

229 N. Franklin Street
Prospect PA 16052
724-865-2430

Rev. Joseph E. Feltz

**Roman Catholic Parish Community of Moraine, Mc Connell
Mill State Parks & 4th Vicariate**

January 10, 2016

The Baptism Of The Lord

Parish Staff

Rev. Joseph E. Feltz.....Administrator/CCD Director
Judy Grossman.....Parish Secretary
MaryJo Chappel & Suzanne Sheets..... CCD Secretaries
Judy Pietz - jpietz@zoominternet.net..... JAL Youth Group
Virginia Hall.....Director of Music
Jeff Daniels.....Organist
Mike Visconti.....Parish Council Executive Officer
Jim Strange.....Parish Finance Council Executive Officer
Tim Sheets.....Parish Audit Council Executive Officer
Steve Gustkey.....Men's Club President
Fran Shelatz.....Ladies Guild President
Bob & Kim Novak & Bev Chritzman.....Baptismal Coordinators
Janet Leise.....Advocate for Persons with Disabilities
Bill & Barb Reich.....Eucharistic Ministers to Shut-ins

Parish Telephones

Rectory Office.....724-865-2430
Fax.....724-865-1120
Parish E-Mail.....stchristopher@zoominternet.net
Parish Web Site.....christophermoraine.org
CCD Office - Hours: Sunday 9:30-10:45 AM.....724-865-9840
Church Hall.....724-865-9840

Mass Schedule

Saturday Eve Vigil.....4:30 PM
Sunday.....8:30 & 11:00 AM
Monday.....6:00 PM
Tuesday, Thursday & Friday.....9:00 AM
Wednesday.....**No Mass**
Holy Days.....9:00 AM & 6:30 PM

Reconciliation

After every Mass or by appointment

Baptism: Please call rectory for date and time.

Marriage: Arrangements for the Catholic parishioner must be made at least six months in advance. Couples initial interview by the pastor is done before any dates are given. Call the rectory. Pre-marriage instructions are required.

Anointing of the Sick: After Mass or anytime by appointment.

Sponsor Letter: To be eligible to be a sponsor for Baptism and/or Confirmation one must be an active member. An active member is defined as one who is registered, attends Mass, and is financially supportive of the Parish and its programs, is confirmed, and is living in a marriage recognized by the Catholic Church. To receive a sponsor letter, call the rectory.



Pro-Life
Insight

Mission Statement

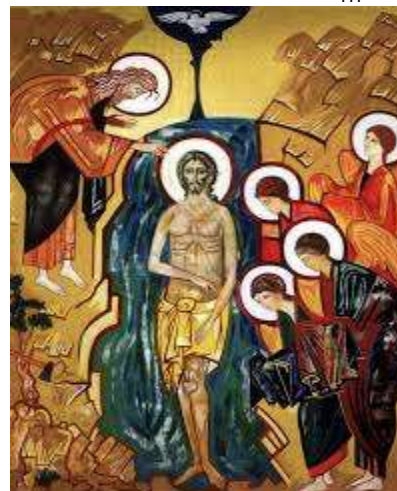
St. Christopher at the Lake is a small welcoming church nestled in a beautiful setting of God's nature and encompassing a large area of small towns and communities. We seek to live in the likeness of Jesus Christ by the way we worship, participate in the Eucharist, and serve each other and our surrounding community. We welcome with open arms all those striving to enrich their spiritual life, gospel and traditional values.

Mass Intentions

Sat, Jan 9 – 4:30 PM – William Kirmeyer
Sun, Jan 10 – 8:30 AM – Bernard Williams
11:00 AM – For All Our Parishioners
Mon, Jan 11 – 6:00 PM – **No Mass**
Tues, Jan 12 – 6:00 PM – Men's Club & All Men
Wed, Jan 13 – 9:00 AM – Anna Marie Black
Thurs, Jan 14 – 9:00 AM – Jim Bohrer
Fri, Jan 15 – 9:00 AM – Albert Bickar

Sat, Jan 16 – 4:30 PM – Bernie Williams
Sun, Jan 17 – 8:30 AM – Leon Panella
11:00 AM – For All Our Parishioners

Is 42:1-4, 6-7 – "Here is my servant whom I will uphold"
Acts 10:34-38 – "In truth, I see God shows no partiality"
Lk 3:15-16, 21-22 – "He will baptize you with fire and the Holy Spirit"



Alas, as they would say, "Farewells are but sweet sorrows." Today, we celebrate "officially" the conclusion of the Christmas Season. For some of us, we've already bid it farewell. I guess some, like myself, who work up and including Dec. 25th, still hold on because with the duties of the season we're not permitted to celebrate

like many others. However, when all the duties are done,

and we're ready to celebrate, everyone else is on to the next holiday (St. Valentine's Day – not my favorite).

As I remarked the other day, this is the first in years that the church really defined the perimeters of the Christmas Season. It seemed every bishop or priest did his own calculation. I always taught that Christmas was from Dec. 24th (vigil) to the Baptism of the Lord. Therefore, the sanctuary should be in festive mode during that time.

Today, this marks the end, and with it another 'Theophany'. The first theophany was the revelation to the shepherds on Christmas Day. Last week the second theophany to the Magi. Now the third theophany, to the leaders and spiritual heads of the Jewish faith, the Messiah has come. Luke takes us to the figure of St. John the Baptist. The very Advent saint we met in our Advent preparation. From the desert, now to the Jordan, he is baptizing. And as he describes it, "I am Baptizing with water, but one is coming that will do so with fire and the Holy Ghost." There is a slight difference from the other gospels, in that, it was after His baptism and with His prayer does the Holy Spirit come upon Him and with that, the Father's voice is heard, "You are my begotten Son, of which I am well pleased." From this event, the Spirit leads Him into the desert. He is tempted, and emerges to begin His public ministry (3 years).

The same spirit which led Jesus from the desert to begin His quest for souls is the same one which abides in us from the moment of our baptism. And like, Jesus tries to lead us in a greater relationship with God, as well as bringing the light of life, love and faith to others.

In this Holy Year of Mercy which Pope Francis has called for, may we be re-directed this New Year. May our faith grow and actually be looked upon as a great gift. As Mary treasured the memories of Christ in her heart, may we treasure the truth of His presence in ours. And in this world of 'non believers', may our efforts bring this world back in the light. Finally, may we hear, "this is my begotten, whom I am greatly pleased". ~Fr. Joe

Daily Bible Readings:

- Mon, Jan 11 – 1 Sm 1:1-8/Mk 1:14-20
- Tues, Jan 12 – 1 Sm 1:9-20/Mk 1:21-28
- Wed, Jan 13 – 1 Sm 3:1-10, 19-20/Mk 1:29-39
- Thurs, Jan 14 – 1 Sm 4:1-11/Mk 1:40-45
- Fri, Jan 15 – 1 Sm 8:4-7, 10-22a/Mk 2:1-12
- Sat, Jan 16 – 1 Sm 9:1-4, 17-19; 10:1a/Mk 2:13-17

Saints of the Week:

- Mon, Jan 11 – St. Paulinus
- Tues, Jan 12 – St. Benedict Biscop
- Wed, Jan 13 – St. Hilary
- Thurs, Jan 14 – St. Sava
- Fri, Jan 15 – St. Ita
- Sat, Jan 16 – St. Marcellus; St. Berard and Companions

Fiscal year's Offertory Budgeted for 2014-15	\$ 158,000
What we need weekly to match our offertory budget	\$ 3,039.00
Total Offertory donation of last weekend	\$ 3,047.75
Difference with our expected weekly budget	\$ +8.75
# of adult Offertory envelopes received last weekend	94
Parish Share, Parish School assessments 2015	\$ 50,815.00
# of Pledges for Parish Share thus far	111
Total Parish Share payment for 2015	\$ 38,535.00

Reflect on our last week's gifts and our own tithing:

Parish Share: \$300; Building Fund: \$187; Christmas

Offering: \$10; Sol of Mary: \$73.

Solemnity of Mary Tithing: \$843.49; Parish Share: \$75; Mass Stipend: \$50; Christmas Offering: \$150.

Tabernacle Light To make the offering of \$5 for the week to have your loved one remembered. Call Judy for requests or questions.

The Tabernacle Light

Will burn this week
In Memory of

Bernie Williams



Up Coming Meetings: Men's Club, Tu, 1/12, 6P; Finance Council, M, 1/18, 6:45P; Audit Comm., W, 1/20, 7P; Ladies Guild, Th, 1/14, 1P; Parish Pastoral Council, Th, 1/28, 7P.

Please, pick up in the lobby **your 2015 Financial Contributions' Report** even if you did not or could not contribute financially in 2015. Reports not picked up will have to be mailed 1st class. The reports are arranged in alphabetical order. They reflect those church donations where the donor could be identified. Please, call to our attention any possible discrepancy. You are generous to God and to our Community!

Reserve your date for Mass Intentions for 2016 take advantage now of the openings for your family & call or stop by the rectory to reserve your special days: birthdays, anniversaries, days when your dear ones left you....



The Pittsburgh Diocese is home to two nationally recognized educational programs for children with special needs: St. Anthony School Programs and DePaul School for Hearing and Speech (formerly known as The DePaul Institute). A special collection to benefit these two organizations will be taken the weekend of **January 16-17**, at all masses. **St. Anthony School Programs** provides Catholic special education to children with the primary diagnosis of autism, Down Syndrome & other developmental delays. **DePaul School for Hearing and Speech** provides Listening and Spoken Language (LSL) education to children who are deaf or hard of hearing. Your donation will help both organizations provide quality programs and services to their students and families.



We will be offering a CPR class at the church. Please call the rectory to be put on a list if interested.

March For Life: On Fri, Jan 22nd, we will have a Holy Hour on the Protection of the unborn and also all children. Many of us can't go on the March in DC, but on the home front we can do our part. Prayer is valuable weapon. We will pray for the children (born and unborn). Also, that God will help turn the hearts of our citizens to respect life again. Thirdly, to protect those on the march. ~Fr. Joe

CCD

CCD classes resumes next Sun, Jan. 17.

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Confirmation Retreat: Sun, Jan. 17th starting with the 8:30 AM Mass. All confirmation students must attend.

January is Stress Management Month

The holidays are over and everyone has to get back to work. There is no surprise that the New Year leads to a variety of different stress levels. Stress is bad for your overall well-being, including your cholesterol, but small changes to your everyday routine can help reduce stress. From aromatherapy to chewing gum, to walking, here are several speedy tension-relievers.

Aromatherapy – Is stress getting to you? If yes, it is time to stop and smell the roses. They contain linalool, a chemical that helps reduce stress. So, do herbs, such as lavender and basil, and fruit, such as oranges, grapes and mangoes. That is another good excuse to keep a bouquet of flowers, dried lavender or a bowl of fruit nearby. They smell lovely and can benefit your cholesterol.
Chew Gum, Fight Stress – Chewing gum is a great stress-buster and a little treat that will not hurt your cholesterol. According to a large study, workers who chew gum report less stress than their gum-free colleagues. This is because chomping on a stick of gum stimulates the vagus nerve, which helps induce relaxation. Just make sure your gum is sugar-free.

Tea for Stress – The British have the right idea when they brew a pot of tea during stressful times. It turns out that black tea is rich in stress-busting antioxidants, including polyphenols, flavonoids and amino acids. There is also some evidence that green tea can help lower harmful LDL cholesterol. Have a cup!

Laugh Away Stress – When it comes to stress, laughter really is a good medicine. A good belly laugh triggers production of endorphins, the brain's feel-good neurotransmitters. It also relaxes your blood vessels and increases blood flow – the ideal antidote to tension.

PRAYER FOR ON MISSION FOR THE CHURCH ALIVE!

Father of Mercy, as we journey On Mission for The Church Alive! Endow us with your gifts of collaboration, courage and compassion. Help us to fulfill the mission of Jesus and

His Church through vibrant parishes and effective ministries. Raise up selfless, energetic leaders to serve the

Church in fidelity and with care. May we, the Church of Pittsburgh in Allegheny, Beaver, Butler, Greene, Lawrence and Washington Counties, be sustained and strengthened by your grace. Help us to learn Jesus, to love Jesus and to

live Jesus. Hear this prayer and grant it through Jesus Christ our Lord, with the help of our dear Blessed Mother, under the mantle of her love. Amen.

To read more, check out "On Mission for The Church Alive!" on page 5 of this week's Pittsburgh Catholic and visit www.OnMissionChurchAlive.org.

JESUS ALIVE & LIVING BUTLER DISTRICT YOUTH GROUP

JAL Mass: 6:30pm Saturday January 16th at St. Fidelis. Teens wishing to sing and/or play with the Contemporary Worship Band MUST be at practice on Tuesday evening the 12th. No exceptions. We are looking for teens to be greeters and gift bearers as well!

HIGH SCHOOL FAITH ENRICHMENT: Discerning your Gifts. God has given each of us special gifts that He expects us to use on this earth to glorify him. What are yours? Not sure?

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Join us January 17, 24th, and 31st in the St. Michael the Archangel social hall from 5:15-6:30pm.

MARCH FOR LIFE: Friday, January 22nd. Join us as we travel to Washington, DC to defend life from conception to natural death. We leave the St. Fidelis lot at 5am, and our expected return is midnight. \$20 for students, \$25 for adults. Limited seating!

JAL HANGOUT Starting February 3rd, the JAL Hangout at St. Fidelis will be open from 6:30pm-8pm for all middle school and high school students. Coffee bar, homework space, open gym, video games, board games, snacks, etc. Don't want to come alone...bring a friend!

Teen Volunteers needed: St. Michael the Archangel Ash Wednesday Fish Fry: February 10th, 3:45pm-7pm. 8-10 teens are needed to help! Sign up with Linda Rottman: lrrottman@zoominternet.net. First come, first serve!

Mark Your Calendar: High School Lenten Retreat: March 4-6th, 2016; Middle School Lenten Lock-In: March 12-13th.

2016 Summer Mission Trip Change: Please note that the dates and location of our annual mission trip have changed. We will be headed to Johnstown, Pa to assist the needy Tuesday-Saturday, July 5-9th. \$75 deposit required for students. Adults are FREE, and must meet the clearance requirements stipulated by the Diocese of Pittsburgh.

Community News

Holy Hour for Peace: January 11th, starting at 7 PM, at St. Paul, 128 N. McKean St., Butler. Prayers for Peace, vocations, *On Mission for the Church Alive*, Novena Prayers to Our Lady of Perpetual Help, and concluding with Benediction.

Divine Mercy Holy Hour: January 19th, starting at 7 PM, at St. Paul, 128 N. McKean St., Butler. Prayers for Family Healing, *On Mission for the Church Alive*, Divine Mercy Chaplet, and concluding with Benediction.

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Just do it! Begin the New Year by making a new effort to renew your marriage. On a Retrouvaille Weekend you don't share your problems with others, you work on your relationship. For confidential information about or to register for the upcoming program beginning with a weekend on January 15, please contact Retrouvaille at 412-277-3434. More information is available at <http://www.retrouvailleofpittsburghinc.org/>

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Registration opens Friday for Diocese of Pittsburgh Women Alive! In God's Mercy Conference --Starting this Friday, January 15, Catholic women can register for the 2016 conference at womentalivepgh.eventbrite.com. This day of renewal on Saturday, April 16, at Cardinal Wuerl North Catholic High School in Cranberry Township will include dynamic speakers such as Helen Alvaré, a George Mason University law professor and founder of WomenSpeakforThemselves.com, Sr. Rosemary Nyirumbe, a CNN hero award winner and director of Saint Monica School in Gulu, Uganda, and Rebecca Dussault, a 2006 Winter Olympian, 2010 World Champion, wife, and mother. The day also features Mass with Bishop Zubik and the Sacrament of reconciliation. Cost is \$45 and free transportation will be available from 12 locations throughout the Diocese. For more info, visit womentalivepgh.org or follow Women Alive Pittsburgh on social media.

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Pancake and Sausage breakfast will be served from 8:30AM till 12:30PM at the St. Fidelis Social Hall on Buttercup Rd. in Meridian on Sunday, Jan 10. Your choice of sausage or ham and unlimited buttermilk or buckwheat pancakes. The cost is \$6.00 for adults and \$2.50 for children 12 and under. Under 2 eat free. Sponsored by the St. Fidelis Men's Club.

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Magnificat Pittsburgh Prayer Breakfast Ladies, come to the Magnificat Pittsburgh prayer breakfast on Sat, Feb. 6, from 9AM – Noon at the Marriott in Cranberry Twp. Hear speaker Lisa Mladinich share her journey from a New York City actress who became bitter at God and left the church, to unexpected encounters and a dramatic conversion, which led her back to her faith, and to healing and reconciliation with God. Come and hear her fantastic story of a broken life made whole through the sacraments and the Holy Rosary. Cost of the breakfast is \$20. To register, call Kay at 724-772-6749 or Pam at 412-461-8906, or go to www.magnificatpittsburgh.org. Registration deadline is Jan 29.

Prayer Hour for Pro-Life at St. Fidelis Church Please join us in prayer for the unborn. For those not able to travel to the Pro-Life March, we will again offer a prayer hour in solidarity with those traveling. All are welcome! Noon - 1:00 PM...Jan 22, St. Fidelis Church. Questions? Tootie Betres: 724-789-7475

COLLEGE FAIR: High school juniors and seniors, parents and guardians, you don't want to miss the Jan. 15 issue of the *Pittsburgh Catholic Newspaper*. This issue will contain a supplement focusing on the National College Fair, which includes informative articles and advertisements on colleges, universities and trade schools.



Butler Catholic School Open House, 515 E Locust St, Butler PA, Sunday, January 24th, 1pm - 3pm
Wednesday, February 24th, 6:30 - 8pm

Discover the difference of a Catholic education! We invite you to learn more about Butler Catholic School at our upcoming Open House. Butler

Catholic is an excellent choice for your child's education, offering:

- Small class sizes, allowing for individual attention from committed, caring teachers
- A comprehensive Preschool through 8th grade education in one building
- An environment permeated by faith and Gospel values
- A close-knit, family oriented community that builds self-confidence and responsibility
- A place where your child is known by name, and grows academically, socially and spiritually



The following hours are open at the Eucharistic Adoration Chapel located at St. Michael the Archangel Church, 432 Center Ave., Butler: Tues, 12 midnight – 1 AM and Tues, 10-11 AM (Jan 12 – Mar. 15 as a substitute). To sign up as a regular adorer or sub call Linda Spohn at 724-283-2555.

Vincentian Academy proudly presents **Disney's High School Musical!** Performances at the Greater Masonic Center on February 19, 20, 21, 26, 27. For ticket information, visit www.vincentianacademy.org or email VincentianTheatre@gmail.com

A Welcoming Message from St. Christopher's Ladies Guild

(Note: Even if you are currently active please fill out/update the form below)

Did you know that all women who are parishioners of St. Christopher's Church are automatically members of the Ladies' Guild? Let us know if you want to get involved!

The Ladies Guild supports St. Christopher's Church in many ways:

- Preparing Luncheons for funerals
- Preparing Special Dinners (Christmas, Shrove Tuesday)
- Making Fruit Baskets at Christmas time for the shut-ins
- Decorating the inside of the church at Christmas time
- Donating money for special needs around the parish
- No Dues – No Commitment--Attend a meeting once a month or even once a year!

Would you like to help the Guild so that they can help others?

Please complete and place in the collection basket or drop it off at the rectory.

Name _____

Phone _____

E-Mail address: _____

_____ Yes, I would like to help the Guild. Please call when you need food donated for a funeral luncheon or any other parish event.

_____ I would like to volunteer to help at a funeral dinner.

_____ I am interested in being an active member of the Guild. I plan to attend a meeting in the near future. (The Guild meets the third Thursday of each month)

_____ I am unable to be an active member of the Guild at this time, but feel free to call me if the Guild is in need of something