

Our Lady Queen of Angels Parish

Reverend Father Aron M. Maghsoudi – Pastor

Rectory Office

738 Sunshine Avenue
Central City, PA 15926
814-754-5224

May 10, 2020
**Fifth Sunday
Of Easter**

Worship Sites
Church (Sacred Heart)
738 Sunshine Avenue
Chapel (St. John)
162 Wheeler Street

Live Stream Mass:

10:30 AM Sunday

Facebook Live

Confessions

Anytime upon Request

Mass Intentions

Said privately by Fr. Aron

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| May 11 (Mon) | Easter Weekday Rachel Moslak (Req. Teresa Mrozowski) |
| May 12 (Tue) | St. Nereus & St. Achilleus <i>Private Intention</i> |
| May 13 (Wed) | Our Lady of Fatima Stanley Tomaszewski (Req. Tony & Debbie Renzi) |
| May 14 (Thu) | St. Matthias Lillian Koleszarik (Req. Tom & Bonnie Jarvis) |
| May 15 (Fri) | St. Isidore Fr. William Mullen |
| May 16 (Sat) | Easter Weekday Ray & Tillie Pasierb (Req. Pysnik Family) |
| May 17 (Sun) | Sixth Sunday of Easter For the Parish (Missa Pro Populo) Louis & Elizabeth Yuko & Steph Roman (Req. Shirley Roman) |

Fifth Sunday of Easter

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

As the number of disciples continued to grow, the Hellenists complained against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. So the Twelve called together the community of the disciples and said, “It is not right for us to neglect the word of God to serve at table. Brothers, select from among you seven reputable men, filled with the Spirit and wisdom, whom we shall appoint to this task, whereas we shall devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.” The proposal was acceptable to the whole community, so they chose Stephen, a man filled with faith and the Holy Spirit, also Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicholas of Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these men to the apostles who prayed and laid hands on them.

The word of God continued to spread, and the number of the disciples in Jerusalem increased greatly; even a large group of priests were becoming obedient to the faith.

Responsorial Psalm

R. Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

Exult, you just, in the LORD;

praise from the upright is fitting.

Give thanks to the LORD on the harp;
with the ten-stringed lyre chant his praises. R.

See, the eyes of the LORD are upon those who
fear him,

upon those who hope for his kindness,

To deliver them from death
and preserve them in spite of famine. R.

Upright is the word of the LORD,

and all his works are trustworthy.

He loves justice and right;

of the kindness of the LORD the earth is full. R.

A Reading from the First Letter of St. Peter

Beloved: Come to him, a living stone, rejected by human beings but chosen and precious in the sight of God, and, like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it says in Scripture: Behold, I am laying a stone in Zion, a cornerstone, chosen and precious, and whoever believes in it shall not be put to shame. Therefore, its value is for you who have faith, but for those without faith: The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone, and a stone that will make people stumble, and a rock that will make them fall. They stumble by disobeying the word, as is their destiny. You are “a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people of his own, so that you may announce the praises” of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

A Reading from the Gospel of John

Jesus said to his disciples: “Do not let your hearts be troubled. You have faith in God; have faith also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If there were not,

would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back again and take you to myself, so that where I am you also may be. Where I am going you know the way.” Thomas said to him, “Master, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, then you will also know my Father. From now on you do know him and have seen him.” Philip said to him, “Master, show us the Father, and that will be enough for us.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you for so long a time and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on my own. The Father who dwells in me is doing his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else, believe because of the works themselves. Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever believes in me will do the works that I do, and will do greater ones than these, because I am going to the Father.”

MASSES ONLINE - Father Aron will Live Stream Holy Mass every Sunday at 10:30 AM with Nick Will. Please friend Father on Facebook (Aron Maghsoudi) to join him. All are welcome to pray the Mass and witness technical difficulties in real time.

SANCTUARY CANDLE INTENTIONS -The Sanctuary Candle burns at the Sacred Heart site in loving memory of the birthday of George Napora by Ann.

PRAYER LIST - Please call the rectory with any changes or additions. Kay Hintosh, Dale Berkey Jr., Allen S. Berkey, David Stockdill, Tina Udet, Patty Foltz, Connie Gruca, Judy Kostick, Lisa Schrift, Amy Thomas Georg, Betsy Paolucci, Areile Adomnik, Charles Field, Todd Diorio, Denne Osman, Addison Zearfaus, Pam Kacmarski, Tom Schall, Howard Rose, David P. Bonus, Henry Sprock, Connie Criscoulo, Hunter Slater, Nancy Deneen, Stephen A. Haydu, Andrea Sesack, Lyle Spearo, Lauren Barnes, Agnes Palya, Gerald “Curly” Mains, Rollin Wilson, Tom Hudak.

WEEKLY OFFERING - Thank you so very much to all who continue to support the church!

SMALL ERRANDS - Volunteers have contacted our office offering to run small errands like grocery and/or prescription pick up and drop off for anyone in need. Please call the rectory if you need assistance, errands or help with bills (rent, utilities, etc.) during this time. (814-754-5224).

DONATIONS FOR FOOD PANTRY - The local food pantry is in need of 1 lb packages of ground beef, frozen chicken and packages of hot dogs. Any other donations are also welcome as well as gift cards to local grocery stores for volunteers to purchase the items needed. A volunteer will be stationed outside the Activities Center on the Polish Patio to accept donations May 13th, 14th & 15th from 12 PM until 2:00 PM.

HAPPY MOTHER’S DAY! - God bless all Mothers, Stepmothers, Grandmothers, Godmothers, Foster Mothers, and all women who Nurture Life! May all our deceased Mothers, rest in peace.

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

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.

ACT OF CONCECRATION TO MARY - written by St. Maximilian Kolbe - O Immaculata, Queen of Heaven and earth, refuge of sinners and our most loving Mother, God has willed to entrust the entire order of mercy to you. I, (name), a repentant sinner, cast myself at your feet humbly imploring you to take me with all that I am and have, wholly to yourself as your possession and property. Please make of me, of all my powers of soul and body, of my whole life, death and eternity, whatever most pleases you.

If it pleases you, use all that I am and have without reserve, wholly to accomplish what was said of you: "She will crush your head," and, "You alone have destroyed all heresies in the world." Let me be a fit instrument in your immaculate and merciful hands for introducing and increasing your glory to the maximum in all the many strayed and indifferent souls, and thus help extend as far as possible the blessed kingdom of the most Sacred Heart of Jesus. For wherever you enter, you obtain the grace of conversion and growth in holiness, since it is through your hands that all graces come to us from the most Sacred Heart of Jesus.

V. Allow me to praise you, O sacred Virgin.

R. Give me strength against your enemies.

FAMILY CONSECRATION TO MARY - in the spirit of St. Maximilian Kolbe - O Immaculata, Queen of heaven and earth, our life, our sweetness, and our hope, on this day we the (Family Surname) family come before you to consecrate ourselves to you as your possession and property. We praise God because he has brought us together to give ourselves to you our Mother. We do this because Jesus said on the Cross, "Behold your Mother."

We need you, Mother Mary, to help us to be a truly Catholic family. Enter into our family life. Repeat to us the words you spoke at Cana, "Do whatever He tells you."

Help us to overlook one another's faults, to forgive as Jesus has forgiven us, and to love one another as Our Lord has asked us to love.

Please use our family to crush the head of the serpent. Ask your Spouse, St. Joseph, Protector of the universal Church, to keep us one in mind and heart with your Son's Vicar, Pope Francis.

Today you have become the Queen of our hearts and home. May our home be a "City of the Immaculata," where the Sacred Heart of Jesus reigns forever. Amen.

THE MOST IMPORTANT PERSON ON EARTH IS A MOTHER

The Most Important Person on earth is a mother.

She cannot claim the honor of having built Notre Dame Cathedral. She need not.

She has built something more magnificent than any cathedral—a dwelling for an immortal soul, the tiny perfection of her baby's body...The angels have not been blessed with such a grace.

They cannot share in God's creative miracle to bring new saints to Heaven.

Only a human mother can. Mothers are closer to God the Creator than any other creature;

God joins forces with mothers in performing this act of creation...

What on God's good earth is more glorious than this: to be a mother?

—Ven. Joseph Cardinal Mindszenty

PRAYER FOR A DECEASED PARENT

O God, Who hast commanded us to honor our father and mother, look in the tenderness of Thy mercy upon the souls of my father and mother, forgive them their sins, and grant unto me the joy of seeing them again in the glorious light of everlasting life. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE IMPORTANCE OF MOTHERS AND FATHERS - Archbishop William E. Lori - No one loves us quite so tenderly and persistently as our mothers. Where would we be without them? They are the glue that holds families together. It is never too late to pay tribute to our mothers, living and dead, and to commend them to the Lord. Let me wager, however, that good mothers desire, more than anything else, good husbands and fathers. They deserve husbands who are loving and faithful. Mothers understand how important a father's love and example is for their children. And wives know that if they are united with their husbands in faith, values and their understanding of how to raise their family, their children will more easily grow and develop as God intended.

Good fathers sense this, too. They know that loving and respecting their wives is also important for children. The love of mothers and fathers is complementary. Fathers have their own brand of strong and tender love that goes along with and completes the love that mothers have for their children.

Together, loving husbands and wives create a space of safety, stability and nurturing for their children. Within this zone, they can hand on the faith of the Church and help their children develop spiritually, intellectually, psychologically and physically. Parents can also be role models who help their children come to understand how men and women relate to one another in a healthy, respectful manner.

Today, when we watch re-runs of old family sit-coms such as *Leave It to Beaver* or *Father Knows Best*, we think of such shows as quaint, overly idealized portraits of what family life was like in the 1950s and '60s. Even then, it was rare for a stay-at-home mom to do housework while wearing pearls and high heels, or for a dad to wear a tie around the house. The wisdom that the parents dispensed to their children on those TV shows can seem a little stilted to our 21st-century ears.

By contrast, contemporary sitcoms often present fractured families or "traditional" families in which both the husband and the wife are silly and foolish. This is especially true of fathers, who are seldom portrayed as intelligent, wholesome, positive influences on their children. Even if we don't watch these shows, their influence is all around us in popular culture.

Baby boomers (of which I am one) may think that the Church wants all families to be like those TV sitcom families of old. At the same time, more than a few millennials may think that the Church's teaching on marriage and family is hopelessly out of touch. But the Church's teaching doesn't take its cues from flickering screens, whether they're old 12-inch televisions or iPads. Rather, the Church knows from reason, experience and revelation how important husbands and wives, mothers and fathers, are for the flourishing of children and society. The definitions of husband, wife, father and mother cannot be changed at will. This has to do with the structure of reality; it's "how things are." Furthermore, the Church recognizes that marriage is an image of God's whole relationship with his people. The Church is the bride of Christ and our spiritual mother.

I have been a priest for 36 years. Along the way, I have come to understand more profoundly how God blessed me from my youth with a loving family. I have also enjoyed the friendship of many families who live the vocation of marriage and family amid the struggles and joys of life. These families have taught me a lot about the title of "father" that is accorded to priests. We are called to be like good and loving fathers to the families of faith that we have been sent to serve. How many societal problems would be headed off if husbands were attentive to their wives and present to their children! What a different scene it would be for so many children if they had the joy and security of sitting down to dinner with their parents and siblings with some regularity! Often in distressed neighborhoods, it is the fathers who are missing. All too often, mothers must raise their children alone. Many do so heroically, and they deserve our respect, support and prayers. Yet, it should always be our hope and prayer that the number of strong, intact and loving families will grow. It turns out that Mother's Day and Father's Day are more than gifts, greeting cards and gatherings. These observances remind us to recommit ourselves to the vocation of marriage and family. May we remain at the forefront in defending and promoting this beautiful and challenging vocation.

PILGRIMAGE ON PAPER – BASILICA OF ST. ANN – SCRANTON, PA – More than a century ago the Passionists arrived in Scranton to conduct missions and retreats. The people and the local clergy loved them so much; the Fathers were invited to establish the congregation in the diocese.

A plateau of 10 acres, rather high above the city, and known as "The Round Woods", was chosen by the Passionists and by Bishop Michael Hoban. Chosen on the day of the Virgin Mary's birthday, the new home of the Passionist Community was named in honor of Saint Ann, Mother of Mary. From July 17-25 the Passionists prayed a nine-day novena to St. Ann to ask her blessings, as was their custom.

On March 25, 1904 Mass was celebrated at the Monastery for the first time by Bishop Hoban. Commanding a splendid view of surrounding hills and valleys, the Round Woods became a great attraction to people near and far, and the beginnings of a strong new parish began forming.

Disaster struck on the morning of August 15, 1911 when a coal mine subsidence seriously damaged the monastery. The priests continued their ministries until two years later when another major slide caused them to evacuate. Mining experts predicted a huge collapse would carry the Monastery to the east.

On July 28, 1913, two days after the Feast of St. Ann, amid earthly grumblings and flying coal dust, the priests and laity knelt in solemn prayer throughout the night. At daybreak they were startled by a tremendous rumble, followed by deafening silence. What was supposed to have been a giant slide, turned out to be two huge boulders moving into place underneath the building: Those rolling boulders closed the great fissures, making the Monastery grounds more solid than ever.

St. Ann's Novena began in November, 1924 with just a handful of people requesting the rector of St. Ann's Monastery to have a weekly novena honoring St. Ann. They knew that the priests, brothers and seminarians had their own novena services in the Monastery Chapel. The Rector appointed a young priest, Father John Joseph Endler, C.P., to hold services for the people in the Monastery parlor. Within a few weeks and with the addition of extra devotions each Monday, the parlor was not large enough to hold the number attending the Novena devotions. A large tent was provided by the Scranton Fire Department which was used for services for the next few months. It was evident that larger accommodations had to be provided and a simple wooden structure was erected near the front entrance to the Monastery. This held about 200 people. The crowds continued to increase. Finally, it was decided to build a church. Ground was broken in 1927 and the finished church was dedicated on April 2, 1929. Such was the beginning of St. Ann's Shrine and St. Ann's Novena. It could certainly be said that the Novena actually began in the hearts of the people as so many devotions begin. It was the faithful of the area who requested the Novena. It was their spontaneous response to it that brought about the huge crowds that have attended over the years. It could be said that it was really St. Ann working through the hearts of the faithful.

From the beginning, the steadily growing crowds, particularly at the Solemn Novena in July, resulted not so much from promotion by the Passionist Community as by word of mouth of the devotees of St. Ann. Over the years there were continuous reports of miracles happening through the intercession of St. Ann. During and after World War II, a great number of families moved from Scranton to other areas to find employment. Very many of these people continued to return to St. Ann's Shrine for the annual Solemn Novena in July. This marked the pilgrimages from many parts of the United States and Canada. It also explains why devotion to St. Ann became a tradition for countless families. Repeatedly, one hears people remark: "My mother took me to St. Ann's when I was a sick child. The doctor had given up. I haven't missed a novena since." At other times you can hear a mother introduce her child as "My St. Ann's baby." Then she will tell you that she and her husband prayed for years for a baby and finally St. Ann answered their prayers. Still others say, "I don't remember why I began the Novena. I was probably looking for some favor. I have no idea now what favor I wanted and have no idea whether I received it or not. But it doesn't matter. I know I would never miss my Novena." **THIS IS TRULY A PEOPLE'S NOVENA.** It was born in the hearts of the faithful and it continues to thrive because of their great devotion.

Devotion to St. Ann and the Novena is truly an important part of the spiritual life of so very many people in this area and beyond. On the Feast of St. Ann, there are groups of pilgrims that come from surrounding towns on foot. A group from Dunmore leaves home at 4:00 A.M. and walks 3 miles to the Shrine for the 6:00 A.M. Mass. Groups from Pittston gather together at midnight to walk the 8 miles to the shrine and arrive around 3 A.M. That gives them ample time for making the outdoor Stations of the Cross and receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation before the first Mass of the day at 4:30 A.M. These groups are predominantly young people who will tell you that their parents and grandparents began these traditions years before.



The Sacrament of Reconciliation remains an important experience for the faithful devoted to St. Ann. During the Solemn Novena, the Passionist priests at St. Ann's are joined by the Passionists from other monasteries and a large number of Diocesan priests who willingly participate in this important part of the people's pilgrimage to St. Ann.

In addition to the large crowds attending the Novena, thousands more have been part of the Novena and Mass through radio and television, starting back in the 1940's.

“WINNINGEST COACH” - John Burger via Aleteia - Miami Dolphins' record-setting leader was the product of a Jesuit education and later became a generous supporter of Catholic schools. Don Shula, who died Monday at the age of 90, is being remembered as the “winningest coach in NFL history.” Shula spent much of his retirement working to make sure that youngsters at his Catholic parish in South Florida would be the winningest students. The Miami Dolphins, the team he coached from 1970 to 1995, issued a statement saying that Shula died “peacefully at his home.” Fr. Juan Sosa, pastor of St. Joseph Parish on Miami Beach, told Aleteia that Shula attended daily Mass for years, including the early Mass on Sundays. “When I arrived about 10 years ago, I met him as one of our parishioners, unpretentious, very devoted and faithful to his commitment as a Christian and a Catholic,” Fr. Sosa said in a statement Monday. “Later on, he became more physically dependent and he came with his family to Christmas and Easter celebrations. He reiterated his characterization of him as “unpretentious.” “He did what God wanted him to do and fulfilled his vocation,” Fr. Sosa said. He said that when a documentary was being made about him and the Dolphins several years ago, “he mentioned to me that he once, as a young man, wanted to become a priest. His pastor was very influential in this discernment. Fr. John Dearden, of whom he always spoke with great respect and love,” went on to become a cardinal, as Archbishop of Detroit.

But he went on to play football instead, beginning when he attended John Carroll University near Cleveland on a football scholarship. Born in Ohio, Donald Francis Shula grew up in a Catholic family of seven children, which included a set of triplets. In his 1995 book *Everyone's a Coach*, Shula wrote that he “learned his faith from his parents” and that they never missed Mass on Sunday. He attended St. Mary's Catholic School in Painesville and graduated from John Carroll, where he became close to the Jesuits on the faculty there, according to a 2014 Catholic News Service article. Later, he endowed the Don Shula chair in philosophy at the university. Shula played seven seasons as a defensive back in the NFL after being drafted by the Cleveland Browns in 1951. He also played for Baltimore Colts and Washington Redskins. In 1963, Shula began coaching the Colts, becoming the youngest NFL coach at age 33. He led the Colts to Super Bowl III, though they lost to the New York Jets. Shula in 1970 signed on with Miami and ended up coaching 26 seasons before retiring after the 1995 season. “Coach Shula, as everyone knew him, was simple, faithful to others, and a good servant,” Fr. Sosa told Aleteia. “He and Mary Anne, his wife, were instrumental

in the final construction of St. Joseph's School and have been very supportive of the scholarship granted every year to an 8th grader who may wish to pursue his/her high school education in an archdiocesan high school." Fr. Sosa had told Catholic News Service in 2014 that the community knew the Shulas for their dedication to reconciliation and peace at various times in Miami's history and for their commitment to Catholic schools. News of Shula's death on Monday was greeted with accolades in the sports world. "Don Shula was the patriarch of the Miami Dolphins for 50 years," the Dolphins' statement said. "He brought the winning edge to our franchise and put the Dolphins and the city of Miami in the national sports scene." "Today is a sad day," Dolphins president Tom Garfinkel said in a statement. "Coach Shula was the rare man who exemplified true greatness in every aspect of his life. He will be so missed by so many but his legacy of character and excellence will endure." Shula led the Dolphins to six Super Bowls, winning two of them — in 1972 and 1973. The first victory came at the end of an unprecedented season with no losses for the Dolphins. It remains the league's only perfect season. He won an NFL-record 347 games, including playoff games, said ESPN. He was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1997. Shula was "a tactician and taskmaster who built some of the most fearsome defenses and explosive offenses in league history," according to the New York Times' Ken Belson.

After his career, Shula started the Don Shula Foundation for Breast Cancer Research in memory of his first wife, Dorothy, who died from the disease.

ST. JOHN PAUL II'S POEM TO HIS MOTHER - May 18, 2020 will mark 100 years since the birth of St. John Paul II. Here is a beautiful poem he wrote in honor of his mother. The cause of Canonization for the parents of St. John Paul II (Karol and Emilia Wojtyla) has been introduced in Poland.

Over this, your white grave
the flowers of life in white--
so many years without you--
how many have passed out of sight?

Over this your white grave
covered for years, there is a stir
in the air, something uplifting
and, like death, beyond comprehension.

Over this your white grave
oh, mother, can such loving cease?
for all his filial adoration
a prayer: Give her eternal peace--
Karol Wojtyla, Krakow, spring 1939

