

Our Lady Queen of Angels Parish

Reverend Father Aron M. Maghsoudi – Pastor

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

July 9, 2017
Fourteenth Sunday
in Ordinary Time

Worship Sites
Church (Sacred Heart)
738 Sunshine Avenue

Chapel (St. John)
162 Wheeler Street

Confessions:
Church (Sacred Heart)
Saturday 3:00 PM – 3:45 PM
Chapel (St. John)
Sunday 10:00 AM – 10:15 AM
Anytime upon Request

Holy Masses:

Daily
Church (Sacred Heart) 8:00AM
Saturday Vigil
Church (Sacred Heart) 4:00PM
Sunday Morning
Church (Sacred Heart) 8:00 AM
Chapel (St. John) 10:30 AM

Mass Intentions

July 10	<i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i> NO MASS
July 11	<i>Saint Benedict, Abbot</i> NO MASS
July 12	<i>Weekday in Ordinary Time</i> NO MASS
July 13	<i>St. Henry</i> NO MASS
July 14	<i>Saint Kateri Tekakwitha</i> NO MASS
July 15 4:00 PM	<i>Vigil of the Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> Sarah Haydu, Birthday Remembrance (Req. son Stephen) - Church
July 16 8:00 AM 10:30 AM	<i>Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i> Deceased members of Delach/Miklavic Families (Req. Family) - Church For the Parish (Missa Populo) - Church

NEW TICKET - The parish is now offering a new raffle ticket - \$1,000 of Meat and a Weber Grill. The tickets are \$5.00 each with a total of 1,000 tickets based on Pennsylvania Daily Number on July 30, 2017. The meat prize provided by way of a gift certificate to Hoffer's Ligonier Valley Packing, the grill is a Weber E-310 Genesis II. All proceeds go to the CCD program. Thank you for your generosity.

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE -

July 15	Church	4:00 PM	E. & M. Rapsky, A. Knapp
June 16	Church	8:00 AM	L. L., & L. Mincek
June 16	Chapel	10:30 AM	E. Spinelli, C. Coleman, M. Topka

SANCTUARY CANDLE INTENTIONS - The Sanctuary Candle burns at the Church in loving memory of all members of the John Kotus Family by the Estate of John Kotus. The Sanctuary Candle burns at the Chapel for the donors and contributors of Our Lady's Memorial Fund.

THE SAINT WHO WAS AN OPIUM ADDICT WHO COULDN'T RECEIVE THE SACRAMENTS - St. Mark Ji Tianxiang was an opium addict. Not *had been* an opium addict. He *was* an opium addict at the time of his death. For years, Tianxiang was a respectable Christian, raised in a Christian family in 19th-century China. He was a leader in the Christian community, a well-off doctor who served the poor for free. But he became ill with a violent stomach ailment and treated himself with opium. It was a perfectly reasonable thing to do, but Tianxiang soon became addicted to the drug, an addiction that was considered shameful and gravely scandalous. As his circumstances deteriorated, Tianxiang continued to fight his addiction. He went frequently to confession, refusing to embrace this affliction that had taken control of him. Unfortunately, the priest to whom he confessed (along with nearly everybody in the 19th century) didn't understand addiction as a disease. Since Tianxiang kept confessing the same sin, the priest thought, that was evidence that he had no firm purpose of amendment, no desire to do better. Without resolve to repent and sin no more, confession is invalid. After a few years, Tianxiang's confessor told him to stop coming back until he could fulfill the requirements for confession. For some, this might have been an invitation to leave the Church in anger or shame, but for all his fallenness, Tianxiang knew himself to be loved by the Father and by the Church. He knew that the Lord wanted his heart, even if he couldn't manage to give over his life. He couldn't stay sober, but he could keep showing up. And show up he did, for 30 years. For 30 years, he was unable to receive the sacraments. And for 30 years he prayed that he would die a martyr. It seemed to Tianxiang that the only way he could be saved was through a martyr's crown. In 1900, when the Boxer Rebels began to turn against foreigners and Christians, Tianxiang got his chance. He was rounded up with dozens of other Christians, including his son, six grandchildren, and two daughters-in-law. Many of those imprisoned with him were likely disgusted by his presence there among them, this man who couldn't go a day without a hit. Surely he would be the first to deny the Lord. But while Tianxiang was never able to beat his addiction, he was, in the end, flooded with the grace of final perseverance. No threat could shake him, no torture make him waver. He was determined to follow the Lord who had never abandoned him. As Tianxiang and his family were dragged to prison to await their execution, his grandson looked fearfully at him. "Grandpa, where are we going?" he asked. "We're going home," came the answer. Tianxiang begged his captors to kill him last so that none of his family would have to die alone. He stood beside all nine of them as they were beheaded. In the end, he went to his death singing the Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary. And though he had been away from the sacraments for decades, he is a canonized saint. St. Mark Ji Tianxiang is a beautiful witness to the grace of God constantly at work in the most hidden ways, to God's ability to make great saints of the most unlikely among us, and to the grace poured out on those who remain faithful when it seems even the Church herself is driving them away. On July 9, the feast of St. Mark Ji Tianxiang, let's ask his intercession for all addicts and for all those who are unable to receive the sacraments, that they may have the courage to be faithful to the Church and that they may always grow in their love for and trust in the Lord. St. Mark Ji Tianxiang, pray for us!

WHY DO CATHOLICS USE INCENSE - The *Catechism* reminds us that prayer involves much more than our soul, "Whether prayer is expressed in words or gestures, it is the whole man who prays" (CCC 2562). For this reason the Church's public forms of worship contain numerous elements that are visible and engage our bodily senses. The *Catechism* teaches us that, "In human life, signs and symbols occupy an important place. As a being at once body and spirit, man expresses and perceives spiritual realities through physical signs and symbols. As a social being, man needs signs and symbols to communicate with others, through language, gestures, and actions. The same holds true for his relationship with God" (CCC 1146). To help engage all of our senses during the celebration of Mass, lifting up our bodies and souls to God, the Church for centuries has used incense as an important exterior sign. Incense was a vital part of worship for many ancient religions, including the Jewish worship of God. In the Tabernacle, as well as the Temple, God commanded that an "altar of incense" be built. God directed that Aaron, the High Priest, "shall burn it, a perpetual incense before the Lord throughout your generations" (Exodus 30:8). Connected to this tradition is the best known phrase mentioning incense in the Old Testament, "Let my prayer be counted as incense before thee, and the lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice" (Psalm 141:2). Christians quickly adopted the use of incense, and it appears prominently in the book of Revelation in the heavenly liturgy, where St. John describes, "the smoke of the incense rose with the prayers of the saints from the hand of the angel before God" (Revelation 8:4). In light of the above scripture passages the primary meaning behind the use of incense is to symbolize our prayers rising up to God. When we see the incense we are reminded that the priest is there to gather up our petitions and plead on our behalf before our loving and merciful God. Incense also calls to mind the heavenly reality of the Mass. It connects our celebration to the heavenly liturgy depicted in the book of Revelation and reminds us that the Mass is a meeting place between heaven and earth. Last of all the thick cloud of incense can often obscure our view of the altar. This is a good thing and reminds us of the mysterious nature of the Mass. Our mortal minds cannot comprehend fully the mystery

that is being celebrated before our eyes and the incense makes that reality even more tangible. So while the use of incense can seem strange at times, it has deep spiritual roots and has been a part of divine worship for thousands of years.

FATHER ARON AWAY THIS WEEK - Fr. Aron will be away from Sunday evening until next Saturday afternoon. In case of emergency please contact St. Anthony Rectory in Windber or Holy Family Rectory in Hooversville. There will be no daily Masses this week at our parish.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS -

July 10 - Society of Angels Meeting - 6:30 PM - Activity Center

July 17 - Parish Finance Council - 6:00 PM - St. John's

July 20 - Kennywood CCD trip (Slovak Day)

July 22-23 - Mission Co-Op Visit, Sisters of Charity, Korean Missions

July 26 - K of C Meeting - St. John's

July 30 - Classic car show and wing cookout - St. John's

August 6 - Fr. Aron's bus trip to visit historic churches in Philadelphia

August 15 - Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary - Holyday of Obligation

August 28 - Parish Council Meeting, 6:30 PM - Activity Center

FLOWER MEMORIALS - This weekend the flowers at the Sacred Heart site are dedicated in honor of Kristen Zubek and Stephanie Roman by families.

WEEKLY OFFERING July 1st and July 2nd - Adult Envelopes - \$2,451.25; Loose \$840.40; Fuel - \$206; Student Offering - \$18.75; Misc. Donations - \$180.00; Total - \$3,696.40 - Thank You!

CAR SHOW AND COOKOUT - Our parish will be hosting a classic and antique CAR CRUISE on Sunday July 30th at the St. John site from 1:00 PM until 5:00 PM. Live oldies music provided by Krazy Kat Daddies with wings, burgers, hot sausage, beer and other refreshments available. The first 50 cars will receive a dashboard madonna. All vehicles blessed upon request. If you would be so kind as to take some flyers (found on the back table) and distribute them to anyone who has an old car, enjoys old cars, likes to eat, or be around other humans.

ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT BREAKFAST - The parish will sponsor an ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT breakfast buffet on Sunday July 16th at the St. John site from 9:00 AM until Noon. The breakfast includes scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, hash browns, pancakes, French toast, sausage gravy and biscuits, donuts, toast, juice, and coffee. The cost is \$8.00 for adults, \$4.00 for children ages 8 to 4, children under 4 are free. All are welcome - the proceeds go a long way to help fund quality events for our parish CCD students.

PRAYER LIST - Jennie Sielczak, Frank Murawski, Constance Gruca, Lillian Koleszarik, Marie Metsker, Sandy Wechtenhiser, Ethan Rohlf, Rachel Moslak, Ann Guyer, Alice Zelenski, Shirley Taylor, Carol Hancharik, Kay Hintosh, Charlie Field Jr., David P. Bonus, Lauren Barnes, Andrew Straka, Joe Zeigler, Fern Lasut, Agnes Palya, Roger Black, Trish Rullo, Mike Stefanik, Stanley Carl Tomaszewski, Patrick Munro, Ron Rayman, Tom Hudak, Quincy Oglie, Charles Field Sr., Ron Delasko, Mike Dixon, Mya Polito, Patty Barnes, Madelain Mauger, Sue Frank, Caroline Amato, Richard Birely, Joseph Shelko, Shirley Roman, Mary Ethel Sanzo, Leon Bonus, Joyce Delasko, Larry Krestar, Harriet Konitsky, Andrew Muha, Andrea Sesack, Ricky Gerena, Shelly Delasko, Lionel Berkebile, Jeremy Christopher, Mary-Ann Sgavoo, Mary Ann Naret, Barry Stuft, Mary Ann Lasut, John Harchick Jr., Vincent Bestvina, Izzy Bihun, Jeff Yanosky

FESTIVAL NEXT WEEKEND - St. Clement Parish will hold its Annual Festival & Car Cruise on the parish grounds at the corner of Lindberg Avenue & Goucher Street on Sunday, July 16th beginning with a Polka Mass with Rosie & the Jammers at 10:30 AM. Car Cruise registration begins at 10:00 AM with a \$5.00 entry fee for each vehicle. A free t-shirt will be given to the first 100 entries. Music by DJ Labarko from 11:00 AM-1:00 PM; the band Cruzin' from 1:00-4:00 PM; and Colossal Karaoke from 4:00-6:00 PM. Roast Beef Dinner, International Grill, Bingo, Adult & Children's games & more! All are welcome!

ANNUAL NOVENA - The Sisters of Saint. Ann will host their annual novena in honor of good Saint Ann at their convent (1120 N. Center Street, Ebensburg) beginning on Tuesday, July 18th and lasting until Wednesday, July 26th. The public is invited to the Mass in honor of the Feast of St. Ann at 7:00 PM at their outdoor shrine.

MASS HONORING MARRIED COUPLES - There will be an outdoor Mass honoring married couples on Sunday evening, July 23 at 7:00 PM at the Shrine of Our Lady of the Alleghenies in Loretto. Bring a lawn chair. Bishop Barchak is scheduled to be the celebrant and homilist. All married couples are welcome to attend.

REMEMBER THIS IS CHURCH - Please use good judgment in attire worn at Mass during warmer months. As Catholics, we believe the Mass is a sacred occasion; our choice of clothing should reflect our understanding of the dignity of Mass. Clothing should be in good taste. Skimpy or revealing clothing is not in keeping with the serious character of the Mass.

FESTIVAL THIS WEEKEND - St. Anthony of Padua Parish in Windber will hold their annual festival **THIS WEEKEND**. On Saturday (July 8) the Festival will run from 5:00 PM -11:00 PM. Krazy Kat Daddies will play oldies music from 6:00 PM until 10:00 PM. On Sunday (July 9) the festival will run from 3:00 PM until 9:00 PM, with Rosie & the Jammers playing from 4:30 PM until 8:30 PM. Food, basket drawings, and other games throughout both days - all are welcome.
