

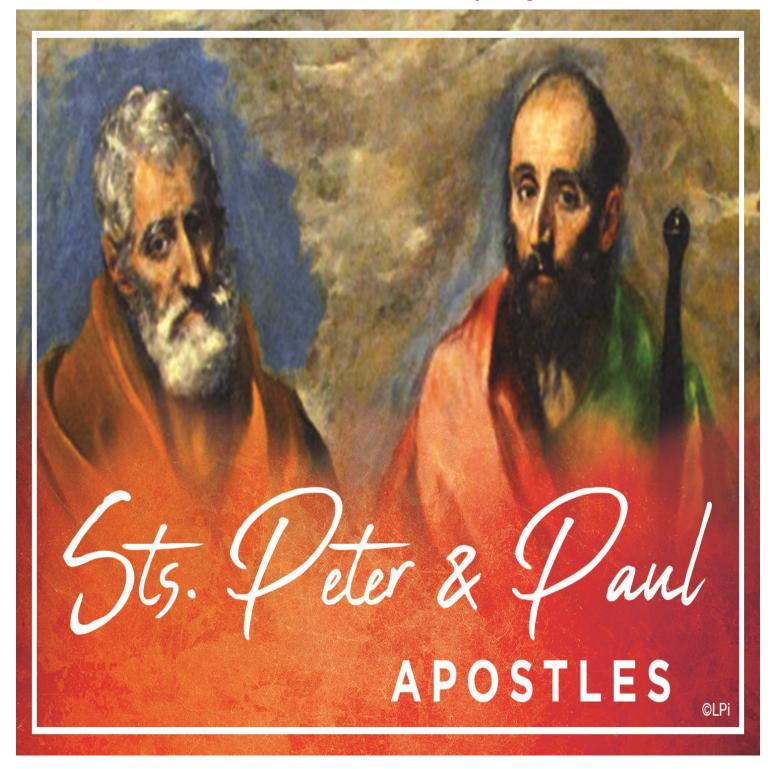
CHURCH OF SAINTS SIMON AND JUDE A Parish of the Diocese of Greensburg



A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust

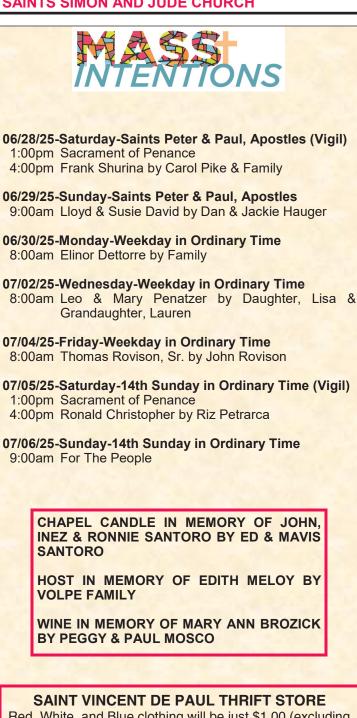
June 29, 2025

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



SAINTS SIMON AND JUDE CHURCH

BLAIRSVILLE, PA



Red, White, and Blue clothing will be just \$1.00 (excluding coats, jeans and white tag items) this week at the St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store. Located in the BiLo Plaza on N. 4th Street, the store is open Monday thru Saturday 10am-2pm, except for Friday, July 4th when we are closed so our volunteers can celebrate. Donations are accepted at the back door 10am-1pm (as space allows).

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*** Juno 22 2025

Julie 22, 2025		
Offertory Collection		
Loose Collection	\$	89.00
Total	\$	4494.00
Online Offertory	\$	135.00
Parish Improvements	\$	120.00
Cemetery Income	\$	3880.00

Online Giving QR Code



WEEKLY READINGS: GATHER HYMNAL # 1202

PASTORS CORNER

Peace be with you!

I have some wonderful news: We have exceeded our goal for this year's Diocesan Lenten Appeal. Congratulations - and from the bottom of my heart, thank you for your generosity and stewardship.

For those who may be less familiar with the Diocesan Lenten Appeal, this annual initiative is a cornerstone of our shared mission. It sustains the vital ministries of our Diocese - such as Catholic Charities, support for our international priests, faith formation programs, vocations to the priesthood, and much more. But it also directly supports our individual parishes. Now that our goal has been met, every additional dollar you give returns directly to our parish - without any diocesan assessment.

This is a profound opportunity to strengthen our local faith community.

I would also like to take a moment to speak to the importance of **participation**. We have achieved this goal with 43% participation. I would be overjoyed to see our parish hit 50% participation – or higher! Let's set a new record for participation. Imagine what a testament of unity and faith that would be.

This year's DLA theme, "A Time to Share," calls us to reflect prayerfully on what we can offer. Whether you are able to give \$5 or \$50, what matters most is that you participate. Your gift, no matter the size, is a sign of your commitment to the life and future of our parish. In fact, with increased participation, our parish has the opportunity to become one of the top-tier parishes in the Diocese among all 78 - when it comes to engagement in the Lenten Appeal.

You may put your donation in an envelope with your name and put it in the basket at Church, or visit DioceseofGreensburg.org/DLA2025 to make your gift securely online. Thank you for your consideration!

SAINTS PETER AND PAUL, APOSTLES

READINGS - July 6, 2025 Isaiah 66:10-14c (1st) Galatians 6:14-18 (2nd) Luke 10:1-12, 17-20 (Gospel) Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



SECOND COLLECTION: There will be a second collection this weekend for Peter's Pence & Support for the Holy See. The annual collection helps the charitable works of the Holy Father and provides emergency relief assistance to people suffering from war, oppression, and natural disaster. This collection also helps the diocese meet it's obligation to contribute to the support of operational expenses of the Holy See. Thank you.

DLA: Thank you to all who have supported our DLA to date. Thus far, we have contributions from 159 families, totaling \$45,783.00. Our diocesan target is \$42,369.00. We are now over our diocesan target. Everything over this amount will remain here in our parish for our use. We encourage everyone to participate in this important annual appeal. Pledges may still be made by mailing your pledge card in the envelope provided directly to the Diocese. Thank you.

GRANDPARENTS RAISING GRANDCHILDREN: Grandparents Raising Grandchildren, an ecumenical social outreach mission of Saint Cecilia Parish, Whitney, Sacred Heart Parish, Youngstown, and Trinity Lutheran Church, Latrobe, offers monthly meetings to provide grandparents useful information and time to interact with one another. A hot dinner and child care are provided. For information, call 724-423-3777 or 724-537-7358.

"The Dog That Defied Nature and the Man Who Couldn't See It"



Once there was a boy who lived with his family on a farm. They had a beautiful dog who would go down to the pond for hours every day in the spring and summer with the boy to practice retrieving various items.

The boy wanted to prepare his dog for any scenario that may come up during duck season because he wanted his dog to be the best hunting dog in the whole county. The boy and his dog had vigorous training sessions every day until the dog was so obedient, he wouldn't do anything unless he was told to do so by the boy.

As duck season rolled in with the fall and winter months, the boy and his dog were eager to be at their regular spot down at the pond near their house. Only a few minutes passed before the two heard the first group of ducks flying overhead. The boy slowly raised his gun and shot three times before killing a duck, which landed in the center of the pond.

When the boy signaled his dog to retrieve the duck, the dog charged through the duck blind and bushes toward the pond. However, instead of swimming in the water like he had practiced so many times, the dog walked on the water's surface, retrieved the duck, and returned it to the boy.

The boy was astonished. His dog had an amazing ability to walk on water–it was like magic. The boy knew no one would ever believe this amazing thing that he had just witnessed. He had to get someone else down there to see this incredible phenomenon. The boy went to a nearby farmer's house and asked if he would hunt with him the next morning. The neighbor agreed, and met up with the boy the following morning at his regular spot by the pond.

The pair patiently waited for a group of ducks to fly overhead, and soon enough, they heard them coming. The boy told the neighbor to go ahead and take a shot, which the neighbor did, killing one duck. Just as the day before, the boy signaled to his dog to fetch the duck. Miraculously, the dog walked on the water again to retrieve the duck. The boy was bursting with pride and could hardly contain himself when he asked his neighbor, "Did you see that? What do you think?!"

The neighbor responded, "I wasn't going to say anything, but your dog doesn't even know how to swim."

The boy sat in disbelief as his neighbor pointed out a potential flaw of the dog rather than recognizing the fact that what he had just done was a miracle.

The Moral: People will often downplay others' abilities or achievements because they're unable to accomplish the same thing. Don't let this bring you down. Just move on and keep working on improving yourself. Maintaining a constructive mindset is a key part of being successful.

Furthermore, be conscious of instances in which you may be tempted to not give credit where it is deserved. Pointing out other people's shortcomings does not make you a superior person.

Always remember...there is always one who does the "impossible" to "I'm possible" and that can also be you.



GREAT TALKS PRAYER RECREATION

PRIESTLY VOCATION

Ever wonder: "What is happening in the atrium?"

Join us

at SS. Simon & Jude Parish, Blairsville, for a **FREE** opportunity to learn more about the Faith Formation spreading across our region.

<u>Gather on either:</u>

- Monday, July 7 from 10:00 AM to 3:30 PM OR
- Tuesday, July 8 from 6:00 PM to 8:30 PM and

Thursday, July 10 from 6:00 PM to 8:30 PM

Who should attend :

- Volunteer Assistant Catechists and Subsitute Catechists
- ✓ Parents, Grandparents, Godparents
- ✓ Anyone interested in learning more about sharing the love of God with children!

Refreshments will be provided. Please RSVP to: 814-804-1336 dcribbs@dioceseofgreensburg.org