CHURCH OF
SAINTS SIMON AND JUDE
A Parish of the Diocese of Greensburg
A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust

November 19, 2023

155 North Brady Street • Blairsville, Pennsylvania 15717
Office: 459-7103 • Marian Hall: 459-6211
Office Hours: Monday thru Thursday 9:00 a.m. to Noon and 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Parish Website: www.sssimonandjude.org

MASS+ INTENTIONS

11/18/23-Saturday-33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (Vigil)
1:00pm Sacrament of Penance
4:00pm For The People

11/19/23-Sunday-33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
9:00am Frank & Betty Avalli by Cindy, Vince & Family

11/20/23-Monday-Weekday in Ordinary Time
8:00am Bernard Murray by Patrick & Kathleen Murray

11/22/23-Wednesday-St. Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr
8:00am Mary Ruth Lenz by Judy & Teresa Lenz

11/23/23-Thursday-St. Clement I, Pope and Martyr; St. Columban, Abbot; Blessed Miguel Agustin Pro, Priest and Martyr; Thanksgiving Day
9:00am Albert Dettorre, Sr. by Family

11/24/23-Friday-St. Andrew Dŭng-Lac, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs
8:00am Margaret B. Sell by Family

11/25/23-Saturday-Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe (Vigil)
1:00pm Sacrament of Penance
4:00pm For The People

11/26/23-Sunday-Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe
9:00am Marty Plunkett by Mom & Dad

CHAPEL CANDLE IN MEMORY OF MARY FUMEA AND NICK FUMEA BY PAULINE

ONLINE GIVING QR CODE

MASS SCHEDULE
CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD, KENT

MONDAYS Holy Hour-5:00 P.M.; Mass-6:00 P.M.
TUESDAYS 8:30 A.M.
THURSDAYS 8:30 A.M.
SATURDAY 6:00 P.M.
SUNDAY 11:00 A.M.

+++ FINANCIAL REPORT***
This report will be in a future bulletin.

WEEKLY READINGS: GATHER HYMNAL # 1188

PARISH COMING EVENTS:
Sunday, November 19
- Faith Formation, Intergenerational, Grades K -12, Parish Center, 10:15 a.m.-"Noonish"

Tuesday, November 21
- Women's Choir Rehearsal, Church, 6:30 p.m.
- K of C Meeting, Marian Hall, 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, November 22 - Friday, November 24
- Parish Office Closed

Sunday, November 26
- Sacramental Preparation, 1st Reconciliation, Parish Center, 10:15 a.m.– 12:00 p.m.

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - Pastor's Reflection

"To everyone who has, more will be given but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away." The parable of the talents tells of the coming of Jesus for the Last Judgment. When He returns, He will inquire about how we have used our time, what we have done with our lives, and the talents we have received, which refer to our abilities. The reward for using our talents well will be our participation in the joy of the Lord, in the eternal banquet.

This parable teaches us a fundamental lesson: God will not measure or count our worldly achievements or possessions. He will not ask us if we have accomplished feats admired by the world, because these things are not solely within our control, but are partly conditioned by the talents we have received. Instead, God will focus on our loyalty, diligence, and charity in fulfilling our duties, even the most humble and ordinary ones. It is these qualities that will be taken into account when we stand before Him.

The third servant in the parable is described as "wicked and lazy" because he has a false image of the Master, that is, of God. What is even worse is that he does not love his Master. Fear of his Master paralyzes him, and he acts awkwardly, without taking any risks. He buries his talent instead of using it for good. This servant's response is a stark contrast to what God expects from us. God desires a joyful response, a commitment that stems from love and a willingness to take risks and face difficulties.

When we talk about talents, we can understand them as our natural abilities, the gifts and charisms we have received from the Holy Spirit. But talents can also refer to the Gospel, the revelation, and the salvation that Christ has transmitted to the Church. As believers, we all have the duty to share and transmit these gifts, both in word and deed.

READINGS-November 26, 2023
Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17 (1st)
1 Corinthians 15:20-26, 28 (2nd)
Matthew 25:31-46 (Gospel)
Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

ATTENTION LECTORS: The lector workbooks for the new Church year are in and can be picked-up in the back of the church. Please pick up your workbook at your earliest convenience. Thank you.

FYI: Starting in November and continuing through December, the deadline for turning in the bulletin for printing is significantly moved up. Therefore, remember this if needing to put an article in the bulletin those months and get the announcement to us as early as possible. Thank you.

THE WORD AMONG US, a booklet for the Advent season containing Scripture reflections and daily Mass readings each day in Advent is available in the back of the church for those wishing to take one home.

SECOND COLLECTION: This weekend there will be a second collection taken for the Diocesan Poverty Relief Fund and Catholic Relief services. This helps people in need in both the diocese's four counties and internationally. Thank you for your generosity.

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CONCERT: There will be a Christmas Community Concert on Monday, December 11, at 7:00 p.m. at Blairsville United Presbyterian Church, 137 N. Walnut St., Blairsville, PA. The concert is sponsored by the Blairsville Monday Music Club.

PLEASE HELP US KEEP OUR CENSUS UP TO DATE: Please inform the office if you are moving, have a name, address or telephone change or if an adult child has moved out. Also, if a resident of your household goes into a nursing home, please let us know so we can arrange visits. Lastly, any adult children beyond high school or college, who still live at home, should contact the office to arrange for a separate census listing. Thank you for your help.

HEALING MASS: If you are in need of prayer for healing in body, mind or spirit, we encourage you to come. The Mass will be Monday, November 20, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at St. Cecilia Church, 220 St. Cecilia Road, Whitney.

CUSTODIAN POSITION OPEN: Our parish has an opening for a custodian. This position will be part-time, with approximately 25 hours per week. If you are interested or know of anyone who is interested in this position, please call the parish office at 724-459-7103.

A LIVE NATIVITY is planned Friday, December 8, from 5:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. at St. James Parish, New Alexandria. All are invited to walk and experience the beauty and wonder of the Scriptures coming to life with live animals and actors. There will be activities for the entire family, plus lessons and carols. Refreshments will be served.

CHRISTMAS NIGHT MARKET & MASS WITH BISHOP KULICK is set for Saturday, December 16, from 3:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m. at Christ Our Shepherd Center, Greensburg. Mass with Bishop Larry J. Kulick starts at 4:00 p.m. For more information, visit DioceseofGreensburg.org/Christmas-night-market/.

Let us pray…
Generous and merciful God,
we thank you for your abundant gifts to us.
As we celebrate this Thanksgiving feast,
we ask you to send your Spirit,
to open our hearts to you and our neighbor,
that we may share the gifts you have given us
as your Son Jesus taught us to.

Thank you for the many blessings of our lives:
our family and friends,
our home and the food we eat,
our health and employment.

We ask your blessing on all gathered here today,
and all your people throughout the world,
through Christ your Son.
Amen.