

April 26, 2020 Third Sunday of Easter

Stewardship is a Way of Life. Tithing is God's Plan for Giving:

Tithing income for the week of April 19, 2020:
Regular \$2,456.96

Easter: \$100.00

Thank You to all who have continued to mail their tithe to the Church during this difficult time. May God bless you for your generosity.

A Prayer During an Epidemic

Lord Jesus, Hear our pleas, our Good Shepherd and Divine Physician. We implore your mercy in the wake of an outbreak of serious illness and disease. Guide our efforts to prevent contagion and make preparations to care for those most vulnerable. Assist all professionals and volunteers who work to eradicate the epidemic now spreading. May our actions be marked by your steadfast love and selfless service and never by panic or fear. Bestow your comfort and healing to the sick, sustain and strengthen them by your grace. May they know your closeness as they carry the cross of illness. And may all who have been called from this life come to worship you eternally with all the saints as you grant consolation and peace to their mourners. Amen.

Holy Mary, Health of the Sick, pray for us.

St. Joseph, Hope of the Sick, pray for us.

St. Rocco, protector against epidemics, pray for us.



A Blood Drive will be held at St. Jude Church social hall on Thursday, July 2. During this time the need for donors is greater than ever. More details will be forthcoming, including times, etc.

A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY READINGS
HIS WORD TODAY by Rev. William J. Reilly
Third Sunday of Easter
April 26, 2020

"With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he vanished from their sight. Then they said to one another 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he spoke to us on the way and opened the scriptures to us?' So they set out at once and returned to Jerusalem where they found gathered together the eleven and those with them who were saying 'The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon.'"

A beautiful book entitled 'Walking with Jesus' consists of the teachings of Pope Francis. It covers a wide variety of topics, enabling the reader to listen, learn and find Jesus present in so many ways today.

The walk of the two disciples to Emmaus was so special. Cleopas, was named by Luke, and perhaps I am the second person, now joined by Jesus. He continues to accompany us, but sometimes our eyes are closed or we are unable to recognize Him. He walks with us as we meet the poor. He talks with us, as we listen to the hurts of victims of injustice. He calls us to remedy unjust conditions as racism, xenophobia or discrimination.

My task today is to open my eyes to the reality of my world. Where can I find the Lord and how do I treat Him? The bottom line for those who were walking is that He revealed Himself in the breaking of the bread. He reveals Himself to us today in the same action of the Eucharist. 'Lord I want to see.'

First Reading: Acts 2:14, 22-33

After the Holy Spirit descends upon the apostles, Peter preaches with great enthusiasm to both Jews and Christians. He recalls for them in vivid terms the miracles and wonders that Jesus performed.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:17-21

Peter makes reference to the Passover, when the Jews escaped from Egypt because the blood of the paschal lamb was shed. Now they are being saved from sin by the blood of Christ, the Lamb of the New Testament.

Gospel: Luke 24:13-35

Jesus reveals Himself to two disciples on the way to Emmaus. After explaining to them the passages in Scripture which referred to Him, Christ "took bread, broke it, and distributed it to them." Then they recognized Christ and their "hearts burned within them."



New Time: Starting immediately and until further notice, **Saturday Mass at Sacred Heart will be celebrated and live streamed at 9:00 AM.** Join us each Saturday for Mass in addition to our regularly scheduled week day and Sunday Masses.

LITURGICAL NOTES:

*Mass Intentions for the Week
And Weekly Readings*



Saturday, April 25: St. Mark, Evangelist (Feast)

1 Peter 5:5b-14; Psalm 89: 2-3, 6-7, 16-17; Mark 16:15-20

Benjamin Davis

Sunday, April 26: Third Sunday of Easter

Acts of the Apostles 2:14, 22-33; Psalm 16:1-2, 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11; 1 Peter 1:17-21; Luke 24:13-35

People of the Parish

Monday, April 27: Easter Weekday

Acts of the Apostles 6:8-15; Psalm 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30; John 6:22-29

Tuesday, April 28: Easter Weekday

Acts of the Apostles 7:51-8:1a; Psalm 31:3cd-4, 6 & 7b & 8a, 17 & 21ab; John 6:30-35

Wednesday, April 29: St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin & Doctor of the Church (Memorial)

Acts of the Apostles 8:1b-8; Psalm 66:1-3a, 4-5, 6-7a; John 6:35-40

Thursday, April 30: Easter Weekday

Acts of the Apostles 8:26-40; Psalm 66:8-9, 16-17, 20; John 6:44-51

Friday, May 1: Easter Weekday

Acts of the Apostles 9:1-20; Psalm 117:1bc, 2; John 6:52-59

Saturday, May 2: St Athanasius, Bishop & Doctor of the Church (Memorial)

Acts of the Apostles 9:31-42; Psalm 116:12-13, 14-15, 16-17; John 6:60-69

A. Palumbo

Sunday, May 3: Fourth Sunday of Easter

Acts of the Apostles 2:14a, 36-41; Psalm 23:1-3A, 3B-4, 5, 6; 1 Peter 2:20b-25; John 10:1-10

People of the Parish

Check Out Our Website & Facebook Page

Keep checking the Sacred Heart Website at www.sacredheartlewisstown.com for daily postings. Live streaming of Mass occurs each day on **Sacred Heart of Jesus Facebook page.**

- **Daily Mass, 7:00 AM on Mon. & Tue., April 27 & 28, 7:00 PM Wed., Apr. 29, 9:00 AM Thur., April 30, 7:00 AM Fri., May 1 & 9:00 AM Sat., May 2.**
- **Fourth Sunday of Easter Mass, 11:00 AM on May 3.**

A Prayer of Spiritual Communion

Jesus, really present in the Most Holy Sacrament of the altar, since I cannot now receive thee under the sacramental veil, I beseech thee, with a heart full of love and longing, to come spiritually into my soul through the Immaculate Heart of thy most Holy Mother, and to abide with me, thou in me, and I in thee, in time and in eternity. Amen

Diocesan Resources



Information on live stream options and resources for parishioners are available on the Health Alerts page of the diocesan website, www.hbgdiocese.org/coronavirus. Additional COVID-19 preventions measures and recommendations from the Diocese are also available on the website.

Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish Telephone Ministry

We recognize that at this time many of you may feel helpless, lonely, anxious and maybe a little stir-crazy! We are hoping that by participating in this ministry, some of these feelings will be relieved somewhat. Do you like to talk on the phone? Would you be willing to call 5 parishioners two to three times each week to check in on them and share some conversation? Are you alone or lonely? Would you love a call from a parishioner two to three times a week just to check in on you and share some conversation? Please let us know which you are (talkative or lonely) by calling the parish office at 717-242-2781 and we will provide you with a list of 5 parishioners to call OR we will provide your name to a parishioner to be called. It's that simple! If you know of someone who does NOT have email, please let us know so they are not missed. Thanks in advance for your participation!



An Update From Father Bill

May God bless you all. This is an update on our situation as a parish. First of all, many, many thanks to all who have submitted Sunday collection envelopes by regular mail, into the locked box attached to the Rectory wall (by the garage) or by online giving. Please continue to do so, on a regular basis, and even increase your regular offerings, if possible, because we have fallen behind with income the last several weeks from the coronavirus shut-down. We have applied for one of the small business loans to tide us over but have received no word yet on results. Also, please continue your generosity to the school's Annual Fund and to the Annual Benefit Auction raffle tickets. **We are live streaming Masses every day,** so please check the parish's Facebook page at **Sacred Heart of Jesus Lewisstown** or watch Mass live by clicking on the blue Facebook icon to the upper left of our webpage. You

may also watch later on our website at www.sacredheartlewisstown.com. **We have now added a 9 AM Saturday Mass to the schedule until further notice.** Many thanks to parishioners who have helped us with the technology and the liturgies for these video Masses. **We are praying for all of you and with God's grace, we will get through this. Peace, Fr. Bill**

Repentance and the Sacrament of Reconciliation By Father Jay

When we hear the news of a sudden illness of our beloved ones we feel sad. When it gets worse, then, we feel terribly sad. When we hear the news of their recovery, then, we feel happy and hopeful. When they regain their normal health, we celebrate our happy feeling. Heaven feels sad when we fall into sin. Heaven rejoices when we truly repent. (Lk 15:7,10) But we share in the heavenly joy when we go for confession to celebrate our reconciliation with God and with one another. (Lk 15:32) We wash our hands several times to safeguard ourselves from the coronavirus. At the Holy Mass, the priest says while washing his hands, "Wash me, O Lord, from my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin." We are surrounded by the ocean of sin and multitude of sinners. How much more should we take all precautionary methods to safeguard our soul from the virus of sin which leads us to its eternal death? Let us be born anew in this season of coronavirus to begin a new life – a life, more pleasing to God. Let this holy Easter season truly become a season of grace to cleanse our soul and to rise with the Risen Christ. Ez 18:31 **"Cast away from you all crimes you have committed, says the Lord, and make for yourselves a new heart and a new spirit."** Jesus taught, "Thy kingdom come! Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven!" In heaven, there is one God, one community and one worship. God wants his people on earth to become one community of His love. We, Christians, have a grave duty to exercise at this moment of the pandemic. We must proclaim to the world, that Jesus Christ is the Savior of the world. Through this holy season of Easter, we should proclaim to the world the power and the glory of the Risen Lord. This present crisis moment of pandemic is only a wake-up call to the humanity. Surely, God is going to be glorified through this pandemic. There is going to be a very large number of God's people who will truly repent for their sins and return to God. Let repentance and return to God begin from you and me, now!

The Catholic Witness Is Going Digital!

The Catholic Witness has been privileged to share the news from our parishes, Catholic schools, Charities and our Diocesan programs for more than 50 years. We now find ourselves in uncharted waters, walking together down a path none of us have ever traveled. Like all parishes, Catholic schools and businesses throughout our Diocese and Commonwealth, we have

also felt the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The loss of revenue due to the pandemic means that hard, temporary decisions must be made. We have made the difficult decision to temporarily suspend the printed version of *The Catholic Witness*, after the May 1 edition. This suspension does not mean we will stop providing the Catholic news you have come to rely on and enjoy. The news will continue in an all-digital format, delivered weekly via email and also accessible on *The Catholic Witness* pages of our website. Please visit www.hbgdiocese.org/the-catholic-witness-newspaper/ for sign-up details.

The St. Vincent dePaul Society has decided to move their office to 3 W. Monument Square, Suite 203, Lewistown. They may now be reached at 717-363-4812 or at stvincentdepaullewisstown@gmail.com. In these challenging times, we need to remember this passage: Deuteronomy 31:8 **"He will never leave you nor forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged."** When you're fearing a situation or emotional challenge, really envision God saying this; just to you. We are all in this together, and we know God is watching over us together and individually. We at St Vincent want you to be well and safe and we want to thank all who met our "Lenten Challenge" and went above and beyond to get those donations to us. We are so blessed to have so many supporters. Know in this difficult time we are still helping those in need.



Catholic Resources Anyone?

During this continued time of isolation and hardship, Jim Gontis, Director of Evangelization and Catechesis, has put together a number of good Catholic websites on a range of topics. These topics range from Apologetic to Evangelization, Catechesis to Diocesan Apostolates, to sites for Catholic Men and for Catholic Women, to Catholic Scripture Studies, to Liturgy and Prayer etc. Why not take this opportunity to delve deeper into your holy, Catholic Faith, or perhaps, to do some rediscovery of it? The link to all of these sites collectively is on the Diocese of Harrisburg's website at <https://www.hbgdiocese.org/religious-education/#catechetical-corner>.



Job Opportunity

The part-time position of Secretary/Financial Bookkeeper is open at St. Jude Thaddeus Church, Mifflintown, PA. Applicants must be friendly, with considerable computer and financial bookkeeping skills. If interested, please contact Fr. Weary, 717-242-2781.





SCHOOL NEWS

A Note From the Principal

We at Sacred Heart School are still trying to grasp that the governor has closed all PA schools closing for the rest of the year. We had little notice of the initial shutdown and didn't even have time to say goodbye to the students or help them in their transition to being at home. Our superintendent, Mr. Breen, has had all the schools in Harrisburg diocese keeping the education process going for students. Teachers at Sacred Heart have been continually giving lesson information online as parents have been working hard helping their children complete school work. Teachers are in the process of learning various online teaching techniques such as Google Classroom, Zoom meetings, etc. Others, who have students without computers or the internet, have been using drop off bins in front of the school. We are trying to keep the process of learning progressing for the students. It is quite challenging for a teacher when they themselves may have children of their own to teach at home. Likewise, we feel for the parents who may have several family members needing help or getting on the family computer. This is definitely new and unexpected for all of us. Please pray for our wonderful families and teachers as we navigate through this difficult time.

SHS T-Shirts

Sacred Heart School has joined the **Support Small Business Project by Lewistown Printworks**. For every SHS T-shirt purchased for \$20, **\$10 comes back to our school**. Shop now on lewistownprint.com Thank you for supporting our school!



SHS Benefit Auction Update

 **The Auction and Spaghetti Dinner have been rescheduled for June 6-7 at a new location, St. Jude Parish in Mifflintown.** We would like to thank St. Jude for allowing us to use their space for this year's event. Spaghetti Dinner and Preview Night - June 6th and Oral Auction - June 7th. Official times will be announced closer to the event. The All-Cash Raffle tickets have been mailed out. If you did not receive them or would like more, please let the parish office know and we will mail them to you. They can be returned to the Parish Office by mail or placed in the drop box at the rectory. Our goal is to sell all of our tickets, which would raise **\$35,000** for our Parish and School. When the time comes and we can all resume to our new "normal", we will need help soliciting businesses and volunteering at our event. **This is the largest fundraiser for our Parish and**

School and it takes everyone working together to make it a success. Don't forget: While you are practicing social distancing now is the time to find a unique item or put your talent to work creating a handmade item!

Help Wanted

A **Substitute Cook** is still needed in the SHS Cafeteria for next year. This **paid position** requires you to work minimally monthly and as needed. Training will be provided. In addition, parents and grandparents of SHS students can earn service hours by helping out in the cafeteria.



Pick the day you can help, arrive by 11:15 AM and work till approximately 12:15 PM. Serve lunch, clean up, run the dishwasher...no experience required!

Great News!

We have been blessed with a few additional sources for scholarships through the state's EITC program, so we have a total of **\$35,893 in scholarships for the 2020-21 academic year!** This is nearly three times the amount of money available than we have had in several years! We will be processing applications for financial aid over the next two weeks, so **this is the time to register for the coming school year and take advantage of these scholarships!** Please contact the Parish Business Office at 717-447-2002 or shfinance@sacredheartlewisstown.com for application and registration information.



Enroll NOW for the 2020-21 Academic Year!

Even though SHS is closed, we are still enrolling for the 2020-2021 school year for Grades K-5. If you or someone you know has a child entering Kindergarten or would be interested in transferring into Grades 1-5, please email Ashley Henry at development@sacredheartshcool.com and we will get you an enrollment and information packet. Kindergarten students need to be age 5 by Sept. 1, 2020. **Scholarships and Financial Aid are available, and applications are still being accepted.** There is plenty of information about the school, the application process, and financial aid on our website at www.sacredheartschool.com. **All faiths are welcome!**

Did you know that we offer a tuition transfer grant to any child going into grades 1st through 5th? Any public, private, charter or home-school student who transfers to Sacred Heart School is eligible to receive this grant. Each student will receive \$1,500 in grants over the course of 2 years (\$1,000 in year 1 and \$500 in year 2.) Restrictions apply and no financial aid forms are required.

