



Our Lady of the Alleghenies

Lilly, PA

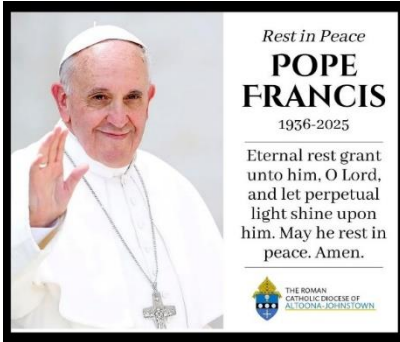
NEWSLETTER

May 2025

Volume 28

Number 5

Remembering Pope Francis



April 21, 2025- Pope Francis, the first Latin American leader of the Roman Catholic Church, died on Monday after suffering a stroke and cardiac arrest.

He was born in Buenos Aires on 17 December 1936, the son of Italian immigrants. His father Mario was an accountant employed by the railways and his mother Regina Sivori was a committed wife dedicated to raising their five children. He

graduated as a chemical technician and then chose the path of the priesthood, entering the Diocesan Seminary of Villa Devoto. On 11 March 1958 he entered the novitiate of the Society of Jesus. He completed his studies of the humanities in Chile and returned to Argentina in 1963 to graduate with a degree in philosophy from the Colegio de San José in San Miguel. From 1964 to 1965 he taught literature and psychology at Immaculate Conception College in Santa Fé and in 1966 he taught the same subject at the Colegio del Salvatore in Buenos Aires. From 1967-70 he studied theology and obtained a degree from the Colegio of San José.

On 13 December 1969 he was ordained a priest by Archbishop Ramón José Castellano. He continued his training between 1970 and 1971 at the University of Alcalá de Henares, Spain, and on 22 April 1973 made his final profession with the Jesuits.

At the Consistory of 21 February 2001, John Paul II created him Cardinal, assigning him the title of San Roberto Bellarmino. He asked the faithful not to come to Rome to celebrate his creation as Cardinal but rather to donate to the poor what they would have spent on the journey.

He was elected Supreme Pontiff on 13 March 2013.

L'Osservatore Romano, Year CLIII, number 61.

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<https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/biography/documents/papa-francesco-biografia-bergoglio.html>

May 2025



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Solemnity of the Ascension: May 29 The Ascension of Our Lord, which occurred 40 days after Jesus Christ rose from the dead on Easter, is the final act of our redemption that Christ began on Good Friday. On this day, the risen Christ, in the sight of His apostles, ascended bodily into Heaven (Luke 24:51; Mark 16:19; Acts 1:9-11). - The Collection Basket, May 2015				1	2	3  Confessions 3:15 – 3:45
4 May Crowning CCD Mass 10:00am	5 CCD Teachers Meeting 6:00pm HALL	6	7	8	9  B.Y.O.B. Dance 7:00 pm – 10:00 pm	10 Mass 8:00  Confessions 3:15 – 3:45
11 Mother's Day 	12 Festival Heads of Booths Meeting 6:00pm HALL	13  St. Vincent de Paul Society (2 nd Tuesday) 2:00 PM Church Hall Confirmation Mass 7:00 pm  at Blessed Sacrament Cathedral in Altoona	14	15	16	17 Mass 8:00  Confessions 3:15 – 3:45





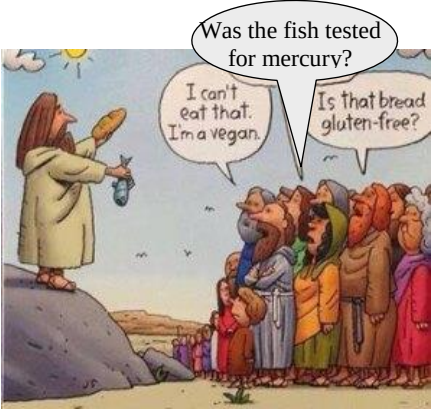
May 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
18 Solemn Vespers 5:00pm <i>Pastor Appreciation Dinner</i> 5:30pm	19	20	21	22	23 Founding of this Parish 30th Anniversary Mass at 8:00am	24 Mass 8:00  Confessions 3:15 – 3:45
25	26  Memorial Day	27	28 ASCENSION OF THE LORD Vigil Mass 6:00 pm Knights of Columbus (4th Wednesday of month) 6:30 pm Church Hall 	29  ASCENSION OF THE LORD Day Masses 8:00 am 6:00 pm	30	31 Mass 8:00  Confessions 3:15 – 3:45



B.Y.O.B. Dance May 9th

The Parish will be holding a B.Y.O.B. Dance on Friday May 9th from 7-10. DJ Brian and Karaoke with Chett will be there. Food, 50/50s, & RIP Tickets will be available for purchase throughout the night. Get ready for a trivia contest for a prize! There will be a \$5 per person admission fee. Thank you to our Event Head, Colleen Keagy, for organizing this for our parish!





May Celebrations

2	Jeremy Eckenrode	11	Daniel Sibis	19	Aiden Braatz
	Alysia Krug	12	Vincent Heiss	20	James Leahey
	Meagan Leahey		Allison Kirsch		Jennifer Schilling
	Gannon Matcho		Darlene Krisko	21	Dennis Leja
	Lauren Michina	13	Callen Gides		Madilynn Steberger
3	Robert Lee		Richard Giraud	22	Alexis Eckenrode
6	Karter Barlick		Joan Kinback	23	Mason Eckenrode
	Darren Petrunak		Gloria Kuntz		Ryan Giraud
	Donna Shedlock		Dorothy McCool		Edward Grove
7	Raymond Martynuska		Susan Wilson	24	Angela Osman-Strait
	Catherine Yagoda	14	Mary Lou Custer	25	Walter Kutyba
8	James Davis		Gerald Duke	26	Lori Krug
	Rosemary Kertes		Richard James		Nancy Rowe
	Sharon Martynuska		Michael Sawinski	27	Jeanne Krug
	Joseph Panek	15	Parker Pyo	28	Linda Cropsey
9	John Latoche, Sr.	16	Donald Courvina		Zachary Dotts
10	Lawrence Behe		Ronald Cropsey		Dominic Ricupero
	Lillian Duke	17	Tara Fabbri	29	Gianna Matcho
	Margo Kiel		Evelyn Hutsky	30	Shannon Kost
	Lucas McIntosh	18	Greta Rabatin		Matthew Pyo
	Joanne Regan	19	Jason Bender	31	Adyn Tremel

Please call Fr. Matthew, the Pastor, if there are any necessary corrections.

Special Birthday Celebrations



The following members of the parish family will be celebrating special birthdays this month.

Lawrence Behe	89
James Davis	87
John Latoche, Sr.	87
Evelyn Hutsky	86

Gerald Duke	83
Raymond Martynuska	82
Walter Kutyba	82
Lillian Duke	81
John Kinback	80



May Wedding Anniversaries

1	Daniel and Phyllis Siedlarczyk
2	John and Angela Stiffler
4	Keith and Eleanor Kearney Mike and Betty Phillips
6	David and Theresa Dunmyer James and Heather Gides
7	Ken and Wendy Leap
12	Michael and Jolene Sawinski

20	Emil Campagna and Cecelia Nadolsky Michael and Dawn Summerville
21	Jason and Nickole Bender Edward and Beverly Wilk
22	Kevin and Stephanie Eckenrode Michael and Ashley Eckenrode
	John and Cynthia Giblock
25	Andrew and Joanne Regan
29	William Sr. and Joan Walters



Anniversary Milestones

Congratulations to the following couples celebrating golden anniversaries and beyond this month.

Mike and Betty Phillips

57

Daniel and Phyllis Siedlarczyk

54

Please call Fr. Matthew, the Pastor, if there are any necessary corrections.



1. Call to Order at 6:00pm
 - a. **Attended:** Fr. Matthew, John Hurley, Michael Summerville, Joy Eckenrode, Matthew Hoover, Barbara Bart, George Nesbella, Colleen Keagy, Amber Boring, Alexis Eckenrode
 - b. **Absent:** Deacon Sam
2. Opening Prayer - Fr. Matthew
3. Reading of minutes from the last council meeting February 3, 2025 were read. Motion was made to approve, was seconded, and passed unanimously.
4. Finance Council Report
 - a. Current Balances 2024/25 Fiscal Year

i. Cash in bank, general	162,088.94
ii. Cash in bank, maintenance #6222	2,383.17
iii. Cash in bank, small games	1,384.00
iv. Cash in bank, mass stipend	2,670.00
v. Net income (as of 4/7/25)	+ \$60,640.11
5. Old Business
 - a. Pro-Life presentation by Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown was held March 2, 2025.
 - i. Presentation to the CCD 9th thru 11th grade will be October 5, 2025
 - b. New sidewalk installation will begin after Easter (weather permitting)
6. New Business
 - a. Fr. Matthew wants communication to be direct from any Heads/Chairs/event contacts, etc. to himself to avoid confusion and incorrect information being relayed, especially with hall set up and tear down which Fr. has to convey to his maintenance employee.
 - b. Wi-Fi has been down in the Hall – John Hurley will work on this
7. Reports from Committees
 - a. Cemetery Committee - Ed Myers (Chair) or his representative - No Report
 - i. Checking with Ed in regards to Mt. Carmel cemetery stones and overall spring clean up
 - b. Festival Committee - Fr. Matthew as representative - next meeting with Festival Heads of Booths is May 12, 2025
 - c. Vocation Committee Joan Walters and/or Renee Behe (as representatives) – No Report
8. Non-Committee Reports
 - a. B.Y.O.B Dance - May 9, 2025, Colleen Keagy (Head)
 - i. Dance 7pm to 10 pm
 - b. 2025 Jubilee Year - Amber Boring (Parish Ambassador)
 - i. Status of Rome/Vatican City State Pilgrimage in October 2025
 1. Informational meeting for the Pilgrimage was held February 23, 2025. Thirty-five attended the meeting. Currently seven people have signed up for the Rome/Vatican City State Pilgrimage.

- ii. It was acknowledged that this parish has been very welcoming for those visitors who have seen that other parishes are not. This is a credit to everyone volunteering to staff our Jubilee Station after Masses
 - c. Youth Ministry - Joy Eckenrode (Head)
 - i. Clarification: Joy is currently the head of all ministries to all youth of the parish
 - ii. We are discussing changes to our parish's approach to youth ministry. Fr. wants youth ministry to involve all children from ages 0 -17 which currently includes 86 members of this parish.
 - iii. Youth Appointee Jacob Bossler is going to focus on his final years in High School and his work. He is therefore not going to continue as the Youth Appointee to this Council.
 - 1. Fr. Matthew would like to thank Jacob for his leadership and generous heart during the past three years he served in his position. He did a wonderful job.
 - 2. Fr. Matthew is not appointing a Council Youth Rep. moving forward.
 - d. Adult Education - Colleen Keagy (Chair)
 - i. Historical Class - postponed until further notice
 - e. Youth Religious Education & Sacramental prep. - Fr. Matthew (as DRE)
 - i. First Holy Communion Mass for 2nd graders (5 in total) on April 27th at the 10:00 am
 - ii. Confirmation Mass for 11th graders (9 in total) on May 13th at 7:00 pm in Altoona's Cathedral
 - 1. Confirmation in the future will be open to any high school student beginning with inviting 8th graders to begin their one-year process in January of their 8th grade year.
 - a. Diocese no longer will focus on class groupings being pushed through just because a student reaches a certain grade level, but rather age readiness as determined on case-to-case basis.
 - 2. The 2026 Confirmation class currently appears to have 17 candidates spanning next year's 9th, 10th, and 11th grades
 - iii. End of the CCD year May 4th at the 10:00 am Mass
 - iv. Mrs. Joy Eckenrode officially named Assistant D.R.E. as Fr. remains D.R.E.
 - f. Maintenance Issues
 - i. A number of interior water damage issues are being assessed where the front facade of the church connects with the rebuilt church.
9. Comments from Fr. Matthew
- a. New members of 2025/2026 Parish Council will be elected on Pentecost Sunday, June 8, 2025.
10. Closing Prayer
11. Adjournment 7:12 pm - (Next meeting with New Council Members: Monday June 16, 2025, at 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm)

Youth Eucharistic Stations of the Cross

April 4, 2025

Our parish youth assisted with the readings at our April 4th Stations of the Cross. Their courage and dedication is noteworthy. Thank you to our parish's Youth Minister, Joy Eckenrode, for organizing this.



Front Left to Right: Jayce Summerville, Amelia Behe, Madison Behe, Ava Braatz, Eli Bender.

2nd Row Right to Left: Mrs. Joy Eckenrode, Ryan Behe, Noah Eckenrode, Luke Michina, Ryan Giraud, Lauren Giraud, Drake Swinger.

Back row Left to Right: Fr. Matthew, Isaac Eckenrode, Dayne Summerville, Jacob Bossler, Riley Hazlett.

Spotlight on the Knights of Columbus

Bloodmobile Urgent Need!

Our Council will be
sponsoring blood drives.

June 6, 2025

August 29, 2025

December 12, 2025

12:30pm – 5:00pm

Council 11084 - Lilly, PA



Spring Cleaning



Our church was readied for the Easter Season.

Father Matthew would like to thank all of our Dust Busters.

Colleen Keagy set the wheels in motion. With the help of Mimi Kratzer and her granddaughter, Olivia Murphy, Theresa Kozak, Anna Leahey, Pam Sanders, Liz Wilt, and Marion Zunich, our church is bright and clean.

Please watch the bulletin for the next cleaning party. Your help would be truly appreciated. As the saying goes. "Many hands make light work."

Palm Sunday 10:00am Mass with Solemn Procession of Palms



All Current Altar Servers {not listed in picture order}

Madison Behe,
Amelia Behe,
Jacob Bossler,
Gabby Custer,
Callen George,
Ryan Giraud,
Lauren Giraud,
Trentyn Myers,
Luke Michina,
Callen George,
Issac Eckenrode,
Noah Eckenrode,
Bradun Gides,
Rocco Ricupero,
Vinny Ricupero,
Drake Swinger,
Jayce Summerville



Palm Sunday 10:00 am Mass with CCD Students in Liturgical Ministries



Gift Bearers -
Avery Jones,
Alauna Gides,
Anna Schilling



Passing out bulletins -
Andrew Lee Jr., Riley
Hazlett, Olivia
George, Avah Hoover,
Lilah Hoover



Ushers - - Brady Jones, Lucas
Jones, Noah Jones, Grant Gides,
Callen Gides, Hunter Pyo



Jubilee Table - Peyton Rabatin,
Allyse Rabatin, Brooke Rabatin



Readers - -Lily Hallinan, Marissa
Rabatin, Ava Braatz, Anthony Ronan

Meaning of Holy Thursday – Mass of the Lord’s Supper

Five Essential Facts Every Catholic Should Know

1. Also called Maundy Thursday. Maundy Also means commandment. On Holy Thursday, Jesus commanded us to love one another, saying: “Love one another, just as I have loved you, you should also love one another.” (John 13:34)
2. Jesus washed his disciples’ feet. “If I, therefore, the master and teacher, have washed your feet, you ought to wash one another’s feet. I have given you a model to follow, so that as I have done for you, you should also do.” (John 13: 14-15)
3. Jesus instituted the Eucharist and the priesthood. Jesus commanded his apostles to “do this in memory” and to celebrate the Eucharist until his return. The institution of the Eucharist is mentioned in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke. It is also shared in Paul’s First Letter to the Corinthians. (Mt. 26:17-29; Mk. 14:12-25; Lk. 22:7-20; 1 Cor. 11:23-26)
4. Holy Thursday is the beginning of the Paschal Triduum. This day is followed by Good Friday and Holy Saturday. Each of these days is significant as we prepare for Easter Sunday!
5. Following Mass, we adore the Blessed Sacrament at the Altar of Repose. The faithful are invited to join in adoration, and there is no traditional dismissal from Holy Thursday Mass.

EWTVN <https://ewtn.co.uk/chpop-the-meaning-of-holy-thursday-5-essential-facts-every-catholic-should-know-2>



Washing of Feet

{RIGHT} *Transfer of the Blessed Sacrament*

Altar Servers participating are:

Jacob Bossler,
Lauren Giraud, Isaac
Eckenrode, Noah
Eckenrode, Jayce
Summerville, Callen
George, Madison
Behe, Amelia Behe,
Bradun Gides, Luke
Michina, Gabriella
Custer, Ryan Giraud.



Presentation of
the Oil of the Sick,
the Oil of Catechumens,
and the Holy Chrism



Altar of Repose

Good Friday Adoration of the Cross



Easter Decorations in our Church



Memorial Day - May 26

Memorial Day is a day on which we stop to remember and to honor the men and women who died in military service while fighting to defend the cause of freedom.

We enjoy a lot of freedom in our country. We are free to attend church and worship, we are free to choose what we want to be when we grow up, we are free to choose where we want to live, we are free to choose most of the things that affect our daily lives. Yes, we enjoy our freedom, but that freedom wasn't free. Many courageous men and women gave their lives to pay the price for the freedom that you and I enjoy. These are the ones that we honor as we celebrate Memorial Day.

As we celebrate Memorial Day, let us remember to stop and thank God for those who have paid the price for our freedom. Let us also remember to thank God for Jesus, who has set us free from the penalty for sin, because he was willing to pay the price.