

Our Lady Queen of Angels Parish

Reverend Father Aron M. Maghsoudi

Rectory Office

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

April 10, 2016
Third Sunday of Easter

Worship Sites

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

Holy Masses:

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

Confessions:

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

Mass Intentions

April 11	<i>Saint Stanislaus, Bishop, Martyr</i>
8:00 AM	Margaret Hudak (Req. family) - Church
April 12	<i>Easter Weekday</i>
8:00 AM	No Mass
April 13	<i>Easter Weekday, Saint Martin I. Pope, Martyr</i>
8:00 AM	No Mass
April 14	<i>Easter Weekday</i>
8:00 AM	No Mass
April 15	<i>Easter Weekday</i>
8:00 AM	No Mass
April 16	<i>Easter Weekday</i>
4:00 PM	Tee and Libby Ciccone. (Req. Beth and Darrell Humphrey) - Church
April 17	<i>FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</i>
8:00 AM	Sonny Roman (Req. wife Shirley and family) – Church
10:30 AM	For the People of Our Parish (Missa Pro Populo) – Chapel

SO LET ME GET THIS STRAIGHT – I (Fr. Aron) was recently asked to address some ethical concerns with regard of the use of animal “parts” in humans. Fr. Tad Pacholczyk, a priest of the Fall River Diocese in Massachusetts, offered the following response to this bioethics question in the article found below. In addition to his graduate theological degrees, Fr. Tad earned his doctorate in neuroscience from Yale and did post-doctoral work at Harvard. His article is an interesting read. – Human beings can have a visceral reaction to the thought of growing human kidneys or livers inside the bodies of pigs or cows. A participant in a recent online forum on human/animal chimeras described it this way: "Unbelievable!!! . . . If there was anything that was more anti-God it is the genetic formation of chimeras which is nothing more than Frankenstein monster creation." Although the idea of a chimeric animal is indeed unusual, several factors need to be considered in evaluating the practice of growing human organs within animals. Despite our initial hesitations, certain kinds of human/animal chimeras are likely to be justifiable and reasonable. This comes into focus when we recognize, for example, how thousands of patients who have received replacement heart valves made out of

pig or cow tissues are already themselves a type of human/animal chimera. For many years, moreover, scientists have worked with chimeric mice that possess a human immune system, enabling them to study the way that HIV and other viruses are able to infect cells. We routinely use animals to address important human needs. We eat them and make clothing out of them. We keep them in zoos. Utilizing them for legitimate and important medical purposes like organ generation and transplantation should not, broadly speaking, be a cause for alarm. As another online participant noted, only half in jest: "Think of it -- a pig provides a human heart, lungs, and liver then the rest is eaten for dinner! . . . Plus the pig will likely be chemical free, well-fed, and humanely treated." If a pig were in fact able to grow a human kidney in place of its own kidney, and if it could be used for transplantation, it could provide a major new source of organs in the face of the critical shortage that currently exists. Many patients today are on waiting lists for a kidney, and a significant percentage die before an organ ever becomes available. Yet significant technical and ethical hurdles remain before growing organs in pigs is likely to be feasible. The science is still in its infancy, and researchers have yet to figure out how to make human cells co-exist in a stable fashion with animal tissues. There are abundant concerns about the possibility of transmitting animal viruses to humans, especially considering how readily other viruses like avian flu have been able to jump from birds to humans. Even assuming these kinds of risks are able to be minimized, and pig/human chimeras could be safely produced, there would still be several ethical issues to consider. One concern involves using stem cells from human embryos as part of the process of making pig/human chimeras. Typically scientists try to generate chimeras by adding human embryonic stem cells to animal embryos, which then grow up and develop into chimeric animals. Destroying young humans in their embryonic stages for their stem cells is gravely objectionable, so creating chimeras could be ethical only if alternative, non-embryonic sources of stem cells (like adult stem cells or induced pluripotent stem cells) were utilized for the procedure. The technology might also lend itself to other unethical practices, like trying to create a pig that could produce human sperm or eggs in its genitalia. Similarly, if human nerve cells were incorporated into a developing pig brain in such a way that the animal developed what appeared to be human brain structures, some have noted there could be questions about the occurrence of intelligence or self-consciousness or other facets of human identity in the animal. Although such concerns seem farfetched, given the dearth of knowledge about the "scaffolding of consciousness," it seems reasonable to limit this kind of experimentation. Some scientific agencies like the National Institutes of Health have restricted the availability of research funds for the study of human/animal chimeras because of these and other considerations, seeking to levy pressure so that the needed ethical discernment and discussion occurs before researchers proceed further. We tend to view modern scientific progress as a powerful "engine of good" for the well-being of mankind, and therefore we view most scientific research with hope. This is proper and fitting, and to reinforce and reinvigorate that hope, we should continue to insist that cutting edge biomedical research remain in active dialogue and interaction with sound ethics. The expanding study of human/animal chimeras challenges us to reflect carefully on the morally appropriate use of these novel and powerful technologies, so that human dignity will not be harmed, subjugated, or misappropriated in any way.

WHAT'S IN A NAME – After Mass last Sunday I (Fr. Aron) was reminded that we were not only celebrating the Sunday designated as "Divine Mercy Sunday," but that it was also "Wrestlemania Sunday," some sort of high feast for people who revere the likes Rick Flair, Andre the Giant, or other studio wrestlers. Grateful for the information, I reminded my conversation partner that there are many other names given to the Sunday after Easter. Each of the names highlight, in one way or another, the spiritual importance of the day. Technically speaking, last weekend we celebrated the Second Sunday of Easter, or the Sunday that falls within the Octave of Easter. An octave of a feast refers to an eight-day feast period commencing with the feast itself. The idea behind an octave is that the joy of the feast day cannot be contained to one twenty-four hour period. Moreover the number eight is a reference to the Resurrection, in that Christ's triumph over death initiates a new creation (the original week being seven days). For this reason, early baptismal fonts were often shaped as octagons. After Pope Paul VI's calendar revisions in 1969, Easter is one of only two solemnities that carries an octave, the other being Christmas. Another name for the day is Quasimodo Sunday. This peculiar names comes from the first two words of the opening Antiphon at Mass (we typically substitute a hymn for the antiphon) which is taken from the Second Letter to St. Peter (Quasi modo geniti infantes, rationabile, sine dolo lac concupiscite ut

in eo crescat in salutem si gustasti quoniam dulcis Dominus). Quasimodo, the protagonist of Victor Hugo's 1831 novel *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* was so named due to the fact that he was found abandoned on the doorsteps of Notre Dame Cathedral on the Sunday after Easter, AD 1467. In Chile Quasimodo Sunday is celebrated the Cuasimodo Feast. On this day cowboys known as Huasos ride in adorned carriages and accompany the priest while he gives Holy Communion to the infirm. In the Eastern Rites this day is known as Saint Thomas Sunday, as the Gospel reading is always John 20:19-29. This gospel recounts the appearance of Christ to his disciples, with Thomas the Apostle present, on the Sunday following his resurrection. Another traditional name is Low Sunday, perhaps given this name because of the contrast with the high festival of Easter on the preceding Sunday. Additionally this day has been known as "Dominica in Albis," a name that comes from the ancient habit by which the newly baptized wore a white robe or tunic following their baptism on Easter for seven days. The Sunday following Easter was when the white robe was put away came to be known as *dominica in albis depositis* or "Sunday in which the white clothes are put away." Finally the day is known as Divine Mercy Sunday. This day was designated as such by Pope John Paul II due to the fact that it serves as the last day of the novena to the Divine Mercy of Jesus, a devotion given to a Polish nun, St. Faustina. It is interesting to note that Pope John Paul II died in April 2005, which was the vigil of Divine Mercy Sunday. In light of this he was beatified on Divine Mercy Sunday (May 1, 2011) and was canonized on Divine Mercy Sunday (April 27, 2014).

GUN BASH TICKETS – Guest tickets to the Gun Bash are still available to all who are interested. A Guest ticket entitles the bearer to food, drink, and the chance to participate in raffles for firearms and other prizes. Each Guest Ticket is \$15.00 each – please phone the parish office if interested.

FATHER ARON AWAY – Fr. Aron will be away visiting his sister in California this week. In the event of a funeral or an emergency please contact Fr. Brian Warchola at St. Benedict Rectory – 266-9718.

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE –

April 09	Church	4:00 PM	M. T. & C. Mabon
April 10	Church	8:00 AM	T. Tomlinson, K. Koleszarik, D. Zelenski
April 10	Chapel	10:30 AM	M. Moslak, E. & M. Rapsky
April 16	Church	4:00 PM	L. & L. Mincek, R. Pongrac
April 17	Church	8:00 AM	A. J., & C. Mauger
April 17	Church	10:30 AM	E. & E. Spinelli

BASKETS FOR RAFFLE – The Society of Angels is in need of additional baskets for the raffle on April 17th. If you would be so kind as to donate a basket please have it here by the end of this week. Thank You!

WELCOME FR. BENDZELLA – This weekend the parish welcomes back our former pastor Fr. Sylvester Bendzella, who is here to celebrate the 8:00 & 10:30 Masses while Fr. Aron is on the parish bus trip to Pittsburgh. Please offer Father Bendzella, pastor of St. John's from 1968-1983, a warm welcome. * N.B. Please ask Father to check his schedule for the spring; the rectory needs a new roof.

PRAYER LIST – Jennie Sielczak, Frank Murawski, Constance Gruca, Lillian Koleszarik, Marie Metsker, Chris Burella, Sandy Wechtenhiser, Frank Mihelcic, Ethan Rohlf, Rachel Moslak, Ann Guyer, Lydia Wechtenhiser, Kathryn Yatta, Alice Zelenski, Shirley Taylor, Carol Hancharik, Kay Hintosh, Charlie Field Jr., David P. Bonus, Lauren Barnes, Andrew Straka, Margaret Spinelli, Joe Zeigler, Andy Levchik, Fern Lasut, Christopher Criscuolo, Debra Farley, Agnes Palya, Barbara Delasko, Roger Black, Kay O'Toole, Trish Rullo, Mike Stefanik, Connie Criscuolo, William Kulback, Madeline Stanzione, Ann Krishak, Stanley Carl Tomaszewski, Stanley Bialek, Patrick Munro, Margie Kulback, Ron Rayman, Carol Maciag, Helen Walinski, Tom Hudak, Quincy Ogle, Charles Field Sr., Ron Delasko, Mike Dixon, Mya Polito, Vivian Monko

WEEKLY OFFERING April 2nd and April 3rd – Adult Envelopes - \$1,974 – Easter \$245 - Students \$21.50. – Fuel -\$43. – Loose Change - \$284.63 – Parish Expense - \$351. – Total \$4,972.25. Thank You!

COMMUNITY THRIFT STORE: The Thrift Store will be open April 23 and May 7 from 8:00 AM to Noon.

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK – The scripture readings for next Sunday's Masses are the following: 51: Acts 13:14, 43-52 Ps 100:1-2,3,5 Rv 7:9, 14b-17 Jn 10:27-30.

UP COMING EVENTS – Please mark your calendar with regard to the following events. April 11 – Society of Angels Meeting at 7:00 PM in the Activities Center, April 17 – Society of Angels Basket Party in the Activities Center (Doors Open at Noon), April 19 – Finance Council Meeting at 7:00 PM in the Activities Center, April 24 – Annual Gun Raffle (doors open Noon)

SANCTUARY CANDLE INTENTIONS – The Sanctuary Candle burns at the Church for the deceased enrollees of the Our Lady's Memorial Fund. The Sanctuary Candle burns at the Chapel for the donors and contributors of Our Lady's Memorial Fund

SANCTUARY CANDLE – If you wish the sanctuary candle to be lit in honor of a deceased loved one, for an anniversary, as a sign of thanksgiving, or as a symbol of prayer for health and healing please complete the form below and return it to the rectory. The suggested donation is \$10.00.

Name of Intention and Preferential Date _____

Name of Person making Request_____
