, MAY 3

Saints Philip & James, Apostles
Dennis Durkos (Adrienne Rotunno)

SATURDAY, MAY 4

For the People of the Parish

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

SATURDAY, MAY 4

4:30 PM Saint Michael Church
John Bresnan (Family)

SUNDAY, MAY 5

8:00 AM Saint Margaret Mission
Mildred Schwartz (Tom & Shirley Patton)
11:00 AM Saint Michael Church
Jennifer Turner (John & Judy Turner)

40 CLUB WINNERS – APRIL 17

\$100-Sam Genovesi; \$100-Ellie Prunka;
\$50-Barbara Pfaff.

SANCTUARY CANDLES INTENTION & DONOR

Apr. 16-30 Stephen Banic (Wife and Children)
Apr. 16-30 E. Tracel Pickens (Joan & Eddie)

May 1-15 Beth Yurisc (M/M Robert Moore)
St. Margaret
May 1-15 Darla Prezioso (Mom)

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH CHILD PROTECTION AND CREATING SAFE ENVIRONMENTS

Recent statistics tell us one out of every ten children will be abused before they turn 18. 91% of sexual abuse is perpetrated by someone the child or the child's family knows. This means that on every Sunday in our congregation there are people who have been abused and may continue to experience the pain of that abuse. Reaching out to those who have suffered from abuse is critical in bringing hope and the love of Christ to them. Assistance is available for victims/survivors of clergy sexual abuse by contacting the Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator, Dr. Gerard Tobin at 814-451-1521.

REST IN PEACE

Please pray for the souls of Sr. Barbara Regan, daughter of Mary Edna Regan and Tom Duda, who died this week. May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace.

FAITH FORMATION COMING EVENTS

April 28 Faith Formation Class- K-5th Grades, Edge (6th-8th Grade): from 8:45 A.M. to 10:45 A.M. Our last class for this Faith Formation Year. Have a Blessed Summer & see you in the Fall!

May 4 10:30 A.M. to 2:45 P.M. Mandatory First Holy Communion Retreat & Practice ~Drop off students in the Large Meeting Room of the Church. Parents are to return at 1:30 P.M. for Practice followed by Confessions! This includes Lunch! Please Contact the Faith Formation Office if for any reason your child cannot attend this whole event from beginning to end! This could cause a delay in your child receiving the Sacrament with their class!
Please bring your child's completed Memory Frame and give it to Mrs. Seman when you pick out your reserved pew for 1st Holy Communion Mass!)

May 5 11:00 A.M. Mass is First Holy Communion Mass~ Please drop off your child at 10:45 A.M. in the Large Meeting Room of St. Michael Church.

A WORD FROM FATHER BRANDON

This past week was the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation for our students. In the Diocese, the age of the Sacrament is being moved down to the 9th grade from 11th where it has been for many years. This is part of an overall reshaping and reimagining of how faith formation is done - and what the Sacraments mean - in the life of the faithful in our Diocese. I am excited about this move. Historically, from the most ancient of days, Confirmation was celebrated along with Baptism. The separation of the two Sacraments happened over centuries for a host of reasons, not the least being the practicality of getting a Bishop to every Baptism as the Church grew beyond the confines of Palestine and Syria. The Bishop always has been, and remains today, the Ordinary Minister of the Sacrament. As the Church simply grew, there needed to be a change in the order of the Sacraments - and who could administer them - so that progress in the life of Christ wouldn't be halted. Now, that's a very pared down version of a complicated historical process, but the essence is still there. The Church should always desire to look like and worship and pray and minister to the faithful as close to as the Apostles handed on to us from Christ. I often opine how the East has done this better in a lot of ways over the West (like largely preserving the Baptism / Confirmation connection), but you can find things that are vice versa, too. All that is to say that how so many Catholics think of Confirmation is bad theology and simply wrong!

Confirmation is not graduation from faith formation or from your life in Church or going to Mass. Confirmation does not mean you are an adult in the Church! If I had a nickel for every time I have heard that phrase, I wouldn't be driving a rusty pickup! An adult in the Church...I shiver every time I hear that! Like, what does that even mean?! Tell me, please, somebody, enlighten me what that means because after 38 years of life and nearly a dozen years as a priest; I've not stumbled upon a single Father, Apostle, Doctor, or Saint uttering the phrase "once Confirmed, you're an adult in the Church"! If you can find it, I'll never send you a CSA letter again! We only use that phrase because we've done the Sacrament so late in life, nearly at an age synonymous with adulthood and graduation and new responsibilities. It's just become parlance, to no fault of anyone other than those in authority to halt its use! As a pastor, I am not looking for people to take on new responsibilities in the Church (I don't really know what those are, either?!). I desire you to have new intimacy and connection and meaningful engagement with God in prayer and worship! I don't need you to do new stuff, I desire for you to **be someone!**

This past week was also the Feast Day of my Confirmation name, Saint Mark. I chose him because he is, supposedly, one of the patron saints of lawyers, and that week of life, in the 11th grade, I wanted to be a lawyer! Saint Mark meant really nothing to me back then in 2003, but has come to mean a great deal over the last two decades- namely being the author of my favorite Gospel and portrayal of Jesus. But, at the time, I just looked up - I suppose in a book or a really old website - patron saints of lawyers and Mark sounded cool. I bought into the whole 'adult in the church' narrative and that really didn't stimulate any real spiritual or divine engagement before receiving the Sacrament. Some days, I wish I could go back and re-do the Sacrament, but I hope I have tried to make good on it since then -at least most days!

It is so important for us to both know our faith and give to others - especially young people - the authentic and Apostolic faith! Only this satisfies and feeds hungry and wayward souls. Only this can keep and help young people be engaged with the Church into their 'new adulthood' or whatever the lingo is! Confirmation completes Christian Initiation so we are fully part of the Body of Christ, so that means we are unstoppable at preaching the Gospel and discerning the voice of the Lord who draws us to The Father. May we never fail to give to young people The Church, The Truth, The Gospel -you won't turn them off, they want it and were made for it!

Love,
Fr. Brandon