

# Saint Joan Of Arc Church

A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust

A Parish of the Diocese of Greensburg

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**The Rev. James F. Petrovsky, Pastor**

[jpetrovsky@dioceseofgreensburg.org](mailto:jpetrovsky@dioceseofgreensburg.org)



### **Facebook Page—Saint Joan of Arc Church**

Mass is streaming on our Facebook page Sundays at 8 AM. Masses are being uploaded to our website: [www.sjoafarmington.org](http://www.sjoafarmington.org). Click on the Mass on the bottom right corner.

### **MASS SCHEDULE:**

Saturday Vigil (Sunday Obligation): 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Daily Mass: Mon. through Sat. — 9:00 a.m.

### **HOLY DAYS:**

Vigil: 7:00 p.m.

Holy Day: 8:30 a.m.

7:00 p.m.

### **BAPTISMS:**

By appointment. Contact the Parish Office.

### **SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:**

Please call the office to schedule confession..

### **SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:**

Please contact the Parish Office six months in advance.

### **SACRAMENT OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK:**

Contact the Parish Office.

### **SACRAMENT OF HOLY ORDERS:**

Anyone interested in learning more about the vocation to priesthood or diaconate, is invited to contact the pastor, or the diocesan office of clergy vocations at 724-837-0901.

### **PARISH OFFICE HOURS:**

Tuesday & Wednesday: 9:30AM—4:30PM

If assistance is needed at other times, please call the parish office.

### **NEW PARISHIONERS:**

Welcome! Please register as soon as possible. Contact the Parish Office.

### **MINISTRY TO THE HOMEBOUND:**

To arrange for the Sacraments of Eucharist, Reconciliation or Anointing of the Sick, call the Parish Office. Eucharistic Ministers are available for Communion to the homebound.

### **CATHOLIC CHARITIES:**

Counseling is available through the Diocesan Catholic Charities Office. Contact the Parish Office.

### **EVENT SCHEDULING:**

All proposed events to be held at St. Joan of Arc Church must be submitted to the Parish Office one month prior to the planned event. Contact the Parish Office for more information.

ALL SAINTS DAY



### **Our Pledge to You**

St. Joan of Arc wants to keep all of our friends and family safe from the coronavirus. All touch points are cleaned after each Mass, and once weekly we do a full high power antiseptic spray of the church, social hall, and bathrooms. Additional deep cleaning practices are in place. Masks and hand sanitizer are available, we will be glad to check your temperature before entering our church. If there is anything we can do to help you with needs or assistance, please call us at 724-329-4522. God Bless You!

Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, Oct. 31 Anticipated All Saints Day

5:00 pm.....Vincent Rote  
The Herring Family

Sunday, Nov. 1 All Saints Day

8:00 am.....Irma Tolnai  
M/M Alex Merkosky

11:00 am.....Shirley Gearing  
M/M Dan Gearing

Monday, Nov. 2

9:00 am.....Linda Michalik  
M/M Anthony Mojock

Tuesday, Nov. 3

9:00 am .....Linda Rosneck  
Ron & Patty Sheba

Wednesday, Nov. 4

9:00 am.....Edna Monovich  
(Birthday Remembrance)  
Tom Wajda

Thursday, Nov. 5

9:00 am .....Andy Hornick  
John & Sue Maykuth

Friday, Nov. 6

9:00 am.....Shirley Gearing  
M/M Dan Gearing

Saturday, Nov. 7

9:00 am.....Pro Populo

Saturday, Nov. 7 Anticipated 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00 pm.....Lillian & Jack Gangwere  
David & Lillian Cale

Sunday, Nov. 8 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am.....Joseph Horvat  
JoAnn Jankowski & Anette DeNardo

11:00 am.....Gearing & O'Hern Families  
M/M Dan Gearing

ALL INTENTIONS—BOOK OF PETITIONS

Liturgical Ministries Schedule

November 7/8, 2020

LECTORS

Saturday, Vigil 5:00 pm.....L. Cale  
Sunday, 8:00 am.....R. Graham  
Sunday, 11:00 am.....R. Carmine

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

Saturday, Vigil 5:00 pm.....C. Martin  
Sunday, 8:00 am.....  
Sunday, 11:00 am.....

ALTAR SERVERS

Saturday, Vigil 5:00 pm.....  
Sunday, 8:00 am.....  
Sunday, 11:00 am.....

All Saints Day

Revelation 7: 2-4, 9-14

1 John 3: 1-3

Matthew 5: 1-12a

Liturgy of the Word—Meditation:

In the first reading, John relates his heavenly vision of salvation to God's chosen people. In the second reading, John writes that we are *children of God*, and we have been called to place our hope in Him. In the Gospel, Jesus preaches the Sermon on the Mount, reassuring His followers that the reward for those who live according to the new law will be *great in heaven*.

Focus: We are all called to be saints.

Gathered at each Mass, we are like the crowd in today's Gospel, sitting at the feet of Jesus and seeking direction through His word and spiritual nourishment through the Eucharist. Placing our hope in God and striving to lead virtuous lives, we look forward to salvation and eternal life, and are reminded that we are called to be saints.

Can You Not Watch One Hour With Me?

Friday, November 6 is the first Friday of the month.

Daily Mass will be offered at 9 AM with Eucharistic Adoration to follow. Benediction is scheduled for noon.

*He is really there!*

*I Myself am the living bread come down from heaven.*  
*John 6: 35*

Spiritual Communion Prayer

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

Pope Francis—thought for the day (Nov. 1)

The Church that cares for children and the elderly becomes the mother of generations of believers and, at the same time, serves human society because a spirit of love, familiarity, and solidarity helps all people to rediscover the fatherhood and motherhood of God.

**Collection Report for  
Sunday, October 25, 2020**

**Regular Weekly Offerings**

Envelopes Dated Sunday, October 25, 2020	\$730.00
All Other Weekly Offering Envelopes	770.00
Friends of Saint Joan of Arc And Visitors	320.00
Loose Cash and Checks	163.00

**Extraordinary Expenses**

Envelopes (All Dates)	164.00
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**Other**

Cemetery Fund	5.00
Candle Offerings	15.00
Catholic Accent	15.00
All Saints (Sunday, 11/01/2020)	60.00
Annual Appeal for Retired Religious and Diocesan Retired Priests (Sunday, 11/01/2020)	50.00
All Souls (Monday, 11/02/2020)	70.00
World Mission Sunday (Sunday, 10/18/2020)	30.00
Seminarian/Clergy Formation (Sun. 09/27/2020)	20.00

**TOTAL: \$2,412.00**



*Please remember in your prayers  
our fellow parishioner,  
**Alfred "Buzz" John.**  
May eternal rest be given to Buzz,  
and peace and comfort to his fami-  
ly and friends.*

**Yarn Divas**

Our prayer shawl ministry group, the Yarn Divas will meet this Friday, November 6, following the morning Mass. All are welcome.



**Helping Souls in Purgatory**

Souls in Purgatory cannot offer physical sufferings in expiation for sin as we do and rely on us to aid them in their purification by our prayers. This is why we celebrate Mass for the holy souls today. They need our prayers for their purification. When our loved ones die let us not abandon them but help them by our prayers and sacrifices. A mystical source has said that when we pray for our loved ones by name they can see us on earth.

We can help the souls in Purgatory in many ways:

Having Mass offered for the soul of a departed loved one is the greatest help we can give them because Mass, being the sacrifice of Jesus offered to the Father, is the greatest prayer.

We can pray for the souls in Purgatory.

We can offer our fasting, almsgiving, pilgrimages for the glory of God, in atonement for sins of those in Purgatory.

**What is Purgatory?**

What happens to us when we die? We believe that firstly we will be judged. St. Faustina, who was asked by Jesus to propagate devotion to his Divine Mercy, wrote in her Diary that she was shown her judgment in advance.

Once I was summoned to the judgment of God. I stood alone before the Lord. Jesus appeared such as we know Him during His Passion. After a moment, His wounds disappeared except for five, those in His hands, His feet and His side. Suddenly I saw the complete condition of my soul as God sees it. I could clearly see all that is displeasing to God. I did not know that even smallest transgressions will have to be accounted for. What a moment! Who can describe it? To stand before the Thrice-Holy God!

After judgment three choices await us: hell, Purgatory or heaven; hell for those who have rejected God, heaven for those who die as saints and Purgatory for everybody else. We would all like to go immediately to heaven when we die but are we living in such a way that we will die as saints? Would it be more realistic to expect to spend time in Purgatory being purified? Only perfect love can see God face to face, so in Purgatory we are purified that we may see God face to face.

On **All Souls Day**, we pray for all the souls who are still in Purgatory undergoing purification and growing in love before they are ready to see God face to face in heaven. It is out of our belief in Purgatory that today's commemoration of the Holy Souls springs.

We believe that God is all merciful and that Jesus' passion, death and resurrection saved us but that does not excuse us from being purified. During life we receive many opportunities to expiate sin through our sufferings but after death any unexpiated sin needs to be purified. This is what Purgatory is, purification for unexpiated sin, being healed of the negative effects of sin which do not leave us totally open to grace.

The souls in Purgatory have a great hunger for God, greater than we can imagine. They do not have the distractions of the world and all their longing is to be with God in heaven. The souls in Purgatory do not have bodies but do suffer in some way akin to physical suffering. Yet Purgatory is a joyful transformation because of the certainty of the outcome. St. Frances of Rome, the foundress of the Oblates, who was privileged to see Purgatory said there is no despair in Purgatory and called it a "sojourn of hope."

St. Catherine of Genoa is noted for her revelations on Purgatory and writes that the souls have great joy and this happiness increases as the souls are purified. The souls' only desire is to please God. St. Catherine describes Purgatory as a truly great grace from God.

Fr. Schouppe, who has written about Purgatory from the revelations of the saints, tells us that Our Lady herself goes to Purgatory to release the souls on Saturdays and her feast days. Fr. Schouppe refers to St. Peter Damien's account of Our Lady releasing souls on the feast of her Assumption on August 15<sup>th</sup>. St. Peter Damien wrote of a certain lady having received an apparition from her deceased godmother who said, during this great solemnity the Queen of Heaven descended into the midst of the purgatorial flames and delivered me, together with a large number of other souls, that we might enter Heaven on the feast of her Assumption. She exercises this great act of clemency each year; and, on this occasion alone, the number of those whom she delivers equals the population of Rome... In proof of the truth of my words, know that you yourself will die a year hence on the feast of the Assumption; if you outlive that period, believe that this was an illusion.

Other mystical sources indicate that the greatest number of souls is released from Purgatory on Christmas Day. Our Lady promised to release from Purgatory quickly those who wear the Scapular of Mount Carmel devoutly, not as a charm, but with proper devotion while living a holy life.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS  
THOSE WHO HAVE REQUESTED PRAYER:

REV. WILLIAM LECHNAR	ANNA SMITH
MARK KRUEGER	GARY MYERS
PAT MYERS	ANONYMOUS (WISDOM IN JOB)
EASTON STEPHANS-RIVERA	MICHAEL KITTA
AMY TUNGATE	JOHN LIGHTSEY JR.
CHUCK GENTILE	PAT WELLER
LORI BATTELLI	ALBERT B. CROSBY
CATHERINE GALIDA	JERRY GALIDA
RHEBA MAUST	MILLIE DETTMAN
IRENE EVANS	JIM AND CHRIS AUGUSTINE
DAVID RUSKO	MARY JUDD
MADDY MARTIN	MEGAN BELAN
AMANDA	JADON
DOLORES YURKOVICH	JOHN YURKOVICH
ESTER SUCHEVITS	EVELYN DAHL
JUDITH ANN DAHL	DENISE
ED MARTINKO	DIANE SWANSON
DAN DUNCAN	SAUNDRA CASEY
SARAH SMITH	SUSAN HEILMAN
LARRY HAJDUK	PAT MOWEN
KAREN ENSOR	P. T. SHIPLEY
T. & B.	JENNIFER HARDIN
SUSIE TERRAVECCHIA	PHIL TERRAVECCHIA
BETTY URICK	

If you would like to request prayer for yourself, a friend or loved one, please call Dorothy at 724-329-4522. If you would like the prayer recipient to receive cards of encouragement throughout the year, please provide an address.

**Mass Intentions for 2020/2021**

Mass intentions for 2020/2021 may be scheduled by contacting the church office 724-329-4522. Mass is celebrated nine times each week here at St. Joan of Arc. Arranging to have a Mass offered for loved ones (living and deceased) is a perfect way to show how much you care.

**What are you waiting for?**

Help me to ask you, oh Lord, for what is good for me to have, for what I can have, and do you service by having.”

These humble words come from the prayer journal of 21-year-old Flannery O’Connor. Born in 1925, O’Connor grew to become a beloved Southern Catholic fiction writer in the mid-20th century. Although O’Connor died at the height of her career from Lupus at age 39, her influence lives on through her writing. For people of faith, her journal is inspiring, particularly in how she addresses God regarding her desire for a vocation as a writer. Specifically, she gives these three priorities for asking God in prayer.

1. What is good for me to have? Think about yourself and if what you are asking for will ultimately bring good upon you.
2. What can I have? Consider what is possible and attainable for you to have.
3. What can I do you service by having? Recognize if what you are asking for can result in a way for you to serve God.



**7 Day Candle Offerings**

Our Family  
C&C Bryner  
Light, Happiness and Peace

Our Son’s Health  
Jerry and Cat

*Dare to be a saint.*

Some of us may hear that and laugh. Sainthood is a noble ambition, an ideal, but is this something we can realistically expect to attain? The short answer is: yes. Because the great truth about saints, something we so easily forget, is that they were just like us. Flesh and blood, strength and weakness. They were people of appetites and longings, ambitions and disappointments, vanities and eccentricities. They were simple sinners just like the rest of us.

That was how they began. But that wasn’t the whole story. The simple but reassuring fact is that nobody is born a saint. It’s something you have to become.

Consider St. Margaret of Cortona. As a teenager, she was the mistress of a young nobleman. She lived with him for nine years, even had a son with him, hoping at some point her lover would marry her. He never did. When he was finally murdered, the shock caused Margaret to re-evaluate her life. She went on to take vows a Franciscan. Her son also joined the order. She was canonized in 1728.

**Nobody is born a saint. It’s something you have to become.**

In the 1920s, if you had to pick a woman who was the least likely candidate for sainthood, it would probably have been an anarchist and communist from Brooklyn named Dorothy Day. She worked as a journalist and spent many nights drinking with famous writers like Hart Crane and Eugene O’Neill. She had an abortion, and a brief marriage, before finally being drawn to Christ, and the gospel, and converting to Catholicism. Her conversion led her to embark on a radical ministry to the poor, one that is still changing the world. She’s now a candidate for sainthood. Late in her life, people called her a living saint. “Don’t call me a saint,” she once said. “I don’t want to be dismissed that easily.”

Don’t dismiss any of the saints. They are closer to us than we may realize. They have struggled with sin and temptation, they’ve walked the journey toward holiness, sometimes stumbling, sometimes falling, but always getting back up and moving on, resolving to do better, to be better, to aim higher. They worked to be what this gospel is calling us to be. To be poor in spirit. To be meek. To be merciful. To make peace. This is how we begin to become what Jesus called “blessed,” and what the Church calls saints.

It’s a tall order. And it is nothing less than a call to greatness. But this feast day reminds us, whether we realize it or not: it can be ours. This kind of greatness is within our grasp.

**All Saints Day beckons us to something beautiful.** It reminds us of our great potential—the promise that lies within each of us. The promise of holiness.

It is the promise that was fulfilled in the countless people we venerate this day—our models, our companions, our inspirations, our guides. All the saints. They give us blessed hope.