





# Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

## Saint Michael Roman Catholic Parish

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

Saint Margaret, Mission

701 Denver Street, Jamestown, PA 16134

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Sunday, July 20, 2025

### **MASS TIMES**

Tuesday-Friday, 9:00am (Saint Michael)

First Saturday, 9:00am (Saint Michael)

**Saturday,** 4:30pm (*Saint Michael*) **Sunday,** 8:00am (*Saint Margaret*) **Sunday,** 11:00am (*Saint Michael*)

#### PARISH DIRECTORY

Father Brandon Kleckner, Pastor BKleckner@ErieRcd.org

Deacon Marty Aubel, Parish Deacon Ext. 138 MAubel@eriercd.org

**Deacon Frank Luciani,** *Parish Deacon* Ext. 139 FLuciani@eriercd.org

**Patty Meehan,** Office Manager Ext. 133 pmeehan@stmichaelgreenville.com

Susan Swartzbeck, Business Manager Ext. 135 saintmichaelbiz@gmail.com

**Chris & Meg Straub,** Faith Formation Ext. 136 MStraub@stmichaelgreenville.com

#### **STEWARDSHIP**

Fifteenth Sunday \$11,666.10

**CSA 2025** 

Pledged: \$126,725 Paid: \$96,690

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY
TO OUR PARISH!

If you have not yet pledged to this year's CSA, please consider what you may be able to offer.

#### PARISH PICNIC NEWS

Parish Picnic Meeting Thursday, July 24 7pm Large Meeting Room.

Plan to attend the parish picnic, Sunday, August 10 from 12-3 pm. Bring a dessert or side dish to serve 10 people. Sign up boards in the Gathering spaces of both churches to volunteer your time and/or food.

#### **REST IN PEACE**

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Michael J. Ceremuga. May his soul and all the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace.

#### **MASS INTENTIONS**

#### Tuesday, July 22

Saint Mary Magdalene Judy Turner (Mary Jo Lipani)

#### Wednesday, July 23

Saint Bridget John Shuttic (Wife Lynn)

#### Thursday, July 24

Saint Sharbel Makhluf Rod & Betty Burns (Terri Burns)

#### Friday, July 25

Saint James Steve Varga (Children)

# SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

#### Saturday, July 26

4:30pm Bill Emmett (Anniv.) (Matt & Jill Ross)

#### Sunday, July 27

8:00am For The People of the Parish

11:00am Jack Kalchthaler (Lema & Thomas Families)

#### **SANCTUARY CANDLES**

#### July 16-31 (Saint Michael)

Gigi Marshall Weaver (Marshall Family)
Beth Yurisic (Mom)

#### **July 16-31 (Saint Margaret)**

Carol Moore (Robert Moore) Beth Yurisic (Robert Moore)

#### WEEKLY CALENDAR

July 23: Confessions - 8pm-8:30pm.

**July 24:** Picnic committee meeting-7pm.

July 26: Confessions 3pm-4pm.

#### JUBILEE YEAR -GRANDPARENTS DAY

MESSAGE OF THE HOLY FATHER
FOR THE 5<sup>th</sup> WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND
THE ELDERLY 2025
[27 July 2025]

Dear brothers and sisters,

<u>The Jubilee</u> we are now celebrating helps us to realize that hope is a constant source of joy, whatever our age. When that hope has also been tempered by fire over the course of a long life, it proves a source of deep happiness....

Signs of hope for the elderly

From biblical times, the Jubilee has been understood as a time of liberation. Slaves were freed, debts were forgiven and land was returned to its original owners. The Jubilee was a time when the social order willed by God was restored, and inequalities and injustices accumulated over the years were remedied. Jesus evoked those moments of liberation when, in the synagogue of Nazareth, he proclaimed good news to the poor, sight to the blind and freedom for prisoners and the oppressed (cf. Lk 4:16-21).

Looking at the elderly in the spirit of this Jubilee, we are called to help them experience liberation, especially from loneliness and abandonment. This year is a fitting time to do so. God's fidelity to his promises teaches us that there is a blessedness in old age, an authentic evangelical joy inspiring us to break through the barriers of indifference in which the elderly often find themselves enclosed. Our societies, everywhere in the world, are growing all too accustomed to letting this significant and enriching part of their life be marginalized and forgotten...

(paragraphs from the Pope's letter- © Dicastero per la Comunicazione-Libreria Editrice Vaticana).

# A WORD FROM FATHER BRANDON

I had a few questions asked about the fiscal year report I put out two weeks ago, so I wanted to note a few items here that I overlooked. When you're immersed in the numbers day in and day out, it can be easy to fall into assumption and overlook, so I apologize for any slack of clarity. A few more notations to that report. 1) This past year, I wanted to engage more of our assets into the welfare of our community - especially the Good Shepherd. With the approval of the Finance Council, we withdrew \$2,000 / mo. from our parish savings and gave it to the Good Shepherd to help fund their ministries. With the close of the school, and new margin in the operating budget, we are now going to be sending them \$2,000 / mo. from our offertory, not savings. That is \$24,000 a year of offertory now going to the Good Shepherd! 2) This year we routed the Fish Dinner profits of about \$8,000 to the school as a way to help fund the school which needed the money. Thank you, again, for your trust in me.

If I were to put my finger on the biggest thing that chokes the faith of both the deeply prayerful and those newly beginning in the spiritual life, it would be the self-imposed burden that 'my prayer and my encounter with God must be full of activity'. Or, restated, the true challenge to faith is the dissatisfaction we feel with ourselves in the presence of God and the need to numb that agitation with activity or noise or some self-imposed severity. A third way of saying that is that the greatest threat to my relationship with God is me being uncomfortable with how God wants to love me.

In everything I have lived, counseled, directed, absolved, and mediated in my thirteen years as a priest; the single thing that stands out to me is not the evil desires of the enemy, but it is the disquietness he seeks to take root in our souls. The enemy says, "Sin!", and in moments of great strength we might even break an unhealthy pattern of sin with a guttural, emphatic 'No!'—and feel free! And in those moments, we truly are: that is exactly the kind of victory Our Lord has won for us, and invites us to share! But, subtly and unbeknownst to us, the enemy in his frustration plants seeds of agitation in our souls, like grenades tossed over the wall of our "No" we've built as his next line of offense. When those grenades are flung and land over on the other side of the wall of our purity and holiness - in the darkness of the night undetected by our spiritual senses - we lose the sweetness and festive joys of that victory. Now, we doubt that we ever really accomplished anything with Jesus; we doubt that we really are even worthy of that victory - "I am rotten, gross, and terrible", "how could God ever love me"... Every photon and decibel of that spiritual blast from the enemy's grenades doesn't just wound us, but it also topples that fortress of grace we have built with our God. The victory is seemingly lost, and we're striving all over again to recreate what was already given. And thus the cycle continues.

But it isn't just about sin - it is also about our awareness of and desire for a holy intimacy with The Trinity. The real challenge is to never let the grenades of the enemy, lobbed over the walls of our interior life, lead us into dissatisfaction with God. "Our hearts are restless until they rest in Thee, O Lord" - Augustine's great opening line from his Confessions is a North Star for us. In our own restlessness, let's not run around and yoke ourselves with busyness, noise, and endless efforts to please God or make ourselves feel better. Rather, let the enemy do what he's going to do - we can't stop him. While he's at it, just be; sit at The Lord's feet; and be still in The Father's embrace. Know that you are safe; you are loved; you are where you need to be! And in that, may the enemy more and more melt away into utter obscurity as we delight in the life of the Trinity!

Love, Father Brandon